Issue 37, 2016

Language and Culture

THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

The School of Languages and Cultures Magazine

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Yixu Lu, Head of School
School of Languages and Cultures

I am very pleased to present this new issue of the School Magazine to our readers.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Dr Nesrine Bashier (Arabic Language and Cultures), Dr Shidong An (Chinese Studies) and Dr Agnes Pelage (French and Francophone Studies) to their new positions and Ms Kathryn Tanner (School Administration) and Dyah Pitaloka (Indonesian Studies) who have joined the School recently.

In this issue our readers will find stories about our students whose achievements have been honored at the School Annual Prize Night. Their achievements are testimony to their dedication to the learning of different languages and cultures.

You will also find stories about those of our staff who have received honours and prizes for their excellent research work and lifetime commitment to the promotion of deeper understanding between the diverse cultures which make up our world.

This has been a beautiful harvest season for the School. I congratulate all students and colleagues on their achievements.

"What we plant in the soil of contemplation, we shall reap in the harvest of action." (Meister Eckhart)

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Language and Culture

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About us

The School of Languages and Cultures offers the widest range of language studies in Australia, covering Europe, the Middle East, Asia and the Americas.

Our departments

- Arabic Language and Cultures
- Chinese Studies
- French and Francophone Studies
- Germanic Studies
- Modern Greek and Byzantine Studies
- Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies
- Indonesian Studies
- Italian Studies
- Japanese Studies
- Korean Studies
- Spanish and Latin American Studies

Our programs

- Asian Studies
- European Studies
- International and Comparative Literary Studies

School of Languages and Cultures annual prize giving ceremony

Each year the SLC recognises the work of bright, motivated and successful students by awarding scholarships and prizes. Professor Adrian Vickers, Acting Head of School for our prizes night, reflects on the 2016 celebration.

MacLaurin Hall was colder than usual for this year's School prize night, but the warm enthusiasm of the community of the School of Languages and Cultures more than made up for the weather. This year's prize night was opened by the Dean of Arts and Social Sciences, Professor Barbara Caine, and I had the pleasuring of being master of ceremonies in the absence of Professor Lu. In attendance were diplomats from many consulates, including the Austrian, Chinese, French, German and Korean missions. They were joined by donors, community leaders, and parents to celebrate the achievements of our most outstanding students.

Particularly notable achievements included those of students who were awarded prizes in more than one language. Included in this group was Anjali Iyer, who received a travelling scholarship in Italian and the David Ian Armfield Memorial Prize in French, and Mishel Kamolova, who received prizes for Japanese and Italian. The fact that we have students studying so many languages, as well as coming from diverse language backgrounds, shows the strength of our multilingualism.

Many of our prizes are long-standing bequests. Some, such as the Garton Scholarships in French and German, date to the nineteenth century. Other prizes commemorate alumni or former staff, such as the Winston G. Lewis Prize in Chinese History, the Anne Bates Memorial Scholarship for French, the Rosina Tedeschi Memorial Prize for Italian Conversation and the A.L. Sadler Prize for Japanese.

It is particularly pleasing that we have added new prizes and scholarships, thanks to the continuing generosity of alumni and the community at large. These new prizes include the Raymond Hsu Scholarship for study in China and the P.D. Jack Prize for students of Arabic Language and Cultures. Support from the Greek Community was particularly notable, with strong enthusiasm for our teaching of Modern Greek and Byzantine Studies.

After the presentations, it was a great pleasure to mingle with all those attending for refreshments. It is always inspiring to talk to our students about their studies and future plans, and to meet with families and friends who share in the accomplishments.

1.

Images 1. Sabina Hoi Ying Wong with academics from the Department of Korean Studies 2. Maria La, winner of the Margaret Ann Bailey Memorial Prize for Honours in a Modern European Language with Professor Peter Morgan 3. Mr Xiaojia Wang, Counsellor, Education Office, The Consulate General of P.R. China in Sydney with Dominic Knox 4. Winners of the Indonesian studies prizes - Indigo Rosalita Elliott Phibbs, Joel Leu and Lauren Waring 5. Professor Barbara Caine, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

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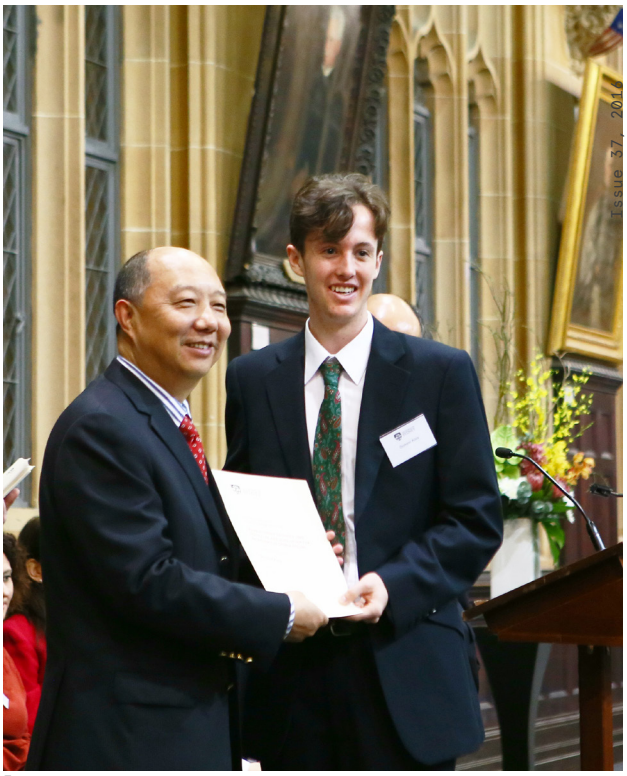

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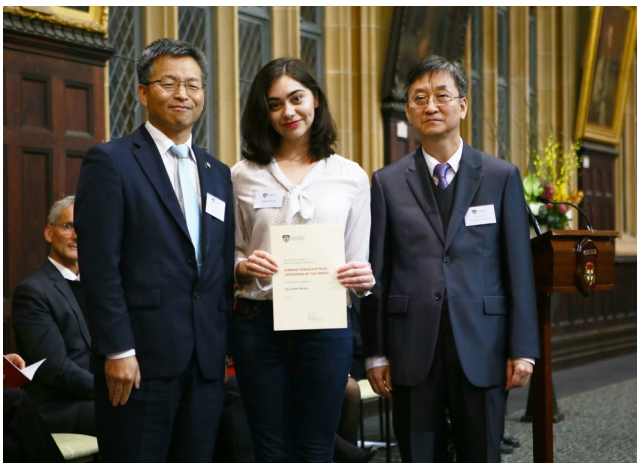
Images: 6. Nicholas Conomos receiving the G. S. Caird Scholarship in Second Year Modern Greek 7. L-R Dr Nesrine Basheer, Bronte Fachon, Imogen Grant and Dr Lucia Sorbera 8. HBJS Department with their winning students and supporters



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Images: 9. L-R Korean Consulate, Prize-winner Cassandra Monjo, Associate Professor Ki-Sung Kwak 10. Winners of the Emilie M. Schweitzer Scholarships in French Studies 11. Dr Giorgia Alu and Anjali Iyer 12. Dr Olivier Ansart and Yugo Hatai 13. L-R Sophie Kaldor, Dr Peter Makinson, Dr Andrea Bandhauer and Amanda Stewart.

SLC Professors receive Imperial Decorations

Dr Hugh Clarke, Emeritus Professor, and Dr Sakuko Matsui, former Associate Professor, were among the recipients of the 2016 (Heisei 28) Spring Imperial Decorations, awarded by the Cabinet Office of Japan.

The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon

Dr Hugh Denis Blake Clarke

In recognition of his contribution to the advancement of Japanese studies and to the promotion of Japanese language education, as well as mutual understanding, in Australia.

Dr Hugh Clarke obtained a master's degree in Japanese dialectology and historical linguistics at Tokyo Metropolitan University in 1969, and in 1973 he obtained his Ph.D. in Japanese linguistics from the University of Sydney. From that time, he has taught at the University of Sydney, teaching Japanese language and culture, as well as his own area of specialisation in linguistics and Okinawan studies. He is regarded internationally as a leader in the field of Okinawan studies.

Through his teaching at the University, and from 1988 in his capacity as Head of the Department of East Asian Studies, he contributed enormously to the growth of Japanese language and cultural studies.

He has experience as a member or chair of numerous committees, within the university and beyond, such as the NSW Japanese Syllabus Committee, the Japanese Studies Association of Australia, and the selection panel for the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program for which he received a Japanese Foreign Minister's Award (1996). He has also contributed actively to people-to-people exchange, involved for almost 30 years in the sister-city relationship between Manly and Taito-ku (Tokyo) and the friendship between Manly and Odawara City.

The Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold and Silver Rays

Dr Sakuko Matsui

In recognition of promoting Japanese language and Japanese studies

After arriving in Sydney in 1961, Dr Sakuko Matsui's career was dedicated to Japanese studies over four decades as a teacher of Japanese language and literature at the University of Sydney. From the early days of Japanese studies in Australia, she made an enormous contribution to the spread of Japanese language and culture. While instructing at university, she also held positions such as committee member of Asia-Pacific studies groups and chair of Japanese language HSC exam committees, thereby contributing to the growth of Japanese language in Australia and Japanese studies internationally.

Dr Matsui wrote regularly on Japanese contemporary literature, translated works into English, contributed papers regarding Japanese classical and contemporary literature to specialist journals and actively participated in symposia presenting the results of her research, maintaining her involvement in Japanese studies even since her retirement in 2001. Also of note was her commitment to providing opportunities for Australian teachers and students of Japanese to experience living language as spoken by Japanese people and Japanese culture. In 2012 (Heisei 24), Dr Matsui was designated by the National Policy Unit of Japan as a "Japanese person transmitting 'Japan' to the world" by having "enthusiastically worked hard across international borders".

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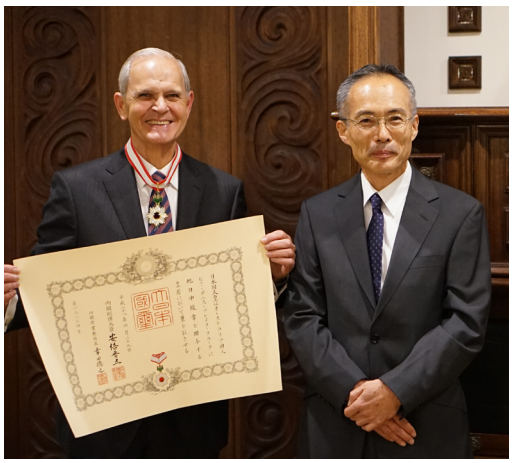

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3.

On Thursday night 25 August, at the residence of the Consul General of Japan, Professor Emeritus Hugh Clarke received Imperial Decoration. The medal was the Order of the Rising Sun. Professor Clarke was Chair of Department of Japanese and Korean Studies. He established the Korean Studies program in 1991. With his vision and support, the Korean Studies program has flourished over the years.

Images: 1. Associate Professor Sakuko Matsui and Emeritus Professor Hugh Clarke with their Imperial Decorations 2. Professor Clarke receives his award 3. Members of the Japanese and Korean Studies Departments.

Professor Clarke was unable to attend the award ceremony in Japan in May, so behalf of the Japanese Government the Japanese Consul held another ceremony. Associate Professor Sakuko Matsui, Honorary Associate with the Department of Japanese Studies, said “it is very rare for two people from a single department to receive the imperial medals. It is wonderful that the Japanese Government is recognising the contributions made by our staff.”

Why you should care about the Census

Dr Luis Angosto Ferrandez writes about the deeply political nature of the census, and how discussions about its implications often miss the mark.

Image: screenshot from the ABS website

The new census round has at last drawn the attention of Australian citizens, but for the wrong reasons. A motley crew of enemies of "big government", defenders of civil rights and a few inspired conspiracy theorists have raised their voices against the Australian Bureau of Statistics and its new methodology.

It is ironic that, in a period in which personal data is captured and circulated in mass scale by private corporations and often through a-legal mechanisms, the national census is being presented by some as a threat against individual freedom¬ to the extent that organised civil disobedience is called for.

Then, on the night of August 9, the government's first attempt at an online census quickly descended into chaos. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) website crashed and across the country people were unable to submit their census form. Initially it appeared that servers were overloaded. Social media went into derisive overdrive, #censusfail was everywhere. The following day the ABS claimed that the census site had been hacked.

Now the failure of the online rather than paper-based form, whether it was a security breach or technological inadequacy, dominated the national discourse on the census.

While these are wrong reasons to care about national censuses, we should celebrate that at least this year we are again speaking about censuses. They do not generally receive all the public attention that they deserve.

National censuses are transcendent, laborious and costly administrative events. They are essential instruments for governance, providing indispensable data for the definition of public agendas and for the subsequent design and implementation of policy.

Yet censuses designs are far less discussed than government budgets or parliamentary legislation. This is a bit of a mystery, even in these times of growing disaffection with institutional politics.

The reason why censuses largely remain outside the public spotlight is that they seem to be enveloped by an association of statistics and numbers with politically neutral objectivity. Census Bureaus are generally considered to be fact-finder technocratic bodies, impermeable to

the contaminating force of subjective political opinion.

However, research on censuses consistently emphasises the political nature of these statistical undertakings. Though we should all credit existing technical expertise at the bureaus, census-making is deeply enmeshed in broader political processes that shape them as governmental tools. Let us explain this in a way that avoids the reproduction of the unsustainable arguments that have shaped the campaign about the current census round in Australia.

So what is political about censuses?

National censuses are political tools in nature, but not because the government uses them to make the population subject to obscure forms of control, nor because people working in the bureaus 'cook the numbers'.

National censuses are spaces of social representation, crucial for the institutional shaping of national identities. For let us recall that, in addition to capturing a range of objective demographic data, censuses also address the quantification of social identities (such as ethnicity, in Australia). And, against conventional wisdom, there is nothing straightforward about the measurement (and demarcation) of social identities.

That is why censuses can be considered to be political tools in nature. First, in any contemporary political community it is always an ideological decision that will determine whether or not ethnic categories can be accepted as legitimate and realistic divisions of the national population that the census represents. A comparative look at the history and present of national censuses demonstrates that opinions such decision changes over time (and across nations) as a result of ideological transformations in our societies.
Second, if a national community agrees that social identity categories such as ethnicity are accepted as a way to realistically and legitimately portray social diversity, political decision comes again to the fore, articulated in this stage with technical considerations. The ways in which a category such as ethnicity can be conceptualised is subject to ongoing academic debates, far from resolved. And bureaus of statistics have to define and make the concept of ethnicity operational, designing a number of questions for interviewees and offering a number of example categories for them to ascribe to.

One can thus argue that the census design is a political question. The design impacts on society in practical terms, both through the ways in which it pre-informs public policy and through the acts of administrative recognition that imply the legitimisation, consolidation or even the creation of social categories that may condition citizen interaction.

The choice of terminology can decisively condition the results of social identity counts, as comparative research demonstrates. Census results can be significantly affected by social milieu too, for respondents are sensitive to political contexts and thus can feel more or less inclined to publically embrace a particular social identity. In situations in which there is a perception of strong discrimination against one's own group of ascription, self-identifications decrease. When there is a positive valorisation of a given social identity, the opposite is the case.

Rather than merely adapting to the social world, censuses play a central role in configuring it. Censuses can legitimise certain social identities, and they can also contribute to generating those identities. Censuses nominate groups into institutionally recognised existence.

In addition, the 'example effects' in census can have significant impacts on results. This is a technical term naming the demonstrated tendency of respondents to ascribe to categories that are already included in questionnaires as example categories.

And this relates to another crucial aspect of contemporary censuses: self-identification as the criteria used to identify social identities. This is a relatively recent mechanism in the history of censuses, replacing external identification (i.e. the process through which a census enumerator decided what was the social identity to which the interviewee was to be ascribed).

Self-identification overcomes undignifying census practices, avoids reification of identities and is expected to provide more realistic portraits of the cultural diversity in a country. However, this does not preclude certain challenges.

Self-identification transforms mechanisms of group affiliation into individualised acts of subjective psychological choice. It does not attach permanent identifications or legal status to people and this projects a potentially evanescent and 'fleeting' character upon social identities.

All these important questions, among others, are at the core of contemporary census-making, and they have practical and theoretical implications for the way in which we make politics in our countries. These are the questions that should generate civic discussion around censuses.

Dr Luis Angosto-Ferrández

is a lecturer in Spanish and Latin American Studies and Anthropology at the University of Sydney. He is the co-editor of *The Politics of Identity in Latin American Censuses* (2016) and *Everlasting Countdowns: Race, Ethnicity and National Censuses in Latin American States* (2012). In addition to his scholarly work, he is a contributor to various media outlets.

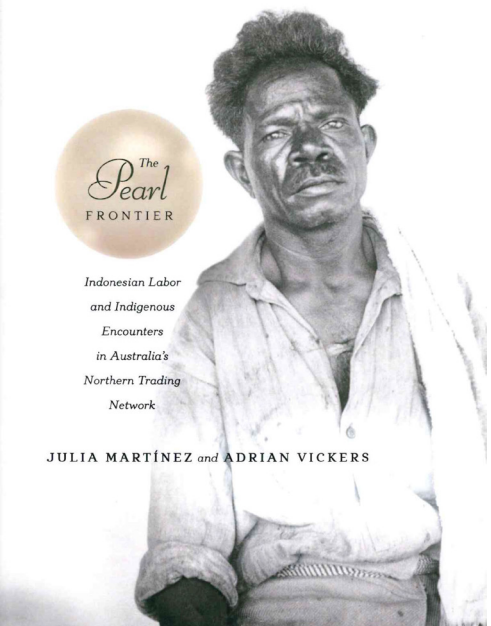
Academics win prestigious book award

The winner of the 2016 Chief Minister's Northern Territory History Book Award is *The Pearl Frontier: Indonesian Labor and Indigenous Encounters in Australia's Northern Trading Network* by Julia Martinez and Adrian Vickers.

Department of Arts and Museums Chief Executive Hugo Leschen congratulated Professor Vickers and Associate Professor Martinez for producing such a wonderful piece of work.

"A lot of work goes into producing quality research such as this and I am pleased we can recognise this significant work. This year, the Northern Territory Library received 13 entries in the Chief Minister's Northern Territory History Book Award, which was more than double entries from last year. This just goes to show the level of interest into the history of the Northern Territory."

Associate Professor Julia Martinez is an Australian Research Council Future Fellow in the Faculty of Law, Humanities and the Arts at the University of Wollongong, while Adrian Vickers is a Professor of Southeast Asian Studies from the University of Sydney.



The judges complimented the work and stated: "This book makes a significant contribution to our understanding of how the pearling industry in northern Australia forged unique cultural relationships across Southeast Asian region.

"A meticulously researched, cross-disciplinary body of work, The Pearling Frontier illustrates the personal struggle of hard-working, entrepreneurial people, who took enormous risks, to forge an industry that shaped communities across northern Australia."

As well as being remarkable for its extensive archival research and moving life stories, The Pearl Frontier offers a new way of imagining Australian historical connections with Indonesia. This compelling view from below of maritime mobility demonstrates how, in the colonial quest for the valuable pearl-shell, Australians came to rely on the skill and labor of Indonesian islanders, drawing them into their northern pearling trade empire. From the 1860s onward the pearl-shell industry developed alongside. British colonial conquests across Australia's northern coast and prompted the Dutch to consolidate their hold over the Netherlands East Indies. Inspired by tales of pirates and priceless pearls, the pearl frontier witnessed the maritime equivalent of a gold rush; with traders, entrepreneurs, and willing workers coming from across the globe. But like so many other frontier zones it soon became notorious for its reliance on slave-like conditions for Indigenous and Indonesian workers. These allegations prompted the imposition of a strict regime of indentured labor migration that was to last for almost a century before giving way to international criticism in the era of decolonization.

Julia Martínez and Adrian Vickers bring together their expertise on Australian and Indonesian history to challenge the isolationist view of Australia's past. The book explores how Asian migration and the struggle against the restrictive White Australia policy left a rich legacy of mixed Asian-Indigenous heritage that lives on along Australia's northern coastline.

There were three other books shortlisted for the Chief Minister's award:

- *Silent pearls: old Japanese graves in Darwin and the history of pearling* by John Lamb
- *Different White People: Radical Activism For Aboriginal Rights 1946 – 1972* by Deborah Wilson
- *Gulf Country Songbook: Yanyuwa, Marra, Garrwa and Gudanji* Songs by Yanyuwa, Marra, Garrwa and Gudanji families with Karin Riederer

The winner was announced at a ceremony at Northern Territory Library in Parliament House.

Meet our new staff

Dr. Dyah Pitaloka
Lecturer
Department of Indonesian Studies

My research interests focus on cultural aspects of health, marginalization, and social change, with an emphasis on how the various social, educational, economic, religious, and policy contexts contribute to the structural disparities in society, especially in Indonesia.
I was a postdoctoral fellow at the National University of Singapore (NUS) and joined the Department of Communication and New Media at NUS for two years where I worked on several research projects.
I have investigated individuals' management of chronic diseases, especially diabetes, and complex health communication issues. Departing from this research area, I conducted research focusing on the experiences of women with Type II Diabetes in rural areas in Central Java, Indonesia. My goal is to generate culture-specific interventions that are sensitive to gender and cultural dimensions of care. Based on this ethnographic research, I am currently working on my book: *The (Passive) Violence of Harmony and Balance: Lived Experience of Javanese Women with Type 2 Diabetes.*
I am also working on a digital story telling project that looks at the process of generating communicative space to co-construct the alternative narratives of the survivors of the 1965 Indonesia Communist purge to the younger generation of Indonesians.

Dr. Agnes Pelage
Scholarly Teaching Fellow
Department of French and Francophone Studies

Before arriving in Sydney, I was a lecturer in France for 15 years. First at the University of Savoie, then at the University of Paris-Est Créteil and in parallel at the University of Versailles Saint-Quentin en Yvelines. I also worked for two years for the French Ministry of Labour and Employment, researching Vocational Training.
For many years, I was specialized in the Sociology of Education. My Doctorate was on the evolution of the Profession of Secondary School Headteachers in France. My post-Doctorate was also a comparison between the changes within this professional position in France and in Great Britain.
More recently, I have worked on Early Socialization and Gender in France. My interests have always been various and have largely been fuelled by the thrill of being involved in collective research activities.
At the University of Sydney, I am a member of the interdisciplinary research group of the University of Sydney focused on World Cinema and Photography (Convenors: Michelle Royer and Andrea Bandhauer). This is an occasion for me to deepen my understanding of Gender and Medical Imagery. I will be addressing the issue of how gender preferences and knowing the sex of a fetus thanks to medical imagery (ultrasounds) embodies gender.

Mrs. Kathryn Tanner
Executive Assistant to the Head of School Administration team

I've worked at Universities for several years but started out at Durham University in 2005 working in Modern Languages and Cultures as an assistant secretary. I enjoyed working with people from different countries and cultures so it's a great opportunity for me to come and work in this School at Sydney University now.
I grew up on the beautiful 78km^2 island of Guernsey, which is famous for various reasons including being: a tax haven; occupied by the Nazis during WWII; where Victor Hugo lived in exile for 15 years; and for Guernsey cows. Due to Guernsey's proximity to France I learned a little bit of French but I'd like to learn some other languages in future.
I've worked as an EA in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor for the last couple of years. It's been interesting to see how the University runs and I've gained a lot of great experience, but my heart isn't in top-level strategy and I'm enjoying being with people who are teaching, researching and learning again.
My interests outside of work include dog behaviour and training, I'm a qualified dog behaviourist; cross-stitch; and seeing live bands and musical theatre. I live with my husband, three-year old son, and a long-haired Chihuahua. I'm also expecting a baby girl, due at the end of October.

Dr. Shidong (Irene) An
Scholarly Teaching Fellow
Department of Chinese Studies

I had been teaching English at Tianjin Foreign Studies University in China for 9 years before I migrated to Australia. I started teaching here at The University of Sydney in 2005. I had coordinated and taught Chinese language units of all levels in the Department of Chinese Studies in the past 10 years.
I recently completed my PhD candidature in 2015. My primary research interests are in the areas of CALL (Computer Assisted Language Learning), Second Language Acquisition, Second/Foreign Language Teaching and Pedagogy. My PhD project focuses on E-learning in blended language learning environments. My earlier MA was in Applied Linguistics, focusing on Second Language Acquisition and Second/Foreign Language Teaching. I have been actively involved in curriculum improvement and e-learning development in the Department of Chinese Studies.
My teaching has been focused on modern Chinese language in the past and now has extended to include culture units as well. In the past few years, I have been coordinating the In-Country Study Programs and other culture events such as the Chinese Table, Movie Afternoons etc. in the Department.

Teaching Day, 2016

SLC Teaching Day 2016 was a convivial and collaborative event with almost 40 registrations, reflecting a steady increase over the last couple of years.

Dr Carolyn Stott, Chair, SLC Pedagogy Committee. June, 2016

Following on from the success of the 2015 Teaching Day structure, the morning was devoted to sharing experiences and discovering new online tools, and the afternoon to the practical application of these tools via workshops.

Firstly, thanks must go to the SLC Pedagogy committee for their contributions to the success of the event. Tristan Lay coordinated the catering, Christine Ji created the evaluation in collaboration with Charles Humblet, who collated the various PowerPoints and co-presented several sessions. Thanks also to Jubin Dedaniya, who filmed the sessions. Colleagues from the Pedagogy Committee also chaired sessions (details below), and Professor Adam Bridgeman, Director of Educational Innovation (formerly ITL) and Danny Liu, Senior Lecturer in Academic Development and Leadership in Educational Innovation, ran the afternoon workshops with the help of Kevin Samnick and Ruth Weeks from Sydney eLearning. Thank you to Irene Shidong An (Chinese Studies) who shared her experience with the online discussion forum Piazza. Finally, a huge thank you to the SLC administration team, who provided much support in the leadup to and on the day itself, and without whom this event would not have been possible.

Session 1 was presented by Yona Gilead and focused on the SLC Peer Support Program run in Semester 1, 2016. There were 20 participants in the program, with most choosing to take part in Peer Observation of Teaching over Curriculum Document Sharing. The program evaluation indicated strong support for the program, which will run again with modifications in Semester 2, 2016, with several colleagues already registered; this program is open to both casual and permanent academics. Colleagues who shared their experiences at Teaching Day included Michael Abrahams-Sprod, Françoise Grauby and Carolyn Stott, Nesrine Basheer and Carlos de Pablos Ortega.

Session 2 was chaired by Seiko Yasumoto, and involved volunteers from SLC who had received a first-year commendation from FASS in 2015 (top 50% of the Faculty), based on overall UoS satisfaction and strong feedback scores in units with 15+ students enrolled, to share the secrets of their success. Of the 19 recipients from SLC, Irene An, Nesrine Basheer, Macarena Gordillo, Carolyn Stott, Seiko Yasumoto and Ian Young reflected on their first-year classrooms and units, highlighting aspects that contributed to the success of their units.

Anne Walsh chaired Session 3, which focused on the 2015 recipients of the Faculty commendations, again highlighting overall UoS satisfaction and strong feedback scores in units with 15+ students enrolled (top 25% of the School). Of the 10 recipients, Michael Abrahams-Sprod, Chiew Hui Ho and Carlos de Pablos Ortega shared with colleagues how they inspire students in the senior cultural units they teach.
In Session 4, Charles Humblet introduced colleagues to Piazza, a Wiki-style online platform that facilitates and encourages discussions between students. Irene An trialled this in Semester 1, and shared the results with us; it has several advantages over the traditional Blackboard Discussion Board, and is supported by the University.

Image: Academics at Teaching Day

Professor Adam Bridgeman presented the Student Relationship Engagement System (SRES) that he developed and which has been in use for several years in the Science Faculty. It draws on academic data to facilitate personalized online learning and support, and is particularly useful with large cohorts.

The afternoon sessions were run as workshops to give colleagues a chance to explore Piazza and SRES; a few technical hiccups were experienced but those attending gained an understanding of the potential value of these digital learning tools for both teachers and students. Support staff are available to help interested colleagues set this up for their units; please contact Charles Humblet, Ruth Weeks or Kevin Samnick.

If colleagues are interested in accessing the PowerPoints from SLC Teaching Day, they are available via the SLC Pedagogy eCommunity site on Blackboard. Some videos from the day will also be posted. Feedback indicated strong overall satisfaction for the sessions, and some great suggestions for next year, including a focus on the challenges and difficulties in teaching. Tanya Doulaveras from FASS Teaching and Learning attended the morning sessions, and will encourage other Schools to use the SLC Pedagogy model to improve teaching and learning across the Faculty.

Empirical Translation Studies

Associate Professor Christine Ji from the Department of Chinese Studies discusses the genesis of her pursuit of translation studies, and developments in the field of corpus translation studies.

Associate Professor Christine Ji

I owe my interest in translation and later in translation studies to my family and early education in China. My father's family is from Harbin in Northeast China. My grandmother, who raised me and had profound influence on my personality, was of ethnic Man from the Qing royal family. A devoted Christian, she married my grandfather, a railway worker who later became a nationally published inventor, linguist (fluent in Japanese and Russian) and engineer during and after WWII. My mother's family, on the other hand, is from Shanghai and my grandparents worked as an actuary and a school teacher of Chinese.

Both of my grandfather and father had worked as chief exchange engineers in the Middle East and thus had some knowledge of Arabic language and culture.

Within such a family environment, at a very early age I developed a strong interest in Chinese literature and later in learning foreign languages. This evolved into my passion for translation studies as a research student of Spanish and Latin American Studies at University College London. This is perhaps also the reason why I have always enjoyed working and living in a multilingual, multicultural and multi-faith social environment.

Translation Studies has long been divided between practical translation and theoretical translation, a view which is still held by many people and academic researchers. I was no exception until I met my PhD supervisor Dr Juan Antonio Lalaguna. Dr Antonio is a British historian of the Iberian Peninsula from the eleventh to the thirteenth century, especially the role played by Arabic translation on the formation of early romance languages and the transfer of scientific knowledge from East to West.

He was the first person who inspired and encouraged me to explore the potential of corpus (i.e. a purposeful collection of texts) materials and to develop corpus methodologies for the study of translation as an important genre in its own right, instead of a secondary derivative of the original. Under his inspiration, I spent the first year of my PhD study constructing the first Castilian-Chinese parallel corpus of Miguel Cervantes' *El Ingenioso Hidalgo Don Quixote de La Mancha* (1604). The phrase by phrase alignment in

the British Library was both an entertaining and laborious process; and the real thrill was that there was very little if any research publication on how to process and analyse Spanish-Chinese parallel corpora for translation research purposes. In fact, the whole field of corpus translation studies (CTS) was largely emerging at the time. CTS came to the fore in the UK in the late 1990s as a highly specialised branch of descriptive translation studies including poly-system theory, translation norms, universals and laws developed and elaborated by prominent translation scholars such as Itamar Even-Zohar and Gideon Toury, both from Tel Aviv University, Israel.

The development of CTS was first intended to test, verify and expand these translation theoretical frameworks based on the empirical linguistic evidence collected from electronical translation corpora. The discipline – which some people argue is better described as a core set of research methodologies – rapidly grew into one of the most dynamic fields of contemporary translation studies in less than twenty years. One of the key reasons for its success is that it bridged the long-existing gap between practical and theoretical translation, as purposely constructed translation corpora can be effectively used to develop translation theories which in turn can inform and guide further translation practice and training.

In literary translation, CTS has greatly advanced translation stylistics, as corpus analyses enabled translators and academics to detect subtle yet significant stylistic differences in translations across time and space that are better understood within the target social and cultural context. In scientific, medical and other specialised translation such as news, business, law, policies, environment and health, CTS have significantly improved the quality of translation outputs by affording the computer-assisted identification and retrieval of bilingual and multilingual translation terminologies and term bases that have been and continued to be widely used by multinational companies and international organisations like the UN and the EU.

Just like any other discipline, opportunities always walk hand in hand with challenges for CTS. While the development of computer databases and software have underlined the growth of CTS, the field is facing the challenge from the increasing popularity of online tools such as Google Translate (2007-) which run on statistical algorithms to process an abundance of digital multilingual resources. CTS which pioneered the development of digital humanities and social sciences in the 1990s faces the challenge of realigning its research agenda and methodological innovation with latest developments in related fields such as corpus linguistics, information science, etc. In terms of specialised CTS that combines and leverages advanced translation analytical skills with specialised disciplinary knowledge, e.g. in medicine, health and environment, this requires strong interdisciplinary research collaboration and the cross-fertilisation of research ideas and methodologies to develop new frontiers in empirical translation research – the field that I am fully engaged in.

I am a passionate believer that translation – between languages, cultures and fields of knowledge - has been and will always be the source and engine of human intellectual creativity. Translation studies itself will continue to evolve to drive and reflect the growth of knowledge that shapes our understanding of the past, the present and the future.

Groundbreaking French artist celebrated in international conference

At the end of June, the Department of French and Francophone Studies ran the conference “Marguerite Duras and the Arts” at Sutherland Room, Home Building, University of Sydney.

From 29 June until 1 July, Associate Professor Michelle Royer convened a conference ‘Marguerite Duras and the Arts’ to mark the 20th anniversary of Marguerite Duras’ death in 1996.

Marguerite Duras (1914-1996) was born in colonial Indochina and is one of the most important French female authors and filmmakers of the 20th Century. She is well-known for writing the script of *Hiroshima mon amour* (1959), and her autobiographic novel *The Lover* was translated in 43 languages and won the prestigious Goncourt Prize in 1984.

Image: Thu Van Tran gets the exhibition ready at the Macleay Museum

No international scholarly conference on Marguerite Duras had ever been organised before in an Australasian university although Duras’ novels, plays and films have been taught in French, English and film studies departments for many years, and have been the topic of PhD theses and scholarly research across Australian universities.

The conference was not a commemoration. On the contrary, it looked to the future. The event aimed at opening new research perspectives on Duras’ relationships with the arts and was an opportunity to explore parallels, influences, cross-fertilisation and exchanges between Duras’ work and the arts of the 20th and 21st century.

Duras scholars from all over the world responded to the call and speakers from France, Belgium, Italy, Sweden, Great Britain, Japan, Thailand, United States, New Zealand and Australia presented their research at the gathering.

Professor Carol Murphy, an eminent Duras scholar from the University of Florida, gave the plenary address with a paper tilted: « La couleur des mots: sensations colorantes dans les textes écrits de Marguerite Duras », which set the tone. The paper framed by Deleuze’s writing on the logic of the sensation, analysed pictorial chromatism in Duras’ literary texts.

Then followed a very dense programme of 25 papers presented over three days by leading artists and international scholars in the field. Talks were divided into panels around the themes of literature, cinema, journalistic writing, theatre, painting, music, sculpture and video arts. Papers reflected the high quality and originality of research undertaken around the world on the work of Marguerite Duras and its influence on contemporary artists, writers, stage directors and filmmakers.

The French Vietnamese artist Thu Van Tran was an invited guest speaker. Thu Van Tran is well-know for her role of artistic director of the major art exhibition called ‘Duras Song’ held for the centenary of Marguerite Duras’ birth in 2014-2015 at The Pompidou Centre, one of Paris’ most important and prestigious exhibition venues. Thu Van Tran’s artistic work has been strongly influenced by the writing of Marguerite Duras so it was only logical for Associate Professor Royer and her assistant Victoria Souliman to curate a small photographic exhibition of Thu Van Tran’s beautiful photographic

compositions portraying Duras. Held at the Macleay Museum at the University of Sydney, it attracted a lot of attention from scholars and artists and lead to exciting discussions on the role of writers in political life.

As part of the conference, Thu Van Tran presented a very well attended public lecture at Alliance Française, on her work for the Pompidou Centre.

Thai stage directors and translators Banthun Ratmanee et Wasurat Unaprom discussed their translation of Marguerite Duras' plays in Thai and presented many visuals of the extraordinary performance of Duras' *The Malady of Death* they staged in Bangkok last year. It was received with great interest and surprise by the audience.

Participants also learned about the unusual work carried out by young contemporary Chinese, South American, and West Indian video artists, inspired by Marguerite Duras' writing and filmmaking.

The conference and related events were a great success and reflected the transnational and interdisciplinary approaches in Duras studies, and the relevance of Duras' work for 21st century artists, writers and filmmakers far beyond French borders.

Articles, based on papers delivered at the conference will be published in a volume of essays edited by Associate Professor Royer, by a leading international publisher in 2017.

The conference was graciously opened by Professor Yixu Lu, Head of the School of Languages and Cultures, who emphasized the transnational quality of Duras' writing.

Participants were very impressed by Hostco which provided high quality facilities and catering.

The conference organizer thanks the Société Internationale Marguerite Duras, The Department of French and Francophone Studies, the School of Languages and Cultures, the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, the French Embassy in Australia and Alliance Française de Sydney for their support.

Thanks also go to Victoria Souliman, who ably assisted Associate Professor Royer prior to and during the conference and Emily Wiech for her generous administrative assistance.

– sydney.edu.au/arts/conference/duras/

Image: 1.Prof Carol Murphy Plenary session 2."Opening of the exhibition" From Stamping to Reading 3. Bandthun Ratmanee - Performing Duras in Thai
Below: Conference speakers

HBJS Visiting Scholars

Dr Avril Alba writes about guest speakers in the Department of Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies.

Second semester has brought an array of outstanding guest scholars to the Department of Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies (HBJS). It has also been a chance to collaborate with a variety of SLC and FASS departments and programs, illustrating the connections between our diverse yet interconnected areas of scholarship. HBJS is grateful to the departments of History, Germanic Studies, International Comparative Literature and Translation Studies and the Program in European Studies for their support of these speakers and events. We are also privileged to have ongoing partnerships with the Sydney Jewish Museum, Mandelbaum House and the Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation (Monash University) that enable us to bring scholars to Sydney on a regular basis.

Dr Ben Shepherd spoke at the University on the 26 July 2016 the topic of *The Wehrmacht, anti-partisan warfare and the emergence of the Final Solution* demonstrating how the German Wehrmacht's anti-partisan campaign in the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia in 1941 became intertwined with the emergence of the Final Solution. His paper examined the origins of antisemitism within the Wehrmacht, why the Wehrmacht declared Jews a 'military threat' to occupation, and how the security situation on the ground developed in the occupied territories of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia in 1941. R Shepherd is a reader in History at Glasgow Caledonian University, Scotland. He has written extensively on German counterinsurgency during World War Two, and has co-edited two volumes on guerrilla warfare and counterinsurgency across Axis-occupied Europe. His most recent single-authored book, *Hitler's Soldiers. The German Army in the Third Reich* (Yale University Press, 2016) is a major, general work examining the army's military performance, relations with the Nazi regime, and involvement in occupation and war crimes.

On a related topic, **Professor Donald Bloxham**, the Richard Pares Professor of History at the University of Edinburgh gave a commanding overview of the geopolitics of the Holocaust in his paper on 9 August entitled *The Holocaust in a Wider European History of Violence*. His paper considered and outlined the interaction of geopolitics, ethnopolitics and straightforward politics in the expansion, and finally the contraction of the Nazis' 'Final Solution'. Bloxham set Nazi policy within the context of a Europe of co-perpetrators of genocide, and in a yet wider context of multi-state violence against (especially ethno-religious) minorities from the late nineteenth century in a Europe broadly conceived to include the shatterzones of the Ottoman, Habsburg and Romanov empires. A leading scholar in the fields of Holocaust and genocide studies, Bloxham has written widely on these topics, with works including *The Final Solution: a Genocide* (Oxford University Press, 2009); *The Great Game of Genocide: Imperialism, Nationalism and the Destruction of the Ottoman Armenians* (OUP, 2005) and *Genocide on Trial: War Crimes Trials and the Formation of Holocaust History and Memory* (OUP, 2001).

Image: Professor David Roskies

We then turned to literary studies and were privileged to hear from one of the leading scholars in the fields of Yiddish and Jewish literature today, **Professor David Roskies**. Professor Roskies is the Sol and Evelyn Henkind Chair in Yiddish Literature and Culture and Professor of Jewish Literature at The Jewish Theological Seminary. He also serves as the Naomi Prawer Kadar Visiting Professor of Yiddish Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and was in Australia as Monash University's Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation Kronhill Visiting Scholar. In addition to giving a public lecture at the Sydney Jewish Museum *Reading in Time: The Cover Art of Holocaust Literature* and a lecture to undergraduate students on the *Diary of Anne Frank* and Dan Pagis' enigmatic Holocaust poem *Written in Pencil in the Sealed Railway Car*, Professor Roskies spoke at

Images L-R: Professor Michael Berenbaum, Professor Matthias Henze with a HBJS class.

the university on 19 August on the topic H*ow Sholem Aleichem Turned the Jews into the People of the Spoken Word: Marking the 100th Anniversary of His Death*. Roskies gave an intricate as well as entertaining account of how the great writer, Sholem Aleichem, whose pen name means 'How Do-You-Do,' had given voice to the way Jews spoke, cursed, joked, played, cried and dreamed implausible dreams; all Jews: male and female, old and young, rich and poor, learned and simple. Becoming the champion of the particular, he discovered the poetry and pathos of everyday life. By giving voice to Yiddish, Roskies argued, Sholem Aleichem became the voice of his people in real time and in their real circumstances.

With regard to Biblical Studies, we have been privileged to host **Professor Matthias Henze,** the Isla Carroll and Perry E. Turner Professor of Hebrew Bible and Early Judaism and Founding Director, Program in Jewish Studies Rice University, Houston who is in Sydney as the Mandelbaum Trust Visiting Fellow. Professor Henze joined Rice University in 1997 where he began the Jewish Studies program. His areas of interest include the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, Jewish literature and thought at the time of the Second Temple, the history of biblical interpretation, apocalyptic literature, Syriac language and literature, and the Qumran fragments. In particular, he focuses on those early texts that never became part of the Jewish Bible - often subsumed under the labels 'Apocrypha' and 'Pseudepigrapha' - and what we can learn when these texts are read side by side with the canonical writings. Professor Henze has written and edited nine books, among them research on the book of Daniel, on the early history of biblical interpretation, and on Judaism at the turn of the Common Era. His more recent books include a monograph on 2 Baruch, a Jewish apocalypse from the late first century, titled *Jewish Apocalypticism in Late First Century Israel: Reading Second Baruch in Context* (Mohr Siebeck, 2011), and an edited volume on the various forms of biblical interpretation in Second Temple Judaism, *A Companion to Biblical Interpretation in Early Judaism* (Eerdmans, 2012). During August and September he will give a series of undergraduate and public lectures both at the University of Sydney and Mandelbaum House.

Finally, HBJS in conjunction with the Sydney Jewish Museum was privileged to host due to the generosity of Mr David Simons, **Professor Michael Berenbaum,** who came to Australia to give the Matilda Simons Memorial Lecture. Professor Berenbaum is Director of the Sigi Ziering Institute: Exploring the Ethical and Religious Implications of the Holocaust and Professor of Jewish studies at the American Jewish University in LA. He was formerly the Project Director overseeing the creation of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC and the President and CEO of the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, which took the testimony of 52,000 survivors in 32 languages and 57 countries. The author and editor of 22 books, he was the Executive Editor of the 22 volume, 16 million word second edition of the Encyclopedia Judaica, which was named the outstanding research work of 2006. His work in film has earned him an Emmy Award and he has been the Executive Producer, producer, interviewee and historical consultant to scores of films, three of which have won Academy Awards.

During his time at Sydney University Professor Berenbaum spoke to HBJS undergraduate students on the topic of perpetrator motivation in the Holocaust in his lecture *From 'Ordinary Men' to Genocidal Killers* and also to graduate student in the Masters of Museums and Heritage program about his experience in the museum sector and in particular his seminal role in the development of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Finally, he gave a booked out Sydney Ideas lecture on August 30 to nearly 200 people on the topic of *The Holocaust: The Known, the Unknown, the Disputed and the Re-Examined*.

Students – Profile of Jasmin Wong

Jasmin Wong is currently studying Chinese as part of a Diploma of Language Studies, and has fit French and Spanish into her Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Science. She speaks here about why she is passionate about languages, and how they work with her maths and technology.

It would be easy to think that Jasmin's background predisposes her towards learning languages. She was born in Australia, to Malaysian Chinese parents and learned several languages from a very young age.

"I think the common thing in Malaysia, if you're Chinese Malaysian, is that you learn the dialect of your neighbourhood and then you learn your parents' dialect, but you learn mandarin, because it is to some extent lingua Franca for China, and then you learn Malay, because it's Malaysia and then you learn English because I think most countries now days do English. So even though I was born in Australia my parents felt the need to teach me every language they knew.

"Normally I say to people that I speak to my mum in a Chinese Dialect called Hakka and I speak to my Dad in Cantonese, the common dialect for Hong Kong and South of China... My parents would speak to me in Malay sometimes, so some Malay words leak in. So I had a period where I didn't know if I was speaking Chinese or Malay or Mandarin or Hakka."

Jasmin's formal language studies really started thanks to her love of music. When given the option to learn languages in high school she chose Latin, thinking that learning Latin would inform all the other languages that she would come across in her music studies.

"I did Latin and I found that I enjoyed it much that I continued it as an elective for the HSC because I really enjoyed it. But I felt because it's a dead language, you don't really speak it, so it's hard to play around with it.

I felt like Latin gave me a very strong grammatical base and once I got to uni I should branch out into modern languages, languages that are spoken in the 21st century.

The language studies fit well with her other passion, maths. "My particular interest in Maths was in analysis. A lot of analysis is covered by French mathematicians. So if you want to do analysis I highly recommend that you study some French. I was considering doing a PHD in Maths potentially. If you go to do a PHD in maths and you want to go to an American University they require you to be able to read Math articles in French, German or Russian. By your second year you have to sit a language exam where you translate a paper into French, German or Russian into English. Especially if you come from an English speaking university."

Jasmin has a job lined up following a stint as an intern at Deloitte in Risk Advisory. The internship was in "cyber" dealing with IT security, battling viruses such as the futuristic-sounding cryptolocker. She talks about protecting privacy and how the laws in Australia have lead to increased security. She muses that technology is very global. "Australia and the EU and America all have their own privacy thing. But recently the EU has ramped up their privacy standards even higher. The trend is If one company has a really good privacy policy then the others follow suit. And because the EU is a leader in this area, understanding many languages and having cultural literacy is really useful."

When asked whether she would recommend that other students learn languages, her response was an emphatic yes.

"Of course! Definitely! I think doing other languages gives you an international perspective. There are many advantages to learning languages You feel more confident in yourself. And learning another language helps your English. Growing up in Australia you learn language through experience. You see patterns of words being used in a particular way. But when you are writing an essay you have problems with whom and who? I found with French there was an emphasis on grammar that really helps.

"And it helps you travel. Even if you did just one semester you can learn enough to say hello, please, thank you, can I have this... It gives you basic skills that you can definitely use."

Students – Graduate Success

Great things have been happening on a 'biblical scale' for graduates of the Biblical Studies and Classical Hebrew program in the Department of Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies.

Biblical Studies is one of the largest (and most interesting!) academic fields in the world. For example, the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in the USA has 7000-8000 biblical scholars in attendance each year. However, the Department of Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies is the only program at an Australian university with a full Biblical Studies and Classical Hebrew program. Our graduates are therefore sought after by other institutions. Just in the last year, we have had three big success stories. Both Rachelle Gilmour and Louise Pryke, who completed their doctorates with the department and served as casual tutors and lecturers, have secured important Biblical Studies jobs at the forefront of this growing academic field in the Sydney area. Gemma Hayes pursued a Masters on the scribes of the Dead Sea Scrolls out of sheer love for the topic, and then just at the right time a multi-million dollar research program opened up that allowed her dream of continuing her research at doctoral level to become a reality. It is very exciting for me to see these three excellent scholars (who are also wonderful people) achieve such success. I look forward to working together with them in the future, as Biblical Studies grows further in Australia.

Associate Professor Ian Young

Rachelle Gilmour

In May 2015, I took up a position as Lecturer in Biblical Studies at the Broken Bay Institute in Pennant Hills. I completed my undergraduate degree (2006) and doctorate (2011) in the Department of Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies at the University of Sydney before undertaking postdoctoral research at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. The Broken Bay Institute is a Catholic provider of theological education with an emphasis on both teaching and research. As part of my now permanent role, I am also conjoint lecturer at the University of Newcastle and I have the opportunity to travel around different parts of Australia teaching students in blended face-to-face and online learning modes.

Louise Pryke

My job is the Lectureship in Languages and Literature of Ancient Israel at Macquarie University, and I just started in second semester. I'll be teaching several units of Ancient Hebrew, and hopefully Aramaic down the track. I'll also be teaching units on the history of Ancient Israel, and the Ancient Near Eastern context of the Hebrew Bible. As well as this, there's

Images: Below: A/Prof Ian Young with University of Sydney PhD graduates Dr Rachelle Gilmour, Dr Luis Siddall, Dr Sam Jackson, and Dr Louise Pryke, Right: Dr Louise Pryke with her recently published book on scorpions in history.

Gemma Hayes at the site of Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found

the opportunity to travel to Israel, and give some lectures at the Hebrew University as part of the Department's Biblical Archaeology unit in January next year. I've been teaching at Sydney in the Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies department for many years and have so enjoyed it, but the up-side of leaving is that Macquarie's Ancient Israel program is very keen to develop strong links with Sydney, so there should be plenty of opportunity to stay in touch!

Gemma Hayes

Last year I completed my Masters in Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish studies at Sydney University. I had undertaken this Masters with two aims – to learn more Hebrew and to write a thesis on palaeography (study of the handwriting used by scribes) and the Dead Sea Scrolls. In the main, palaeography is used for dating ancient writings, but I was interested in using palaeographic methods to find the scribes of the Qumran scrolls. As it turned out I was not alone in this endeavour. At the University of Groningen, The Netherlands, Prof. Mladen Popovic was seeking funding for a very large research project entitled "The Hands that Wrote the Bible: Digital Palaeography and the Dead Sea Scrolls." In the end he received 1.5 million euros for the project. With this funding he has created an interdisciplinary team of people from both the Humanities and the Computer Sciences. I am very happy to have been chosen to be part of the team in a paid PhD position. The interview process was long and included spending three days in Groningen with Prof. Popovic and his team. During the three days the PhD candidates were asked to attend seminars, give presentations and to engage the digital technology created for the project. Arguably, however, it was our interpersonal skills and ability to work in an interdisciplinary team of people from across the world that was most being considered by the supervisors. I could not be more grateful for the opportunity to be working in this field of research, and for how serendipitous it was that my Masters finished as this project was beginning. This theme of finding the scribes is at the forefront of Dead Sea Scroll scholarship as the more data we can collate about the scribes, the more information we will have to draw on in answering the big questions of the Qumran Scrolls. The big questions include how this massive collection of scrolls came to be first placed, and then abandoned in the Judean Desert on the shores of the Dead Sea.

Select Publications

from the academics at the School of Languages and Cultures

BOOKS

See page 28 for books by academics and the School of Languages and Cultures

ARTICLES

Arabic Language and Culture

Sorbera, L 2016, Body Politics and Legitimacy: Towards a Feminist Epistemology of the Egyptian Revolution, *Global Discourse*

Aldahesh, A Y 2016, Pinning Down the Phenomenon of Idiomatic Phrasal Verbs in Arabic, *International Journal of Language and Linguistics*, 3(1), 12-24

Aldahesh, A Y 2016, Towards a Model for Analyzing and Assessing Translation of Quranic Idiomatic Phrasal Verbs, *Arab World English Journal*, 5, 33-53

Chinese Studies

Zhao, X 2016, Sorcery Crimes, Laws, and Judicial Practice in Traditional China, *Australian Journal of Asian Law,* 17(1), 1-21

Klein, E S 2016, *Truth and Contradiction in the Shiji, Essays in Shiji Studies and World Sinology,* Second Series, Tonsan Publications Inc., Taipei, 1, 153-170

French Studies

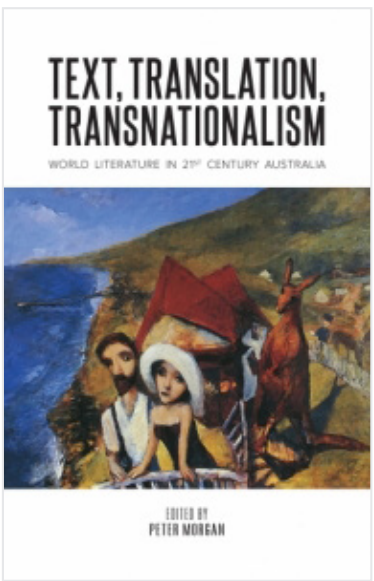
Rolls, A, Vuaille-Barcan, M, Sitbon, C 2016, Jirai cracher sur vos tombes and the Srie Noire: Pseudonymy, pseudo-translation, pseudo-parody, *Francosphères*, 5(1), 81-101

Caffarel-Cayron, A M 2016, Beauvoir and the Agency of Writing, Nouvelles tudes sur la transitivit en franais: Une perspective systmique fonctionnelle, *L'Harmattan*, Paris, 1, 57-80

Lipovsky, C. (2016) Eliciting solidarity in an emergency appeal: An illustrative analysis. *Linguistics and the Human Sciences* 11(1): 133-154.

Germanic Studies

Lay, T 2016, Eine aktuelle Bestandsaufnahme der deutschen Sprache in Australien (in press), *Jahrbuch fr Internationale Germanistik*, 47(2), 85-108



Book Launch

Text, Translation, Transnationalism, World Literature in 2nd Century Australia was launched at Gleebooks on Friday June 3. This volume, edited by Professor Peter Morgan, is the outcome of the two-year Arts Faculty Collaborative Research Scheme project, "Writing the World: Transnationalism & Translation in Literary Studies." The launch was well attended, with Professor Barbara Caine, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences giving an address.

About the book: Literary studies are being transformed by the emerging disciplinary field of World Literature. Yet the world of literature is by no means self-evident. Issues of language and culture, national and global identity, originality and translation raise as many questions as they answer. What is the world in the new literary studies? And how does literary theory relate to this world? In *Text, Translation, Transnationalism* literary scholars from a broad array of languages and cultures explore the relationships between the nation and the world, world literature and transnational methodology, the individual literary voice and its global reception. As an English-speaking country which has come to fill a global role as a pivotal point between Europe, Asia and the Americas, Australia is well placed to provide original insights into the state of world literature. In his afterword, leading US critic Djelal Kadir reflects on the relevance of the concept of the "transnational" to the "self-troubling critical awareness" of Australian literary discourse as well as to wider global concerns.

Moir, C 2016, Beyond the Turn: Ernst Bloch and the Future of Speculative Materialism, *Poetics Today*, 37(2), 327-351

Bieber, A 2016, Die US-amerikanische Metropole New York in der internationalen Kinder- und Jugendliteratur, KJL & M: Forschung, Schule, *Bibliothek*, 16(2), 71-78

Moir, C 2016, The Birth of Materialism out of the Spirit of Expressionism (in press), *Revue Internationale de Philosophie*

Hebrew Biblical and Jewish Studies

Jensen, M D 2016, John Is No Exception: Identifying the Subject of and Its Implications, *Journal of Biblical Literature*, 135(2), 341-353

Indonesian Studies

Ford, M T, Lyons, L T 2016, Working for a Day Off: Advocating for the Rights of Migrant Women in Southeast Asia, B*eyond Colonialism, Development and Globalisation: Social Movements and Critical Perspectives,* Zed Books Ltd, London, 1, 145-164

Ford, M T, Kawashima, K 2016, Regulatory approaches to managing skilled migration: Indonesian nurses in Japan, *Economic and Labour Relations Review*, 27(2), 231-247

Italian Studies

Rubino, A 2016, Constructing Pseudo-intimacy in an Italo-Australian Phone-in Radio Program, *Journal of Pragmatics,* 103, 33-48

Japanese Studies

Karlsson, M 2016, The Proletarian Literature Movement: Experiment and Experience, *Routledge Handbook of Modern Japanese Literature,* Routledge, Abingdon and New York, 1, 111-124

Spanish and Latin American Studies

Angosto Ferrandez, L F 2016, Natural value: rent-capture and the commodification of a waterfall in Gran Sabana, Venezuela, *Anthropologies of Value: Cultures of Accumulation across the Global North and South*, Pluto Press, London, 112-131

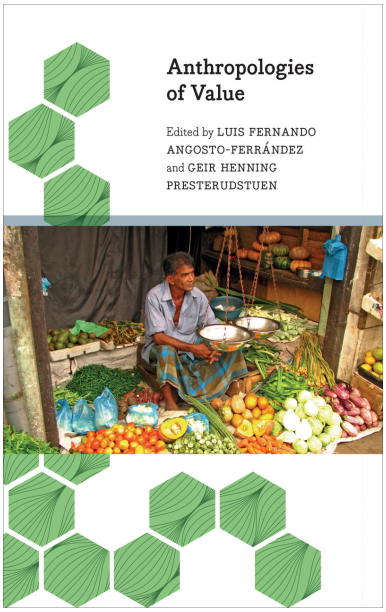
Angosto Ferrandez, L F 2016, The value of everything and the price of nothingness, *Anthropologies of Value: Cultures of Accumulation across the Global North and South*, Pluto Press, London, 1-28

Books

1 Angosto Ferrandez, L F, Presterudstuen, G 2016, *Anthropologies of Value: Cultures of Accumulation across the Global North and South*, Pluto Press, London

2 Crossley, L, Sitbon, C 2016, *Deception: Spies, Lies and Forgeries*, Inter-Disciplinary Press, Oxford

3 Roberts, B, Foulcher, K 2016, *Indonesian Notebook: A Sourcebook on Richard Wright and the Bandung Conference*, Duke University Press, Durham



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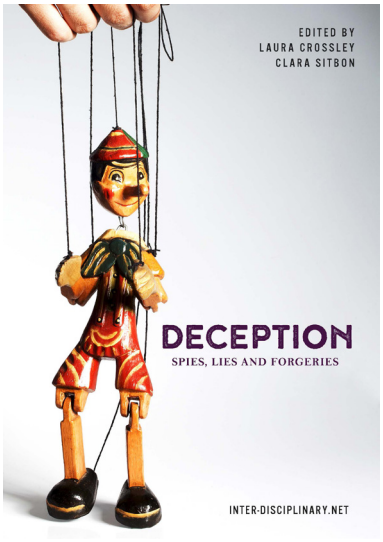

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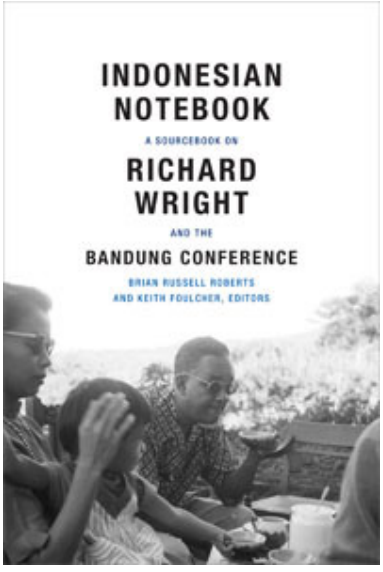

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Events

Our school runs a number of events throughout the year, including conferences, lectures and seminars offered by each language department. Here are just some of the events in the coming months, for a full list see our website.

– sydney.edu.au/arts/slc

World Cinema Series

6–22 September

We would like to invite you to join us for the World Cinema Series at the University of Sydney during September 2016.

Hosted by the School of Languages and Cultures, the World Cinema Series is an opportunity for students across the University to come together to celebrate languages and cultures of the world through a series of free foreign language film screenings, based on the languages taught through the Diploma of Language Studies – Accelerated Mode: Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean and Spanish.

– **Red Sorghum (Chinese)**
  Tuesday 6 September, 5 to 8pm
  Woolley Lecture Theatre

– **The Spanish Apartment (French)**
  Tuesday 13 September, 5 to 8pm
  Eastern Avenue Lecture Theatre

– **The Ghost in the Shell (Japanese)**
  Thursday 15 September 2016, 5 to 8pm
  Old Geology Lecture Theatre, Edgeworth David Geology Building

– **Shiri (Korean)**
  Tuesday 20 September, 5 to 8pm
  Eastern Avenue Lecture Theatre

– **Cuento Chino (Spanish)**
  Thursday 22 September, 5 to 8pm
  Old Geology Lecture Theatre, Edgeworth David Geology Building

Register for your free tickets

– sydney.edu.au/arts/slc

A language major and your career – where can it take you? Q&A Alumni Panel

Tuesday 6 September, 5.00 – 7.00 PM

Studying a language as part of your degree or thinking about studying a language? Don't miss this unique opportunity to hear from Sydney University Alumni with Languages majors who now work across the government and corporate sectors including Literary Publishing, Migration Marketing, Language Technology and Business Consulting.

Panelists will share their personal career stories and how they have marketed and utilised their Language majors in the workforce.

– Gain inspiration and advice for starting out on your career path with a Language major.
– Get tips on what you can be doing during your degree to improve your career opportunities.
– A chance to ask questions to help you with your career decision making.

Register now to secure your place!

– careerhub.sydney.edu.au

What Green Exports Should we Focus on in Australia

Thursday 15 September

Seizing on the rapidly growing global environmental product industry, countries are building green export markets that allow companies to capture a new segment of the economy and address environmental pressures. Oxford economist Dr Alex Teytelboym will discuss how Australia can empower its energy industry to create and launch innovative green technologies for export to foreign markets.

This event is hosted by the European Studies Program at the University of Sydney, represented by its Acting Director, Associate Professor Bronwyn Winter. His Excellency Christophe Lecourtier, Ambassador of France to Australia, will present the opening remarks.

– sydney.edu.au/arts/european_studies/

UBEF Visiting Professor of Buddhist Studies

Professor Richard Salomon (University of Washington)

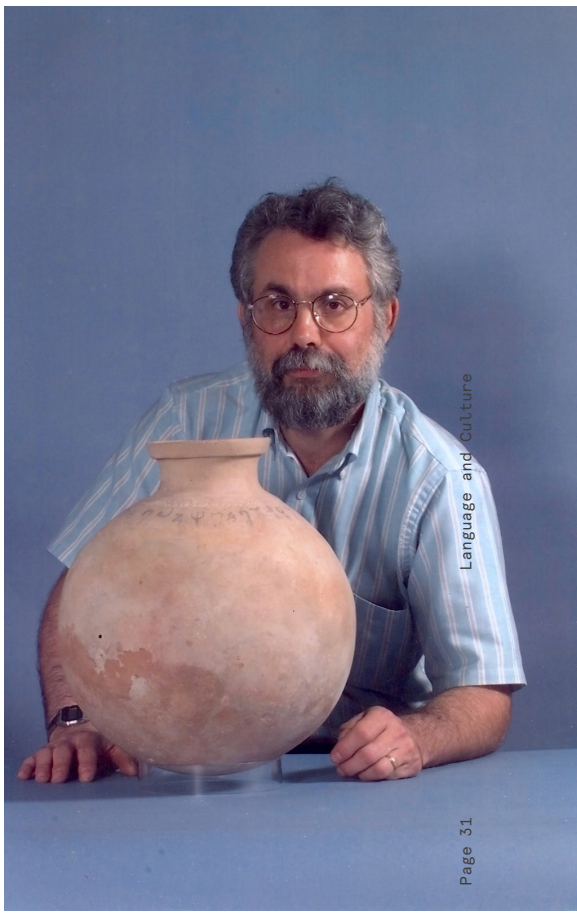
2 September – 28 October

Richard Salomon is the William P. and Ruth Gerberding University Professor at the University of Washington (Seattle WA, USA), where he has taught for over 35 years in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature. His areas of expertise include Sanskrit language and literature, Indian Buddhist literature and history, Gandharan studies, and Indian epigraphy. He has also served as the Director of the University of Washington's Early Buddhist Manuscripts Project since its inception in 1996.

This project oversees the study, publication, and translation of the oldest surviving Buddhist manuscripts, dating back as early as the first century bce. Professor Salomon's books include Indian Epigraphy: A Guide to the Study of Inscriptions in Sanskrit, Prakrit, and the Other Indo-Aryan Languages; Ancient Buddhist Scrolls from Gāndhāra: The British Library Kharoṣṭhī Fragments; A Gāndhārī Version of the Rhinoceros Sūtra; and Two Gāndhārī Manuscripts of the Songs of Lake Anavatapta. He also currently serves as the President of the International Association of Buddhist Studies.

Professor Salomon will be giving a series of eight lectures, and a Sydney Ideas Lecture. During these he will show how Buddhist inscriptions provide a fundamental tool for understanding the history of Buddhism in its native India from the time of Aśoka in the third century bc until the end of Buddhism in the 13th century ad. The thousands of Buddhist inscriptions in India bring to life Buddhism's spread, institutionalization, and eventual decline over fifteen centuries in ways that literary texts rarely reveal to us. The lectures will focus on selected examples of particularly important or interesting documents, accompanied with illustrations of the inscriptions themselves and of their artistic and archaeological context.

– sydney.edu.au/arts/asian_studies



For more information

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