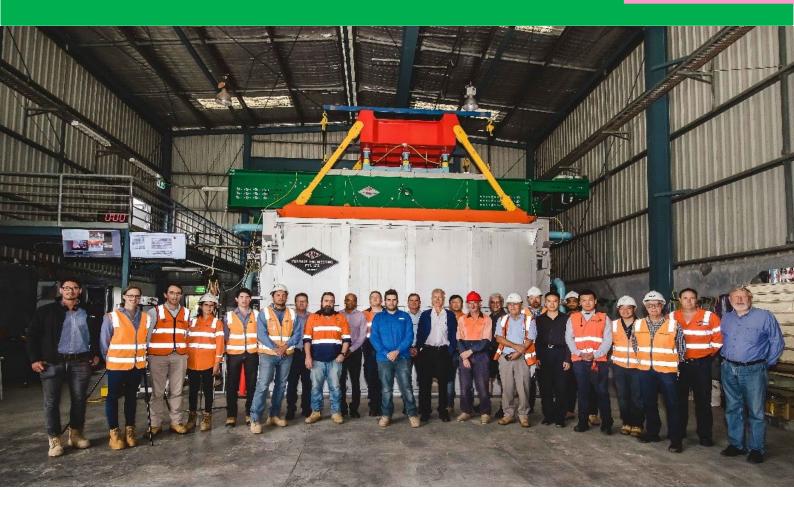
ISILC NEWSLETTER

JULY 2019



FIRE IN THE TUNNEL

"Australian First - Full Size Structurally Loaded Tunnel Segment Fire Resistance Test."

A rthur Streeton's iconic painting of 1891, *Fire's On!*, evokes the age-old Australian miners' fear of being caught in a tunnel that is alight. Maurice Guerieri and his team made the evening Channel 7 News on Easter Thursday with their Australia-first Full Size Structurally Loaded Tunnel Segment Fire Resistance Test to be used in the Westgate Tunnel project run by Melbourne Metro. IMAGE: FIRES ON BY ARTHUR STREETON, 1891 [IMAGE VIA THE ART GALLERY OF NSW]



INFRASTRUCTURE

CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

A new paper in the *Australian Journal of* Emergency Management (April 2019) coauthored by Celeste Young & Roger Jones makes the case for a closer alignment communities between the served by emergency services across Australia and the people who protect us from fire and other disasters. Taking case studies in Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia, the researchers show that the adoption of by the culturally effective strategies management of these services encourages a wider participation by members of the community and helps the services understand the needs of the people whom they serve and protect.

Diversity transformation phases

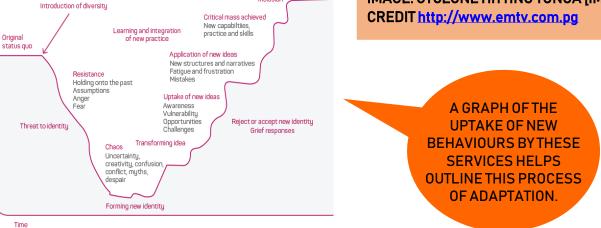
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE **OF PACIFIC WEATHER**

team including Dr Roan Plotz, a Lecturer in Environmental Science within the College of Engineering and Science, has published their research into the traditional meteorological knowledge of four remote Pacific communities (Niue, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu). In this part of the world catastrophic weather events can kill people and destroy townships, making it crucial for national meteorological services to work in a complementary fashion with local communities.

ynda Chambers et alia, 'Traditional or contemporary weather and climate forecasts: reaching Pacific communities', Regional Environmental Change, published online 28 March 2019.



IMAGE: CYCLONE HITTING TONGA [IMAGE



New status qu

Inclusion

INFRASTRUCTURE

HOSTING A VISIT BY MARK BEW

On April 11, Dean Professor Farzad Khosrowshahi hosted a special event with his old friend and colleague, engineer Mark Bew.

aking advantage of this visiting expert's time in Melbourne, this was a valuable workshop.

Ark Bew, one of the world's leaders in BIM (Building Information Modelling) shared his experiences of working with a number of international governments, infrastructure suppliers and technology developments to describe how he has worked to develop new thinking in the adoption of digital technologies in the last bastion of analogue working – the construction sector.

he need to dramatically improve productivity in the sector has never been bigger, the demands on the built environment, pressure of the natural environment and the needs of a growing, mobile and ever demanding population grow day by day.

Ark Bew led the development and delivery of the UK Government's BIM programme and has worked on smarty city and asset delivery strategies in Europe and here in Australia.

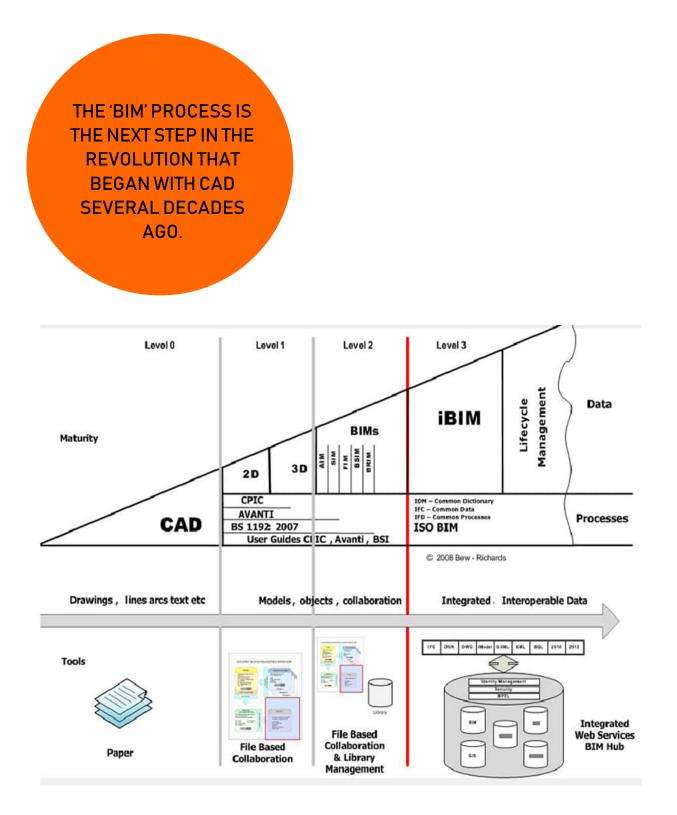


IMAGE: MARK BEW VIA http://www.infrastructureintelligence.com

his learning has brought insights into the economic, political, cultural and technical aspects of change. He shared some of these experiences and provided some insights as to how the future may look like in having a Data Focused Delivery, Operation and Optimisation of our Built Assets.

"THE NEED TO DRAMATICALLY IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY IN THE SECTOR HAS NEVER BEEN BIGGER"

INFRASTRUCTURE



SUSTAINABLE

POTASH: TO MARKET, TO MARKET

When we call by our local hardware store to buy some potash to fertilise the garden the back story is more complicated than most of us imagine. The potash typically comes from Saskatchewan and has been mined from rock. Like many things, local production of this potash has important benefits. Further, the environmental cost of producing potash by the traditional process needs improvement. Currently. the potassium ore has to be floated, separated, and extracted, leading to use of added reagents and associated by-products that are not needed in the final product.

"RESEARCHERS...HAVE FOUND A MORE EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE WAY"

Researchers led by Professor Mikel Duke and an Australian technology company, Activated Water Technologies (AWT), have found a more efficient and sustainable way. The new process known as aMES[™] technology, is suitable for a range of applications, including production of potash.

ver several years, Professor Duke's team have partnered with Bahay Ozcakmak, Director of Activated Water Technologies (AWT), who are evaluating potential to apply the new the technology at a number of projects including the Karinga Lakes project, in the Northern Territory. In collaboration with AWT, VU researchers Dr Xing Yang, Dr Peter Sanciolo, Dr Jianhua Zhang and Johnson Luo (PhD student), have jointly developed and experimentally successful demonstrated the separation of potassium through the innovative aMES™ technology. The results are good, as presented in a recent ASX media release on 7 February 2018, which referred to how the R&D played a key role in demonstrating an improved flow sheet for Consolidated Potash Corporation (CPC) to make valuable products from the Karinga Lakes Potash Project (KLPP). The commercialisation of the aMES[™] technology is a focus of the AWT-VU partnership, which received co-funding from the Australian Research Council's Research Hub for Energy-Efficient Separation.

he brine laden with potassium at the Karinga Lakes area represents an exciting opportunity for Australia to establish a domestic source of potash production. The integration of aMES[™] technology to produce potash from this brine promises to be a more sustainable process by avoiding the environmental problems associated with the conventional means currently used to produce potash.

SUSTAINABLE

REGULATION OF HOME-SHARING

ollege of Law and Justice academic Bill Swannie, writing in the Adelaide Law *Review*, has argued that home-sharing arrangements offered on platforms such as Airbnb and Stayz, may constitute a lease. The article examines the implications of a recent Victorian court decision that determined that such arrangements may be а lease. Potentially, this means that home-share hosts and quest will be covered by residential tenancy legislation. This legislation provides for example that hosts must follow a complex eviction process to remove a quest who overstays. The topic of regulating homeshare arrangements has recently been debated by Victorian Parliament, and legislation has been passed.

"... A GLOBAL PHENOMENON WHICH IS RAPIDLY GROWING AND CAUSING SERIOUS AND WIDESPREAD SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS"

ome-sharing global is а phenomenon which is rapidly growing and causing serious and widespread social and economic impacts. Particularly, home-sharing has impacted on the residential tenancy market, by reducing the number of homes available for long-term rental.

his article focuses on whether such arrangements are currently regulated by tenancy law, and the legal implications if tenancy law applies.

DONALD TRUMP RENTED MY BACK-YARD BUNGALOW IN NEW JERSEY, AND NOW ALL OF MY WHITE SHEETS ARE ORANGE. ALSO, SOME OF THE SHEETS HAVE HOLES IN THEM, LIKE HE AND HIS FRIENDS WERE PRETENDING TO BE GHOSTS. THE WHOLE SITUATION WAS WEIRD.' — Chris, Newark.



IMAGE CREDIT [THE NEW YORKER, 8 JULY 2016]

Hill Swannie is a recognised expert in the area of tenancy law, having worked as Principal Lawyer at the Tenants Union of Victoria (now Tenants Victoria) before commencina teaching at Victoria University. He has authored many articles on the topic of home-sharing and residential tenancy law, and his work has been cited in a 2018 report by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute titled 'Technological disruption in private housing markets: the case of Airbnb'.

SKUNK CONTROL

ngineers and scientists at Victoria University combined forces several years ago to astound people with their visual representations of the natural world. They call themselves Skunk Control, and they are headed by lecturer Nick Athanasiou. "... COLLABORATED... TO CREATE A TRUELY UNIQUE ... DINING DISPLAY FOR THE NGV'S ART OF DINING: BEST OF THE BEST 2019"



IMAGE: SKUNK CONTROL DIRECTOR NICK ATHANASIOU.

S kunk Control recently collaborated with the Hellenic Museum and Flowers Vasette to create a truly unique and immersive dining display for The NGV's Art of Dining: Best of the Best 2019. The installation was curated by the team at the Hellenic Museum.

Persephone's Table is inspired by the classic story of her abduction into the underworld. Only when Persephone reappears can the flowers bloom once again. The table is on display in the Hellenic Museum's courtyard pavilion.



IMAGE: PERSEPHONE'S TABLE AT THE NGV (THE ART OF DINING) A COLLABORATION WITH THE HELLENIC MUSEUM & FLOWERS VASETTE.

Skunk Control is busy elsewhere, including the Venice Biennale, Science Week, and Parramatta Lanes in Sydney. At the Venice Biennale they are currently presenting two works as part of the Equilibrium Exhibition at the Art/NaturSci Pavilion. The larger of the two works called Dynamic Equilibrium is a kinetic piece that deals with environmental concerns and provides audiences with an insight into a landscape undergoing a metamorphosis towards decay.

Soon they are to host an installation for Science Week at Queen's Hall at Parliament House Melbourne and present a floating landscape installation at Parramatta Lanes; a leading food and cultural event in Sydney. Somewhere in-between there is an installation at a major Light Festival overseas.

 All images provided by Skunk Controls Director, Nick Athanasiou



IMAGE: 'DYNAMIC EQUILIBRIUM' ONE OF THE TWO WORKS PRESENTED AT THE VENICE BIENNALE AS PART OF THE EQUILIBRIUM EXHIBITION AT THE ART/NATURSCI PAVILION.

THE NEW LANDSCAPE OF TERRORISM

Victoria University's Dr Virginie Andre has convened the conference in Rabat, Morocco (22–24 April) in partnership with the Policy Centre for the New South. The Rabat conference was entitled 'The New Landscape of Terrorism: Applied Outcomes'.



IMAGE L-R: DEBRA SMITH, VIRGINIE ANDRE, GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE OF WALLONIA BRUSSELS MR. MOTONOBU KASAJIMA, MACIA DEVLIN, PROFESSOR BRIGITTE NACOS OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AND NBTC ADVISOR DR. DHANAKORN SRISOOKSAI.

he rationale for this conference was that country-specific context in understanding radicalisation and how to counter violent extremism is essential. The conference in Rabat presented a unique opportunity to comprehend how much context matters.

special focus was given to understanding notion the of а 'conducive' environment, and the impact of how terrorism is reported by the media. The demise of ISIS presents a unique opportunity to finally address these conducive environments, which require political action and comprehensive policies and reforms. The notion of social inclusion and community partnerships, for instance, are particularly important in reducing that conducive environment.

urthermore, the conference also examined closely how media terrorism reporting affects communities as well as mainstream societies in understanding, interpreting and reacting to particular terrorist events. Media reporting of terrorist events can potentially undermine social cohesion, irreparable cause damages to communities, polarise societies and give rise and perpetuate discrimination, racism and violence. It may also act as an unwitting facilitator to inspire those who identify with ISIS ideology and indirectly enhance ISIS credibility and agency.

AN AUSTRALIAN PERSPECTIVE ON THE COLD WAR

meritus Professor Phillip Deery has recently returned from a whirlwind international tour that saw him present at the SciencesPo Centre D'Historie, in Paris, on the celebrated Rosenbergs case, and at a workshop at Boston College to report his latest research on the Cold War.

eery's work has been lavishly praised by a reviewer in the American Historical Review (April 2019): 'Phillip Deery is the only scholar to note the recent emergence in reductionist mainstream conservative historiography (e.g., Allen Weinstein, Harvey Klehr, John Earl Haynes) of a hasty generalization that dismisses U.S. progressivism and instead depicts the Communist Party of the United States of America (CPUSA) as nothing more than a weapon for Soviet espionage. Deery's retort is clear and persuasive: "A clear historical delineation must be drawn between that small handful of communists who passed classified information to the Soviet Union, and the average rank-and-file communist who neither knew of it nor approved of it. Of approximately 50,000 American the communists in World War II, about 49,700 were not involved in espionage. But both groups have been tarred with the same brush of betrayal...



PHILLIP DEERY IN CONVERSATION WITH POLITICAL HISTORIAN MARIO DEL PERO IN PARIS

Regardless, communism, subversion and spying became synonymous in the public mind and would haunt the CPUSA throughout the McCarthy period".

eery's pages on the lives of "ordinary communists" during what playwright Lillian Hellman dubbed that "scoundrel time" of the U.S. 1950s is a poignant summary showing the true meaning of political intolerance in a democratic society. One of the best features of Deery's essay is the way he traces the shifts in Moscow's policy and the repercussions these abrupt changes had on rank-and-file Communists in the United States.'

THE DESTRUCTION OF MEMORY

DIRECTOR: TIM SLADE [VAST PRODUCTIONS] 2016

"The bombing of Sarajevo's National Library and the burning of its ancient books. The looting of the Iragi National Museum and destruction of its priceless historical objects. The beheading of Kahled al-Asaad, longtime lead archaeologist for the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Syrian city of Palmyra for refusing to give up hidden artefacts. In the 'cradle of civilisation' and beyond, the last century has seen the rise of cultural destruction: the intentional annihilation of irreplaceable artwork. artefacts, historical sites in desperate attempts to erase collective history and identity.

> THE PREMIERE SCREENING OF THIS FILM IN MELBOURNE WILL BE HOSTED BY THE INSTITUTE. WATCH OUT FOR DETAILS.

"When cultural destruction is wrought, do victims have any legal recourse? Back in 1933, Raphael Lemkin, a young Polish lawyer, proposed that the destruction of cultural heritage legally become an international crime. In 1946, the United Nations included genocide as a war crime, but omitted the cultural dimension, which Lemkin considered essential. Finally, in March 2016, the International Criminal Court (ICC) charged Ahmad al-Fagi al-Mahdi, who is linked to al-Qaeda, for destroying holy and historic sites in Timbuktu, Mali. Lemkin's voice can be heard in the language of today's international law and justice."

irected by Tim Slade (Vast Productions), this 2016 documentary film warns us about the dangers to the world's cultural heritage. Losing the memory of our past is a political weapon on the same scale as genocide. Without its material heritage, societies struggle to go forward.



LECTURER PAUL MAVROUDIS FAREWELLS HIS MENTOR

n late February 2006, at the Lakeside Stadium in Albert Park, South Melbourne Hellas forward Gianni De Nittis hit a rocket of a shot from outside the 18-yard box and into the back of the net for the winning goal against Preston Lions. This sent the home crowd into raptures, including this normally mild-mannered reporter, who started high-fiving a random child sitting to his left.

hat child's father may have been wondering who this strange man was who was interacting with his child in such an excitable manner. About a year later, after months of nagging and despite my insistence that I'd never go back to uni, that strange man was with that child's father in Building 8 at St Albans, three days before semester one was due to start, signing up for a professional writing course.

And here we are, 12 years later, with another reminder that not only is Victoria University the university of first chances, it is also the university of second chances, and third chances. Ian understood this from his own experience coming back to university as a mature age student, that it was never too late to give uni a go. It didn't matter what your ENTER or ATAR was, or even if you were functionally illiterate



IMAGE: DR IAN SYSON, FORMER VU LECTURER. IMAGE VIA [THE CONVERSATION]

- if you were sincere about learning to write, if Ian saw that you had an important story to tell, his door was open, and it has been that way the whole time that I've known him.

have been a Victoria University student and/or employee for the past 12 years. During the writing of my honours thesis, lan said about one draft, "this is the worst thing you've ever written". It was supposed to make me cry, but instead I agreed with him, which ended up upsetting *him*.

hen I was later thrown into the deep end as a tutor, Ian asked me if I had any questions, and I said "yeah, just one: how do you mark?", with his reply being the quasimystical "you'll know", an answer about as far away from today's emphasis on rubrics as you can get. The worst (and later on I found, best) thing about this advice was that he was right: *I did know*. I knew because he had taught me well enough that even if I couldn't necessarily see the faults in my own work, I could certainly see them in others', and then find ways to help them fix

those mistakes, and make those students better communicators.

(Ian also told me to wear a collared shirt when I was teaching, which I was already doing; he gave this directive while wearing a scruffy pink polo with his shoeless feet on his desk)

earing the end of the writing of my doctoral thesis, which he co-supervised, I had an epiphany: that Ian's irritating but persistently accurate pedantry about grammar and sentence structure had a particular weakness – that he was nitpicking my work because he wanted the emphasis of an argument to be at the beginning of a sentence rather than at the end, and that all this time he had been trying to enforce a personal preference rather than an actual rule of grammar.

am sure there are many students who would have similar experiences, and it's these things that I hope Ian keeps hold of in the next phase of his life and career. Times change, and the material things we spend a lifetime collecting and building seldom last. So it is in this case, with courses and methods and a VU way of doing things – long before management had trademarked the term – going by the wayside, to be replaced by something else. So it goes.

Ut even as material measures of our impact have a way of dissipating, the intangibles remain. In lan's case, it is the students who have come through the literary studies units, the writing and the publishing and editing courses, and the students and mentors who produced *Offset*, who have gone on to bigger and brighter things, taking the lessons learned here and developed under lan's watch.

People have fulfilling jobs, and students have more fulfilling creative and artistic lives because of what lan has provided them.

here are so many poets, novelists, short story writers, screenwriters, memoirists, editors and publishers who have come through VU under lan's supervision. Just as importantly, there are so many students who have come out of these units with a greater appreciation of poetry, Australian literature, and proper sentence structures; most importantly, they've come out of VU with an appreciation for the fact that just because they are from a working class background, or the first in their family to attend university, or have English as a second or third language, that they have just as much right to enjoy and contribute to these forms as anyone else.

A pity that an increased appreciation for Australian soccer seemed to elude most of them and probably even more of you, but then again you can't win them all, can you?

"..THERE ARE SO MANY STUDENTS WHO HAVE COME OUT OF THESE UNITS WITH A GREATER APPRECIATION OF POETRY.."

Some of you here today have had lan as a colleague, or a mentor, teacher, associate, employer or publisher. I am fortunate enough to have been all of these things, but I am most fortunate to have been lan's friend, and I hope that will continue into the future, and that his poor imitation of my own disaffection with the world doesn't keep him away from the people in this room, because like all retiring academics, it's not just the knowledge that he has amassed that is of value, but also the wisdom that he's gained along the way that can benefit of all of us.

WORDS BY PAUL MAVROUDIS

AUSTRALIA HAS ITS OWN HARVEY WEINSTEINS

Cultural diversity runs as a major theme through the first book to address the #MeToo movement in Australia.

An Afro-American, Tarana Burke, first raised the problem of men's systematic sexploitation of women in 2006, but it was not until the explosive accusations against Harvey Weinstein in 2017 that the issue became mainstream. As reviewer Linda Jaivin pointed out in *The Saturday Paper* (11-17 May 2019), 'That it took largely white celebrities to force people's attention onto an issue first raised by a black woman is not lost on the editors of this anthology.

Perhaps questions of cultural diversity are more evident in multicultural societies like Australia. This collection of Australian women's experience of sexual harassment is edited by four women, including one from Victoria University. r Natalie Kon-yu is a creative writer and senior lecturer in the First Year College.

he stories are arresting and include women from diverse backgrounds. There are no simple solutions. As Shakira Hussein writes, 'The monsters are not vanquished and the struggle is not over.'

"THE MONSTERS ARE NOT VANQUISHED AND THE STRUGGLE IS NOT OVER."

he book was launched at Readings Carlton by Clementine Ford on 7 May.

Natalie Kon-yu, Christie Nieman, Maggie Scott and Miriam Sved, eds, *#MeToo: Stories from the Australian Movement*, Picador, \$32.99. Other equally positive reviews include Mandy Sayer, *Weekend Australian*, 4-5 May 2019.

> IMAGE: ACTIVIST TARANA BURKE, WHO COINED THE PHRASE 'ME TOO' A DECADE BEFORE THE HARVEY WEINSTEIN CASE. IMAGE VIA [TIME.COM]



INSTITUTE LEADERS

am pleased to announce our incoming fresh leaders of the Institute. Thank you to those who have steered the Institute in its early years, and thank you also to all those who put up their hands for the new roles.

S ince accepting the position of Research Discipline leader for Social (Arts and Education and Law), Dr Jeanne Iorio has left VU and taken a position at the University of Melbourne. We are in the process of identifying another Research Discipline leader for Social (Arts and Education and Law). We are also in the process of appointing a Program Leader for the Cultural Diversity program.





Life of Opportunity and Success' that is currently on display at the Metro West Gallery in Footscray. The full list of events

The centres full article can be readhere

can be found here.

FIRE SAFETY JOURNAL

C ongratulations to Khalid Moinuddin, Associate Professor in Fire Modelling, who has been appointed an Editorial Board member on the prestigious topquartile *Fire Safety Journal*.

ERA 2018

May I join with other university leaders in singling out those colleagues who performed so well in the recent ERA 2018 exercise.

Since the previous rounds, Victoria University has achieved significant across-the-board improvements in our ERA performance. The rated performance of VU's specialised research areas (at the 4-digit Field of Research FoR) include:

- 70 per cent of our fields rated 'at world standard' or above, up from 52 per cent in 2015
- 37 percent rated 'above world standard' or above, up from 24 per cent in 2015
- 19 per cent rated 'well above world standard', up from 14 per cent in 2015.

he assessment shows that our fields of research within Engineering and Health Sciences are exceptionally strong performing areas for VU, with Biological Sciences a new entrant to this high performer group. ther notable improvements and achievements include the elevation of FoR 16 Studies in Human Society and FoR 17 Psychology and Cognitive Sciences to world standard. All specialised fields assessed within the FoR 16 Studies in Human Society Division also achieved a world standard rating, and includes: FoR 1605 Policy and Administration, FoR 1608 Sociology, and FoR 1699 Other Studies in Human Society

or ERA 2018, VU gave prominence to its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research by consolidating this activity into the one location within the FoR 1699 Other Studies in Human Society. The approach ensured that VU's impressive research in this area was given profile and has resulted in our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research evaluated as 'at world standard'.

ollowing is a complete summary of VU's research areas rated at world standard and above:

Rated 5, 'well above world standard':

- Engineering (FoR 09)
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering (FoR 0906)
- Human Movement and Sports Science (FoR 1106)
- Nursing (FoR 1110)
- Medical Physiology (FoR 1116)
- Public Health and Health Sciences (FoR 1117)

Rated 4, 'above world standard':

- Mathematical Sciences (FoR 01)
- Applied Mathematics (FoR 0102)
- Chemical Sciences (FoR 03)
- Biological Sciences (FoR 06)
- Biochemistry and Cell Biology (FoR 0601)
- Artificial Intelligence and Image Processing (FoR 0801)
- Chemical Engineering (FoR 0904)
- Food Sciences (FoR 0908)
- Medical and Health Sciences (FoR 11)

Rated 3, 'at world standard':

- Information and Computing Sciences (FoR 08)
- Information Systems (FoR 0806)
- Civil Engineering (FoR 0905)
- Nutrition and Dietetics (FoR 1111)
- Education (FoR 13)
- Specialist Studies in Education (FoR 1303)
- Tourism (FoR 1506)
- Studies in Human Society (FoR 16)
- Policy and Administration (FoR 1605)
- Sociology (FoR 1608)
- Other Studies in Human Society (FoR 1699)
- Psychology and Cognitive Sciences (FoR 17)
- Cultural Studies (FoR 2002).

Vu also demonstrated a high impact in areas of research:

• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research – Rewriting and Retelling the Narrative on Aboriginal History in Australia (Lead Researcher – Gary Foley)

- Engineering (FoR 09) Smart Antenna to Smart Phone (Lead Researcher – Mike Faulkner)
- Education (FoR 13) Building Equity and Fairness into school Funding using Student Need (Lead Researcher – Stephen Lamb)
- Psychology and Cognitive Sciences (FoR 17) – Optimising Smoke Alarm Signals: Providing the evidence-base for potentially lifesaving changes in fire and building regulations (Lead Researcher – Dorothy Bruck).

OHS REPRESENTATIVES

DISCIPLINE	OHS REPRESENTATIVE
ARTS & EDU (+LAW)	MARIO PEUCKER
BUS & POLICY	CELESTE YOUNG
ENG & SCI	MAURICE GUERRIER (BLD 4 AND 5 - WERRIBEE)
	STACEY LLOYD (DEPUTY OHS - BLD 2 WERRIBEE) DEPUTY
	WASANTHA LIYANAGE (FOOTSCRAY PARK - ENG & SCI) DEPUTY

TRANSPORT SYSTEMS

e have identified a School for Transport Systems as a potential new focus area. We expect to host an International speaker in early August on transport planning, coinciding with an industry event. We have started to cultivate new industry support in this area. The transport systems area is multi-disciplinary, there will be opportunities for researchers across ISILC. Watch this space for details.

NEW DATA SHARING

New Data Privacy legislation is coming into the parliament, presumably for the new Government.

n response to the Productivity Commission Inquiry, the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet is leading the development of a number of policies, programs and reforms to build an environment that will maximise the benefit of public data.

he Office of the National Data Commissioner has been set up to drive the regulatory reforms which will focus on streamlining how Government shares data. A Data Sharing and Release Bill is being prepared to enable access and use of Commonwealth data with all levels of government and with the non-government sector (including universities). The new data sharing and release legislation will make public sector data sharing more structured and consistent.

he new legislation is expected to be introduced in the second half of 2019.

his legislation has the potential to increase access for researchers to government data which could be very beneficial for the University's health and education research projects in particular. For further information go to:https://www.pmc.gov.au/publicdata/national-data-commissioner

NEW ARRIVAL TO THE INSTITUTE

Congratulations to Dr Catherine Lou & Partner who welcomed a baby girl. Dr Catherine Lou writes: 'Finally, we welcome to this world, Louise Liu, who came into our lives on the evening of 23 April, weighing 3.7 kg It is a wonderful gift for us, so precious and sweet. Her first crying was so beautiful. Our hearts are full of love and appreciation!'

N ew babies help remind us why we are striving to make this planet sustainable. We want to bequeath Louise Liu and the generations that follow her a much healthier world.

Prof Stephen Gray Executive Director Institute for Sustainable Industries & Liveable Cities



IMAGE: BABY LOUISE LIU. (IMAGE PROVIDED BY DR CATHERINE LOU)