

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE INSTITUTE FOR CULTURE AND SOCIETY

15 - 16 June 2022

Parramatta South Campus, Western Sydney University

DAY ONE - 15 JUNE 2022

**Location: Female Orphan School, Building EZ,
Western Sydney University Parramatta South Campus**

4:00PM: WELCOME AND REFLECTIONS

Master of Ceremonies:

Emeritus Professor David Rowe, Western Sydney University

Speakers (in order of appearance):

Uncle Greg Simms, Western Sydney University

Professor Heather Horst, Western Sydney University

DVC REI Professor Deborah Sweeney, Western Sydney University

Distinguished Professor Len Ang, Western Sydney University

Mr Terry Fairclough, Western Sydney University

Emeritus Professor Mandy Thomas, Queensland University of Technology

Vice-Chancellor Professor Barney Glover AO, Western Sydney University

5:00PM: ICS PANEL DISCUSSION: WESTERN SYDNEY AND ITS WORLDS

Chair: Distinguished Professor Len Ang, Western Sydney University

Panel:

Indu Balanchandran, Aboriginal Housing Office (Parramatta)

Professor Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews, Western Sydney University

Dr Tanyanah O'Donnell, Deloitte Risk Advisory

Professor Peter Poulet, Greater Sydney Commission

Professor Amanda Third, Western Sydney University

The Institute for Culture and Society (ICS) is a true creation of its home in Western Sydney. It has always had a strong sense of being on unceded Burramattagal land, while operating at the meeting place of Anglo-dominated settler-colonial society and the transformative diversity of multicultural Australia. Like the region itself, ICS engages simultaneously with its immediate environment and with myriad interconnected worlds. Its mission of 'making a difference' is both by choice and necessity: influencing progressive change is a matter of survival and advancement where the micro-local and the macro-global compulsively interact. This panel discussion and audience exchange will range freely across what it means to be in, and to think with and beyond, Western Sydney. It will explore the challenges that the region and the world face over the next few decades in the wake of a global (but locally experienced) pandemic, shifting geopolitical relations and the increased urgency of addressing the climate crisis. How, in echoing the eminent cultural theorist Raymond Williams who inspired the Institute's name, can we generate the 'resources of hope' across the worlds in which we are all enmeshed?

6:30PM: RECEPTION

Food and drinks will be provided, all are welcome to join and help us celebrate!

DAY TWO - 16 JUNE 2022

**Location: Building EA, Level 2, Room 13
Western Sydney University Parramatta South Campus**

11:00AM - PANEL 1: TRAJECTORIES, ENCOUNTERS, MOVEMENT: GLOBAL DIVERSITY AND ICS RESEARCH

Chair: Professor Ned Rossiter, Western Sydney University

Panel:

Vanicka Arora, Western Sydney University
Dr Valentina Bau, Western Sydney University
Dr Tsvetelina Hristova, Western Sydney University
Dr Isaac Lyne, Western Sydney University
Professor Jioji Ravulo, University of Sydney

Over the years, many HDR students from different cultural backgrounds and parts of the world have come to ICS to conduct their masters and doctoral research. They have contributed to the cosmopolitan vibrancy of ICS and helped expand our intellectual horizons by sharing their knowledge and perspectives on social and cultural realities beyond Australia. Upon graduation, international ICS alumni have gone on to take up jobs in every continent across the world. Others have remained in Australia to work, mostly at other universities or at ICS itself. The Institute has also attracted many staff who conduct research in a range of global contexts. In this session, four current and former HDR students, and a new staff member, will consider how the ICS research culture and their experience of western Sydney informs their conception of key issues for research from the perspective of their home countries or cultural backgrounds, and the various locations from which they speak.

1:30PM - PANEL 2: A SCHOLARSHIP OF MAKING: CREATIVE PRACTICES IN CULTURAL RESEARCH

Chairs:

Professor Juan Salazar, Western Sydney University
Professor Hart Cohen, Western Sydney University

Panel:

Dr Mitzi Goldman, Documentary Australia Foundation
Associate Professor Abby Mellick Lopes, University of Technology Sydney
Lena Nahlous, Diversity Arts Australia
Dr Malini Sur, Western Sydney University

Creative practices and practice-based research have transformational potential in support of sustainable social transformation, enriching diversity, tackling inequality and social impact. Creative research and production at ICS is practiced as a form of engaged research that produces new knowledge through innovation, sustained collaboration, inter/trans-disciplinary and hybrid praxis, challenging conventional rubrics within traditional academic scholarship. Whether through documentary films, online serious games, music recordings, graphic booklets and posters, our work strives to create positive social change in our region and globally. In this panel, long standing partners and alumni of the ICS reflect on the opportunities and challenges of co-developing engaged creative research as fundamental to democratic, inclusive and sustainable futures.

3:30PM - PANEL 3: CRITICAL CHALLENGES FACING CULTURAL RESEARCH

Chair: Professor Paul James, Western Sydney University

Panel:

Associate Professor Louise Crabtree-Hayes , Western Sydney University

Professor Brett Neilson, Western Sydney University

Dr Stephen Healy, Western Sydney University

Dr Josh Wodak, Western Sydney University

As the Institute looks to the future, our scholars are working through foundational questions of how we are to live in an unsettled world. We are confronted by climate change, technological transformation, economic disjuncture, increasing inequalities, and crises of cultural meaning - amongst other things. This era has variously been called the Information Age, the Anthropocene and the Age of Inequality. One of the most pressing research themes will involve responding to the dominance of the technological and the economic. What will be the critical cultural issues here? What will be the key challenges in researching different arenas of social life, local and global?

5:00PM - RECEPTION AT THE BOILERHOUSE (BUILDING EKB)

Food and drinks will be provided at The Boilerhouse, as well as music by DJ Juan Salazar and a performance by Dr Waldo Garrido.