

FOUCAULT: 25 YEARS ON

A CONFERENCE HOSTED BY THE CENTRE FOR POST-COLONIAL AND GLOBALISATION STUDIES,
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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Foucault: 25 years on

The Centre for Post-Colonial and Globalisation Studies is marking the 25th anniversary of the death of Michel Foucault with a conference to reflect on the influence of his work.

Provocation:

Twenty five years after his death, reflecting on Foucault is an enormous task. His influence permeates disparate and innumerable fields and informs so much of our thinking, along with that of many great theorists who have followed him. Foucault's influence is one of ramifying and far reaching interdisciplinary complexity, but he draws us together too, providing a common theoretical baseline to diverse disciplinary endeavours. He shows us the connections between things. Just as his life and his work connects up theoretical pursuits as diverse as queer theory and postcolonial studies, so his influence draws together and draws bridges between theorists. In so doing, Foucault's legacy muddies the theoretical waters, forcing strange synergies and theoretical configurations such as the antifoundational humanist. Growing from the murky ferment of French colonial history, the father of poststructuralism's story is as complex as that encounter, and his legacy is as mutating, unsettling and transformative. A reflection on Foucault needs to accommodate a consideration of the enormity of the shadow which such a legacy casts over continuing intellectual production.

8:45	REGISTRATION, ARRIVAL, TEA AND COFFEE Room:C1-79 (foyer)	
9:00	WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND HOUSEKEEPING – Benito Cao (Chair)	
9:10	WELCOME TO COUNTRY – Uncle Lewis O’Brien	
9:15 <u>PLENARY #1</u> Room: C1-79 Chair: Benito Cao		OPENING ADDRESS – IAN GOODWIN-SMITH <i>Foucault: 25 Years on</i>
	OPENING KEYNOTE	BARRY HINDESS <i>Liberalism and History</i>
		BEN GOLDER <i>Foucault, Anti-Humanism and Human Rights</i>
		JIM JOSE <i>Of ‘Strange Synergies’ and ‘Murky Ferments’: Governance Discourse and the Taming of the Foucault Effect.</i>
10:15	QUESTION TIME	
10:35	MORNING TEA	
11:05 <u>PLENARY #2</u> Room: C1-79 Chair: Benito Cao		BRURIA BERGMAN & THOMAS NORDGREN <i>Disambiguating the Prague Trial</i>
		DAVID MCINERNEY <i>Oriental Despotism and the Political Monsters of Michel Foucault’s ‘Les Anormaux’</i>
		KATRINA JAWORSKI <i>Deliberate Taking: The Author, Agency and Suicide</i>
		MARTIN HARDIE <i>From Barthes to Foucault and beyond – Cycling in the Age of Empire</i>
12:05	QUESTION TIME	
12:30	LUNCH	
1:30 <u>PLENARY #3</u> Room: C1-79 Chair: Benito Cao	KEYNOTE	MICHAEL DUTTON <i>911 and the Afterlives of Colonial Governmentality</i>
		ALEXANDER LAMBEVSKI <i>Foucault, Gay Subjectivity and the Microsociology of Emotions</i>
		STEPHEN KERRY <i>Are You a Boy or a Girl? Foucault and the Intersex Movement</i>
		KATE SEYMOUR <i>Problematizations: Violence Intervention and the Construction of Expertise</i>
		DEIRDRE TEDMANSON & DINESH WADIWEL <i>The Governmentality of New Race / Pleasure Wars? Foucault, ‘Neoptolemus’ and the NT Emergency Response</i>
3:00	KEYNOTE	RYAN BISHOP <i>‘The Huntsman’s Funeral’: Foucault, Technology, Aesthetics and the Sensorium</i>
3:00	QUESTION TIME	
3:30	AFTERNOON TEA	
4:00 <u>CONCURRENT SESSIONS</u>	Room: C1-79 Chair: Benito Cao	Room: C1-60 Chair: Ian Goodwin-Smith
	HELEN MCLAREN <i>The Challenge with Foucauldian-Informed Feminist Poststructuralist Discourse Analysis</i>	MATTHEW BALL <i>Policing the Use of ‘Foucault’: Three Case Studies from Legal Education Scholarship</i>
	TERRY EYSSENS <i>Exception? What Exception? Foucault’s State of Convention</i>	LEONIE MCKEON <i>Learning to Speak Mandarin and Understanding Chinese culture is Different not Difficult</i>
	JACK ROBERTS <i>A Genealogy of Public Relations in the Context of War</i>	STEVEN HODGE <i>A Foucauldian Strategy for Vocational Education and Training Research</i>
	GILBERT CALUYA <i>Foucault and Everyday Security: Re-Reading Bentham’s Panopticon</i>	TONY FLETCHER <i>The War Against Aboriginal Australia: Foucault, Racism and Social Work Education</i>
	RATNAM ALAGIAH & JANEK RATNATUNGA <i>Theories About Theories: Accounting Theories After Foucault</i>	CHRIS HORSELL <i>Foucault, Social Policy and Homelessness</i>
	5:15 – 5:30	QUESTION TIME
5:35	CLOSING KEYNOTE	PAL AHLUWALIA <i>The Poststructural and the Post-colonial</i> (Room: C1-79)
5:50	CLOSE – Pro Vice Chancellor	
6:30	SPEAKERS’ DINNER	

ABSTRACTS & BIOS

- **IAN GOODWIN-SMITH**

Foucault: 25 Years on

Twenty five years after his death, reflecting on Foucault is an enormous task. His influence permeates disparate and innumerable fields and informs so much of our thinking, along with that of many great theorists who have followed him. Foucault's influence is one of ramifying and far reaching interdisciplinary complexity, but he draws us together too, providing a common theoretical baseline to diverse disciplinary endeavours. He shows us the connections between things. Just as his life and his work connects up theoretical pursuits as diverse as queer theory and postcolonial studies, so his influence draws together and draws bridges between theorists. In so doing, Foucault's legacy muddies the theoretical waters, forcing strange synergies and theoretical configurations such as the antifoundational humanist. Growing from the murky ferment of French colonial history, the father of poststructuralism's story is as complex as that encounter, and his legacy is as mutating, unsettling and transformative. A reflection on Foucault needs to accommodate a consideration of the enormity of the shadow which such a legacy casts over continuing intellectual production.

Ian Goodwin-Smith is a lecturer in social theory and social policy at the University of South Australia. His research interests orbit around an intersection of postcolonial theory and social policy. He has a particular interest in new theoretical directions for progressive politics with a focus on culture, social identity, subjectivity and social democratic citizenship, as well as an interest in critiques of expertise and professionalism.

- **BARRY HINDESS**

KEYNOTE: Liberalism and History

Barry Hindess is Professor of Political Science in the Research School of Social Sciences at ANU. He has published widely in the areas of social and political theory. His most recent works are *Discourses of power: from Hobbes to Foucault*, *Governing Australia: studies in contemporary rationalities of government* (with Mitchell Dean), *Corruption and democracy in Australia* and *Us and them: anti-elitism in Australia* (with Marian Sawer). He has published numerous papers on democracy, liberalism and empire, and neo-liberalism.

- **BEN GOLDER**

Foucault, Anti-Humanism and Human Rights

Responding to recent engagements with Foucault, and in part to the provocation of this conference, this paper argues that in his late work Foucault does not submit to the 'moral superiority' of humanism and introduce a liberal humanist subject. Rather, Foucault's late investigations of subjectivity constitute a continuation and not a radical departure from his earlier positions on the subject. Such a reading helps us to assess Foucault's late supposed 'embrace' of, or return to, human rights, which is here re-interpreted as a critical anti-humanist engagement with human rights, conducted in the name of an unfinished humanity. In this way, the paper engages not only with the way in which mainstream accounts of human rights tend to assimilate anti-foundational and post-structural challenges, but also with the quality of Foucault's own political legacy and future in the age of human rights, 25 years on.

Ben Golder is a lecturer in the Faculty of Law, UNSW, with an interest in legal theory and post-structuralist philosophy. He has written several articles on Foucault and is, with Professor Peter Fitzpatrick, the author and editor, respectively, of *Foucault's Law* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2009) and *Foucault and Law* (under contract with Ashgate, to come out in 2010).

- **JIM JOSE**

Of 'Strange Synergies' and 'Murky Ferments': Governance Discourse and the Taming of the Foucault Effect

The paper explores the alleged links between contemporary understandings and uses of 'governance' and Foucault's ideas. Scholars working in quite diverse disciplines have asserted, with increasing frequency, their debt to Foucault for the idea of 'governance'. However, it is doubtful that Foucault ever used the word 'governance', or that he would have accepted having his ideas grouped under that term. This paper argues that positing Foucault as an intellectual progenitor of the concept of 'governance' conflates two quite different and incompatible discourses. The political effect is to undermine the emancipatory impulse embedded within Foucault's political philosophy. In effect, this serves to reposition him within a framework that de-radicalises his intellectual legacy and renders him safe for mainstream scholarship.

Jim Jose is Associate Professor in Politics at the University of Newcastle. He is the author of *Biopolitics of the Subject: an Introduction to the Ideas of Michel Foucault* (1998) and articles on political theory, feminist theory, and Australian politics. His research interests include political theory, governance and post-colonialism.

- **BRURIA BERGMAN & THOMAS NORDGREN**

Disambiguating the Prague Trial

Through his genealogy-based research, Michel Foucault has liberated retrenched viewpoints, showing how the assumptions underlying specific systemic structures open those structures to manipulation for purposes of influence, subjugation, punishment (*cf.* torture), and elimination (*cf.* death). This paper and presentation apply Foucault's methods to the examination of an exhaustively exhumed Czechoslovakian 'show trial' of the 1950s, informally termed the 'Prague Trial', as presented by the authors in their forthcoming book, *Camouflage: a Pre-1967 Verificatory Test Case in the Study of Contemporary Anti-Semitism Masked as Anti-Zionism, and Pointers towards Undoing the Damage*. Through demonstrating the anti-democratic and anti-Semitic nature of the Prague Trial the authors hope to aid long-closed democratic mechanisms to reassert their primacy in contemporary culture and promote the idea that such analyses might be carried to other nodes of injustice as well—specifically, Middle East politics, and the current worldwide upsurge of anti-Semitism.

Bruria Bergman received her PhD from the Middle Eastern Department of the University of Melbourne where she redefined Metaphor in terms of Semiotics and Mathematics with examples from Hebrew Literature. Her thesis was examined by Thomas Seobok, Editor of *Semiotica*. She earlier obtained a major in Modern European history from La Trobe University.

Thomas Nordgren received his Ph.D. from the English Department of the University of Houston, where he specialized in postmodernism and rhetorical analysis. He retired in 2006 as Senior Lecturer in Rhetoric and Contemporary Literature from the Humanities Department at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

- **DAVID MCINERNEY**

Oriental Despotism and the Political Monsters of Michel Foucault's 'Les Anormaux'

On 29 January 1975 Foucault spoke of two figures of the Despot in revolutionary France, one of them incestuous (the king), the other cannibalistic (the crowd). The figure of the Despot constitutes a norm of political conduct, if we understand the 'normal' as constituted in its relation to its spectral, abnormal 'Others'. In 1959 Foucault's tutor Louis Althusser had suggested that the 'Oriental despot' was a spectre or 'scarecrow' (épouvantail) constitutive of Western political thought. Foucault's lecture, on the other hand, suggests something of a specific mode through which these figures suddenly assumed a material form. This paper extends these theses through an analysis of how James Mill articulated his political theory in *The History of British India* (1818) around the thesis that 'the fear of insurrection' constitutes the necessary impetus for the movement from 'semi-barbarous' to 'civilized' society.

David McInerney is a Lecturer at the University of South Australia's School of Communication, International Studies and Languages. He is completing a book on James Mill for publication in 2009, and has been involved in the *borderlands* project since 1996, including editing a 2005 special issue of *borderlands* e-journal (Althusser & Us).

- **KATRINA JAWORSKI**

Deliberate Taking: The Author, Agency and Suicide

In the essay 'What is an Author?', Michel Foucault contends that 'the author does not precede the works'. If this is the case, then what happens when the notion of the author as never outside discourse is grafted to suicide? What happens when suicide – most commonly defined as a deliberate taking of one's life – is read through the idea that the one who is doing the taking does not precede it? Does this not obliterate agency in suicide: the key ingredient necessary to marking the individual as the sole author of their death? I respond to the questions by first considering what Foucault's contention might offer to understanding the constitution of agency in the act of suicide. I then draw on elements of Judith Butler's work to consider a way of thinking of suicide, which furthers Foucault's contribution. I suggest that positioning suicide as already part of discourse does not undermine the individual as the author of death, or makes the act of taking one's life any less deliberate. I conclude with a comment on Foucault's position on death being power's limit, and what this might mean for understanding suicide.

Katrina Jaworski works as a research fellow in the Division of Health Sciences, University of South Australia. Her research interests include: gender, bodies, death, dying and suicide in particular.

- **MARTIN HARDIE**

From Barthes to Foucault and beyond – Cycling in the Age of Empire

Cycling is a game in flux. It is not the myth or an epic as Roland Barthes wrote. Mont Ventoux is a moonscape, bare, barren and rising out of the lavender plains of Provence. They are no longer heroes of epic proportions but bare life, homo sacer competing for all to see in the desert of the real. The precarity of this existence better depicts the state of the peloton today: free as the birds to soar to the greatest heights—Simpson, Pantani, Armstrong et al ... the list is endless; but free to be shot down at a whim. Cycling has always been an assemblage and a line of flight – from the factory, the farm, from the peloton itself. Cycling finds

itself in the eye of the storm as the processes of globalisation seek to reform it in their own image. On the frontline is the very body of the cyclist – this is the object of control. We need to contextualise the globalisation of professional cycling in the age of Armstrong and the successive doping crisis as events which signify the coming of Empire and the permanent state of exception.

Martin Hardie has managed bands and worked in Aboriginal Art and Craft centres. He has been a solicitor and a barrister. He has also been an advisor to various members of the former East Timorese resistance and government, a university lecturer, a cyclist, cycling journalist and team manager. He now teaches law at the School of Law at Deakin University.

- **MICHAEL DUTTON**

KEYNOTE: 911 and the Afterlives of Colonial Governmentality

Beginning in Hong Kong with the treatment of the SARS virus and moving quickly onto 911 in New York, the paper argues that two quite distinct renditions of power are captured in these two events. One refers back to concerns of population while the other is locked into what Foucault refers to as the 'Nietzschian-repressive' hypothesis. Together these two forms re-emerge, somewhat paradoxically in a formation known as 'colonial governmentality' (Scott, Prakash, etc). This notion is inspired by the Saidian binary (Europe and its other), but simultaneously recognises the power of Foucault's focus on the correct distribution of people and things. Joined as a form of governmentality, the lessons of the colonial offer new insights not just into the colonial past but more importantly into our modern world. This form of power further complicates the already detailed work undertaken by many on questions of power, sovereignty and politics.

Professor Michael Dutton is the Research Professor of Political Cultures at the Griffith Asia Institute and Professor of Politics at Goldsmiths, University of London. He was the founding co-editor of the journal *Postcolonial Studies* and has written extensively in journals such as *Public Culture*, *Social Text* and *Positions*. His books include *Policing and Punishment in China* (CUP 1992), *Streetlife China* (CUP 1999), and *Policing Chinese Politics: A History* (Duke 2005). The last of these books won the American Asian Studies Association Levenson Prize for the best book on contemporary China in 2007. His most recent book is co-authored. Called *Beijing Time*, it was published by Harvard UP in 2008.

- **ALEXANDER LAMBEVSKI**

Foucault, Gay Subjectivity and the Microsociology of Emotions

The paper briefly maps the main contours and consequences of the queer embrace of Foucault's open attack against psychology and psychoanalysis. The queer scholars' refusal to provide a model of gay subjectivity (for fear of contaminating their analyses with the insidious disciplining and normalising effects of psychology) has resulted in a virtual embargo on any meaningful investigation of queer subjectivities. This has proven extremely shortsighted, particularly in the area of HIV/AIDS social theory and activism. Using as points of departure Halperin's book *What Do Gay Men Want?* (2007), the paper hints at how the microsociology of emotions can be used to fill a conceptual vacuum in Foucault's understanding of the relationship between the government of self, discourses of power/knowledge and the government of others, thus providing a life-like and dynamic model of gay subjectivity.

Alexander Lambevski is a founding editor and publisher of *Sextures*, an online international refereed academic journal for sexualities, cultures and politics, and an independent scholar from Sydney. He has published numerous refereed journal articles and book chapters, and currently is working on a book on queer emotions and sexual citizenship.

- **STEPHEN KERRY**

Are You a Boy or a Girl? Foucault and the Intersex Movement

The world's first intersex organisation, the Turner's Syndrome Association of Australia, formed in 1983. It is at that time, a year prior to Foucault's death, we witness the first stirrings which echo Foucault's articulations. The Intersex Movement coalesced around an articulation of the voice that challenges modern medicine's power to name and diagnose counter normative bodies. This author is not the first to argue that the Intersex Movement's call to arms is the literal embodiment of poststructuralism, queer theory and Foucault. The interplay between lived experiences, bio-power and theory has been articulated within the narratives, actions and theorisation of intersex individuals and their peers. In the author's recent study of Intersex Australians one individual locates Foucault in their life and their re-conceptualisation of sex and gender: Foucault 'taught me that binary classifications are only one means to order the world'. This paper will explore how the Intersex Movement has reclaimed the subjugated knowledges of their bodies.

Stephen Kerry employs feminist, gender and queer theories to understand and give a voice to those people who live on the margins of sex, gender and sexuality. As a queer identifying Buddhist Trekkie, Stephen has brought theory into practice through 20 years of participation in student and queer activism and volunteering for not-for-profit peer support organisations. Stephen is a senior lecturer in the Sociology Department at Flinders University.

- **KATE SEYMOUR**

Problematizations: Violence Intervention and the Construction of Expertise

Foucault's (2007: 141) 'history of problematizations' draws attention to the ways in which 'things' become 'problems'. This paper focuses on the dichotomisation and categorisation of violence as, either, 'serious'/'abnormal' (non-gendered) violence or gendered ('domestic' violence), reflecting the transformation of *some* forms of violence into *problem* violence. Evident here, based on the findings of an exploratory study of the ways in which practitioners who work with male perpetrators of violence construct and understand violence, is the creation of particular realms of intervention, divided along disciplinary lines, each associated with distinct domains of knowledge, authority and expertise. In the process certain behaviours are 'claimed' as the 'territory' of a professional group. As emphasised by Foucault (2007: 71), 'for knowledge to function as knowledge it must exercise power'. Expertise thus performs a powerful, exclusionary function, controlling who can speak authoritatively about an issue. It is argued that this partitioning of certain behaviours, as representing particular 'types' of problem and particular 'types' of people, and the 'territory' of some professional groups and not others, reflects the broader context of (gendered) power and disciplinary knowledge and has significant implications for the ways in which male violence is conceptualised, named and addressed.

As a qualified social worker, Kate Seymour has worked extensively in the areas of child protection, public housing, vocational rehabilitation and correctional services (with adult offenders). She commenced her current role, as a lecturer in criminology and justice studies with Charles Sturt University in NSW, in 2004. Kate's research interest and activity is focused on gender and violence, specifically the relationships between masculinities, power, sexuality and violence.

- **DEIRDRE TEDMANSON & DINESH WADIWEL**

The Governmentality of New Race / Pleasure Wars? Foucault, 'Neoptolemus' and the NT Emergency

In the '*Society Must be Defended*' lectures, Foucault notes that 'the problem of war' is linked to the state's bio-political power to destroy not only political adversaries, but also 'the enemy race' (1976: 257). This paper conceptualises the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) as a novel form of racialised combat: a form of neoptolemus or 'new war'. The paper argues that new configurations of race/pleasure wars reinforce elements of biopower and population management foundationally connected to sovereignty within the Western tradition (Foucault, 1976; Agamben, 1998). The paper suggests that there is a correlation between new governmentalised bureaucratic regimes of race war and the prurient, sexualized and intensely moralizing national public discourse about the NTER. The regimes of legitimation, violence and racialisation that accompany Western sovereignty, also inculcate economies of pleasure connected to sex, sexuality and reproduction that are defined and decided upon through a law of continuing racial domination.

Deirdre Tedmanson is a lecturer at the School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy at the University of South Australia. Deirdre is a core researcher for the Hawke Research Institute for Sustainable Societies and actively involved with its Social Policy Research Group.

Dinesh Wadiwel is an adjunct researcher at the Hawke Research Institute for Sustainable Societies Social Policy Research Group. Dinesh currently heads a national non government peak disability organization.

- **RYAN BISHOP**

KEYNOTE: "The Huntsman's Funeral": Foucault, Technology, Aesthetics and the Sensorium

Foucault's corpus reveals him as a thinker obsessed with materiality, especially of space and the body, but also as one whose thought on technology was almost singularly immaterial, concentrating on discursive domains and their institutional manifestation. This paper seeks to bring the material and immaterial together as they pertain to issues of technology in relation to the senses in terms that are both spatial and temporal with regard to engaging Foucault. Taking a short piece called "The Utopian Body" as its starting point, the paper will touch on a range of direct and oblique Foucauldian topoi, including music, literature, grammar, targeting and military technology

Ryan Bishop received his PhD from Rice University in 1992 and has had three Fulbright Scholarships (Yugoslavia, Thailand and Singapore). He is co-editor of *Cultural Politics*, an internationally refereed journal published by Berg (Oxford, UK). He is also executive editor of the New Encyclopaedia Project, with Mike Featherstone and is on the *Theory, Culture & Society* editorial board.

- **HELEN MCLAREN**

The Challenge with Foucauldian-Informed Feminist Poststructuralist Discourse Analysis

This paper discusses the challenges that the author faced when using poststructuralist feminist interpretations of Foucauldian discourse analysis as a research methodology, which emphasised the enmeshment of the researcher's subjective self in the research. Analysis of the 'self' involved the author being stripped of her 'creative role and analysed as a complex variable function of discourse' (Foucault 1977, p. 138). In a struggle to deconstruct personal 'truths', the author repeatedly questioned her multiple subjective positions and life narratives and continually checked these against feminist concepts within literature, with colleagues and

research participants. Sensitivity towards personal 'truth', and the author's power over the interpretation of data, became an object of discourse analysis in its own right. This paper argues that reflexive engagement strengthened the discourse analysis through broadening the author's own discursively defined views and by exposing how constructions and subjective experiences interacted with research.

Helen McLaren is a lecturer at the School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy at the University of South Australia. Her key research interests have centred on oppression, exclusion, disadvantage, inequity, shame, blame and silencing. Helen has used victims of sexual abuse, domestic violence and bad heteronormative relationships as vehicles in which to view these phenomena.

- **TERRY EYSSENS**

Exception? What Exception? Foucault's State of Convention

The notion of the 'state of exception' (i.e. the sovereign decision to suspend some or all of the suite of rights, freedoms and obligations associated with the social contract) understands that such rights and obligations normally exist and function as protections. Giorgio Agamben's work figures the contract suite's institutionalised presence in terms of this conceptualisation, and then contemplates a permanent state of exception. However, in Foucault's work on 'governmentality', the contract suite functions as a conceptual veneer in the service of the state's self-preservation, rather than as protection for citizens. This perspective has implications for the usefulness of the notion of the exception as a way of understanding modern political obligation and authority. It is in this context that anti-foundationalist synergies between Foucault, Hume and others will be considered, particularly with regard to the role of convention in a governmentalist understanding of the relation between citizens and the state.

Terry Eyssens is a Doctoral Researcher and teacher in Philosophy at the University of Ballarat. His research is focussed on the state's monopoly on politics and political positions in contemporary society, and on questions around the possibility of politics without the state.

- **JACK ROBERTS**

A Genealogy of Public Relations in the Context of War

Foucault's genealogical critiques of liberalism in the 1970s inspired a whole school of thought which is now known as post-Foucauldian governmentality theory. Recent debates on the ethics of public relations (PR) have centred on problems of 'truth' and the 'public interest' especially with regard to the Iraq War (2003-). How can this theory be adapted to the important study of the contemporary role of PR in war? Nikolas Rose and Mitchell Dean have proposed that liberal 'technologies' of government such as PR can be understood by mapping out historical transformations in liberalism. The history of PR that discussed in this paper may not neatly fit into their schema. Nevertheless, the author argues that by using it to analyse the genealogy of PR and how it has constituted 'the truth' and 'the public', we can gain a very satisfying understanding of the contemporary role that PR plays in war.

Jack Roberts is currently undertaking PhD research aimed at developing a Foucauldian framework for understanding the role of public relations in war and using a case study of Australia and the War on Terror in 2002-2003.

- **GILBERT CALUYA**

Foucault and Everyday Security: Re-Reading Bentham's Panopticon

Foucault's concepts (surveillance, discipline, regulation, bio-power and discourse) have gained renewed interest in the post-9/11 environment. Yet this renewed interest has emphasised the role of the state and state apparatuses in politics in contradiction to Foucault's project of locating power below the state. This paper re-reads Foucault's writings on the Panopticon in order to intervene into contemporary surveillance studies and in doing so to offer a program for researching everyday security.

Gilbert Caluya is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Centre for Postcolonial and Globalisation Studies at the University of South Australia. He has previously lectured in the Gender and Cultural Studies Department, University of Sydney. He has published articles and book chapters in the fields of cultural geography, diaspora studies, cultural studies and queer studies. His current research interests include: affect, senses and the body; the cultural politics of intimacy; the politics and philosophy of everyday security; Muslim diasporas.

- **RATNAM ALAGIAH & JANEK RATNATUNGA**

Theories About Theories: Accounting Theories After Foucault

Foucault's works demonstrate how power creates knowledge, how knowledge creates power, and how 'the human' is both the *object* of knowledge and is also *subject* to knowledge. Applying Foucault's genealogy, we analyse a series of discourses present within accounting about income. Income is regulated by the institution of social welfare in Australia, leading to the creation of the 'poor' who are then categorised, marginalised, excluded and ultimately, controlled. Only as we understand this historical process, of how we have come to be as a society, are we able to liberate human intelligence from its shackles.

Ratnam is a lecturer in accounting at the University of South Australia. He specialises in financial accounting, company accounting, accounting theory and international accounting, and has research interests in the impact of a single global currency on accounting, international accounting and in critical perspectives on accounting.

Professor Ratnatunga joined the School of Commerce at the University of South Australia as Head in February 2009. Previously he was the Chair in Business Accounting at Monash University, a position he held for eighteen years. His research interests are very wide and he has worked in the profession as a Chartered Accountant with KPMG, and has been a consultant to the World Bank on a number of international projects.

- **MATTHEW BALL**

Policing the Use of 'Foucault': Three Case Studies from Legal Education Scholarship

This paper will outline the first three major research projects that adopt Foucault's work to understand Australian legal education, and will consider each of these as case studies through which the 'use' of Foucault can be investigated. While remaining sensitive to the many potential readings and uses of Foucault's 'tool-box', as well as his problematisation of the author as an organising tool of discourse, this paper will demonstrate that the way researchers unify and understand Foucault as an author, and what they seek to do with their own research, has an important effect on how they use his work. In addition, these particular case studies offer an opportunity to consider the introduction of Foucault's concepts to a discipline that is notoriously insular and hesitant in its engagement with interdisciplinary thinking, and examine this intersection of theoretical perspectives in numerous ways.

Matthew Ball is an associate lecturer in the School of Justice at Queensland University of Technology. His doctoral research used Foucault's work to understand the production of the legal identity at three Australian law schools. Matthew's other major research interest is examining violence within male same-sex intimate partnerships.

- **LEONIE MCKEON**

Learning to Speak Mandarin and Understanding Chinese culture is Different not Difficult

Learning Mandarin is considered to be difficult, and acquiring a deep understanding of Chinese culture is thought to be near to impossible. The author has redesigned the conventional way Mandarin is taught so that learners are able to speak Mandarin with confidence very quickly. This method of learning Mandarin helps participants to understand Chinese cultural rules and therefore to be able to behave appropriately in a business context with Chinese people. The author has identified and applied some key points of Michel Foucault's works that have influenced the theoretical underpinning of her business, Chinese Language and Cultural Advice (CLCA). Foucault's works on discourse and power and knowledge have enabled the author to develop a teaching methodology which makes Mandarin and Chinese culture easily learnable and therefore accessible.

Leonie McKeon lived in Taiwan where she studied Mandarin, taught English as a second language and edited a series of children's ESL books. She returned to Australia and studied Anthropology, which included studies of Michel Foucault's works. In 1998 she won an entrepreneurial scholarship to commence her business Chinese Language and Cultural Advice (CLCA)

- **STEVEN HODGE**

A Foucauldian Strategy for Vocational Education and Training Research

Vocational education and training (VET) is an area of research dominated by positivist approaches. Such approaches complement the behaviourist educational philosophy known as 'competency-based training' (CBT) that underpins Australia's VET system. This paper reflects on a quandary encountered by researchers examining the history of competency-based education at a TAFE institution in South Australia. The issue was how to account for a series of mutations in the way CBT was understood and practiced that subverted the largely unquestioned expectation of progress. The researchers found that Foucault's 'genealogical' approach allowed for the construction of a mode of intelligibility which lends the history a disturbing coherence. At the centre of this construction is an understanding of CBT as a highly permeable system whose configurability supports the reticulation of multiple forms of power.

Steven Hodge is a PhD candidate in the Centre for Research in Education, Equity and Work at the University of South Australia, where he is researching learning in vocational education. He was a secondary art teacher and also studied philosophy. Steven has worked in the vocational education sector over the last decade, becoming interested in epistemological problems in Australia's vocational education system along the way.

- **TONY FLETCHER**

The War Against Aboriginal Australia: Foucault, Racism and Social Work Education

In a series of lectures at the College de France 1975-1976 entitled '*Society Must Be Defended*' Michel Foucault delivers the (dis)position; '... sovereignty's old right—to take life or let live... came to be complemented by ... the power to 'make' live and 'let' die...' (2004:241). Foucault connects this (dis)position with socio-political events to produce his concept that modern societies - though describing their machinations as in a state of peace - are internally at war with those subjects/bodies produced as members of an 'inferior species' (Foucault, 2004). This paper discusses the application of a Foucauldian (dis)position regarding this concept of 'racism' when connected to the concepts of 'fields of visibility', 'spatial distribution' and 'biopower' with social work students, to explore respectful practice when working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Tony Fletcher is a PhD candidate in the School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy at the University of South Australia. His research interests include gendered violence, masculinities, whiteness and finding ways to make connections with poststructural scholarship that support the foregrounding of potential and the loosening of grids of possibility in social work practice.

- **CHRIS HORSELL**

Foucault, Social Policy and Homelessness

Foucault's work provides fertile ground for an analysis of areas of significant concern to students of social policy through his development of the ideas of discourse, power/knowledge, surveillance and the metaphor of the panopticon and the way populations are constructed as included and excluded. His development of these concepts allows an insight into the development and function of policy not always apparent in traditional social policy analysis. In this paper, the author explores why these concepts are pertinent to understanding how homeless populations are constructed as objects of social policy, particularly with respect to contemporary discourses of inclusion and exclusion. The author argues that the use of these ideas challenges some of the less obvious assumptions permeating current developments in policy and service provision to homeless people, while also enabling an ability to respond more contextually to shifting frameworks of power.

Chris Horsell is currently a PhD candidate at Flinders University's School of Social Work. His area of study is homelessness and social exclusion in Australia, with a particular emphasis on a critical analysis of the South Australian Social Inclusion Initiative. Chris is currently employed as a Senior Project Officer with the Department of Families and Communities (SA).

- **PAL AHLUWALIA**

KEYNOTE: The Poststructural and the Post-colonial

Post-colonial theory is many different things to many different people. It serves many different purposes. It is drawn from the unique conditions which its adherents inhabit and from the unique experiences upon which they draw. For many of us, and for post-colonial theory at its broadest, a reading of Edward Said is a central experience, and it is that reading which puts Foucault at the heart of post-colonial thinking, or which contributes to the embedding of the poststructural in the post-colonial. But there is an alternative reading, and closer analysis demonstrates how the relationship between the poststructural and the post-colonial can be read as the inverse of one which embeds poststructuralism at the beginning. Looking at the suite of experiences which were formative in the development of Foucault and other central poststructuralists, it can be argued that the post-colonial is embedded at the root of poststructural thinking.

Prior to commencing as Pro Vice Chancellor at the University of South Australia, Professor Ahluwalia was Research SA Chair and Professor of Post-colonial Studies in the Hawke Research Institute and Director of the Centre for Post-colonial Studies. At the same time he was a Professor in the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of California. His main research interests lie in the areas of African studies, social and cultural theory, in particular, postcolonial theory and the processes of diaspora, exile, and migration. On 14 October 2008, Professor Ahluwalia was appointed a UNESCO Chair in Transnational Diasporas and Reconciliation Studies.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information on the Magill campus of UniSA: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/about/campuses/magill.asp>

Magill campus map: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/about/campuses/magillmap.asp>

How to get to the Magill campus: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/about/campuses/magill-how.asp>