



2011 COHORT MEMBERS



Dr Sameer Al-Bataineh

Research Fellow: Mawson Institute, & Surface Engineering Research Concentration

Dr Sameer Al-Bataineh's research interests are in the areas of biomaterials engineering, thin film coatings, plasma polymerisation, microplasmas, surface characterisation and analysis, and antimicrobial coatings. Sameer is currently working on a South Australian Premier's Science Research Fund (PSRF) project, which intends to establish a new advanced manufacturing capability based on highly-directional microplasma discharges (e.g. microcavity arrays or microjets) in South Australia.



Dr Helen Bradley

Senior Lecturer: School of Nursing & Midwifery, & Nursing and Midwifery Research Group

Dr Helen Bradley is interested in the social determinants of health both internationally and in Australia. Helen has a special interest in the way education as a determinant affects health. She has investigated Aboriginal housing, employment and education. Helen is interested in investigating the role and capacity of Aboriginal Health Workers to improve health through education, particularly in the areas of maternal and neonatal health.



Dr Susan Colles

Lecturer in Dietetics: School of Pharmacy & Medical Sciences

Dr Susan Colles is a dietitian with a broad interest in chronic nutrition-related health issues such as obesity and diabetes. Her research to date has focussed on associations between eating behaviour, psychological factors and weight management.



Dr Armando Corsi

Lecturer: School of Marketing, & Research Associate: Ehrenberg-Bass Institute for Marketing Science

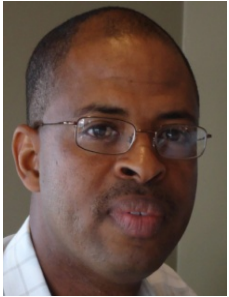
Dr Armando Corsi's research interests include consumer behaviour in the food and beverage sector, with a particular attention to menu analysis, behavioural loyalty (its evolution over time and interaction/correlation effects in determining overall consumers' loyalty) and packaging.



Dr Permal Deo

Lecturer in Nutrition and Food Science: School of Pharmacy & Medical Sciences, & Infectious Disease and Microbiology Research Group

Dr Permal Deo is a molecular toxicologist, who is interested in the advanced glycation endproduct (AGE)-induced markers of oxidative stress and pro-inflammation. His research examines AGE-induced signaling cascade mediated by natural plant products. The role of these products as antioxidants or its anti-inflammatory response will enable a better understanding on the mechanism underlying clinical complications. Permal's other research interest is in antibiotic resistance which includes microbial analysis using molecular techniques.



Dr Ibrahima Diallo

Lecturer: School of Communication, International Studies & Languages, & Research Centre for Languages & Cultures

Dr Ibrahima Diallo is an applied linguist who investigates language and literacy policies, geo-linguistics and intercultural studies. In particular, he studies languages-in-education policies, French in Francophone Africa, and interculturality in Islamic and western education models.



Dr Erica Donner

Research Associate: Centre for Environmental Risk Assessment & Remediation

Dr Erica Donner is an environmental scientist with the Centre for Environmental Risk Assessment and Remediation. Erica's research interests lie primarily in the field of environmental biogeochemistry. Her current research focuses on the presence, fate, and ecotoxicity of pollutants in environmental systems, and on the beneficial use and optimisation of waste products such as biosolids.



Dr Drew Evans

Research Fellow: Mawson Institute

Dr Drew Evans is a physicist who is researching in the field of surface engineering, specifically covering the endeavours of fundamental science through to industrial application of novel thin film coatings. In particular, he is interested in the development of nano-composite thin film coatings for use in high-tech industries.



Dr Mahmood Golzarian

Research Associate: School of Mathematics & Statistics, & Phenomics & Bioinformatics Research Centre

Dr Mahmood Golzarian is an agricultural engineer and a computer science researcher. The main research area he is currently working on is computer vision and image processing. Using image processing techniques, Mahmood is developing some computer program applications for monitoring and modelling the growth and behaviour of plants, and particularly cereal plants, under different types of stresses.



Dr Rob Hallak

Lecturer in Management (Hospitality/Convention and Event): School of Management, & Centre for Tourism & Leisure Management

Dr Rob Hallak is a business researcher who investigates entrepreneurship within the tourism and hospitality industry. He examines business owners' attachment and 'place identity' to their socio-physical environment and the consequences this has on business strategies and performance.



Dr Phil Kavanagh

Lecturer: Clinical Psychology, School of Psychology, School of Social Work & Social Policy

Dr Phil Kavanagh is an evolutionary psychologist who conducts research in the broad areas of mate selection, interpersonal relationships, self-esteem, and social exclusion. One specific area of research interest is in testing and expanding an evolutionary theory of self-esteem—sociometer theory—that posits state self-esteem as a gauge of interpersonal acceptance or rejection. Phil is also a Clinical Psychologist and as such is also interested in bridging the gap between evolutionary psychology research and applied clinical research/outcome.



Dr Hannah Keage

Lecturer: School of Psychology, School of Social Work & Social Policy, & Brain & Mind Laboratory Group

Dr Hannah Keage is interested in brain-behaviour interactions. For the past four years Hannah has been investigating the underlying neuropathology of dementia and cognitive decline at the end of the life, but she is broadly interested in the biological correlates of cognitive change over the lifespan. Hannah is very new to UniSA and hopes to set up a cognitive neuroscience laboratory in the near future with colleagues.



Dr Mark Kohler

Lecturer: School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy

Dr Mark Kohler is a Lecturer in Psychology with an interest in child cognitive development: in particular, the role of sleep in cognitive development and learning, the impact of disturbed sleep on cognition, and child learning disorders.



Dr Michelle Kohler

Research Fellow: Research Centre for Languages & Cultures.

Dr Michelle Kohler is a languages educator, teacher educator, and researcher in Applied Linguistics with a particular focus on intercultural perspectives on languages curriculum, pedagogy and assessment. Michelle is particularly interested in Indonesian language education.



Dr Tom Laws

Lecturer: School of Nursing & Midwifery, & Mental Health Research Group, Sansom Institute

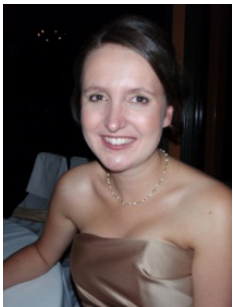
Dr Tom Laws researches men's health issues and men's health practices within the family. Knowledge of how health services, resources and care are gendered continues to be crucial in determining how best to tailor support and meet the needs of specific groups (example - fathers, parents in dual income families, men providing care for their spouse / partner). Much of his research begins with identifying substantial gaps in the literature concerning fatherhood and best practice guidelines for men experiencing health problems.



Dr Lin Luo

Research Fellow: Institute for Telecommunications Research

Dr Lin Luo is an information and communication scientist who investigates system design and critical core problems in mobile wireless communications: in particular, communication theory, orthogonal frequency division multiplexing technique, multiple antenna techniques, and vehicle-to-vehicle communication for improved safety.



Dr Carol Maher

Postdoctoral Research Fellow: School of Health Sciences, & Health & Use of Time Research Group, Sansom Institute

With a paediatric physiotherapy background, Dr Carol Maher completed her PhD in 2008, which focussed on the development and testing of an internet-based physical activity self-management program for adolescents with cerebral palsy. Carol's current key research interests are activity patterns (in particular, physical activity, sedentary activities and sleep), and how these relate to health in children and adults, and health behaviour change interventions. In the future Carol would like to combine her clinical background with her research focus, to apply the intervention research in specialised health populations, such as people with disabilities and chronic health conditions.



Dr Anthony McDonnell

Lecturer: School of Management, & Centre for Human Resource Management

Dr Anthony McDonnell's primary area of interest is in the field of international human resource management. Specific research areas within this field include talent management, global staffing practices and the employment relations practice of multinational enterprises.



Dr Michelle McDonnell

Research Fellow: School of Nursing & Midwifery, & International Centre for Allied Health Evidence, Sansom Institute

Dr Michelle McDonnell is a neuroscientist who is interested in the potential for the brain to rewire itself. In particular, her research investigates the possibility that exercise can promote reorganisation of the damaged brain following stroke and lead to improvements in fitness, cognition and physical abilities.



Dr Agnieszka Mierczynska-Vasilev

Research Fellow in Particle and Material Interfaces: Ian Wark Research Institute

Dr Agnieszka Mierczynska-Vasilev is a physical chemist with strong interest in a range of areas including mineral processing, colloidal systems, and polymer nanocomposites. The main aim of her work is to link the adsorption and structure of molecules at surfaces with the ability of those molecules to alter the macroscopic interfacial properties of materials.



Dr Asef Nazari Ganjehlou

Research Associate: Optimisation, Institute for Sustainable Systems & Technologies

Dr Asef Nazari Ganjehlou's research interests are in applied mathematics and optimization. Of particular interest is optimization problems encountered in the utilization of renewable energy in the power system. Asef plans to find optimal transmission grid expansion so that the power system is operationally secure in the development of large scale wind farms.



Dr Karen Nelson-Field

Postdoctoral Research Fellow: School of Marketing, & Ehrenberg-Bass Institute for Marketing Science

Dr Karen Nelson-Field is a marketing scientist with the Ehrenberg-Bass Institute and work in the media stream with a particular focus on social platforms.



Dr Karma Pearce

Lecturer: School of Pharmacy & Medical Sciences

Dr Karma Pearce's research interests include the scholarship of teaching and learning, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease and Cognition and Pre and Probiotics.



Dr Sanjee Perera

Research Fellow: School of Management, & Centre for Human Resource Management

Dr Sanjee Perera examines the impact of emotion in organisations at individual, interpersonal and group level using largely qualitative research methods. She is particularly interested in exploring how experience and expression of emotions influence behaviour of employees from diverse backgrounds and employees working in non-conventional work settings.



Dr Mary Russell

Lecturer: School of Health Sciences, & International Centre for Allied Health Evidence, Sansom Institute

Dr Mary Russell is an occupational therapy researcher, with a research focus on preclinical disability arising from common chronic health conditions. Her recent work has examined the impact of chronic angina on people's activities and participation, and the strategies people use to self-manage the impact of angina.



Dr Harry Savelsberg

Lecturer: School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy, & Centre for Applied Psychological Research

Dr Harry Savelsberg's main research interest centres on the sociological and policy investigations of youth inequality. Specifically understanding the complexities of young people's social transitions in social contexts characterised by risk.



Dr Adam Simpson

Lecturer: School of Communication, International Studies & Languages, & Centre for Peace, Conflict & Mediation, Hawke Research Institute

Dr Adam Simpson's research straddles environmental politics and international relations and examines critical approaches to energy and environmental security and civil society activism. It is also focused particularly on Thailand, Myanmar (Burma) and Southeast Asia.

Dr Susan Simpson

Clinic Director: School of Psychology, Social Work & Social Policy

Dr Susan Simpson's research focus is on carving out new opportunities to explore clinical issues in a research context. Susan's main areas of interest are eating disorders, personality disorders and telepsychology. Eating disorders and personality disorders are psychological problems associated with high levels of distress, morbidity and mortality. Susan's research has focused on developing and evaluating sophisticated treatment programs for this high risk patient group. Her other main area of interest is the development of remote and rural clinical psychology through the use of videoconferencing technology.



Dr Julie Stevens

Lecturer in Pharmacy: School of Pharmacy & Medical Sciences

Dr Julie Stevens is a registered pharmacist whose research interests relate to the study of normal and disordered gastrointestinal motility in health and diabetes, with a particular focus on oral drug absorption and glycaemic control. More recently, her research has concentrated on the physiology of incretin hormones (GLP-1 and GIP) and the mechanisms by which incretin-based therapies (GLP-1 agonists and dipeptidyl-peptidase-4 inhibitors) improve glycaemic control in diabetes mellitus.



Dr Ramanan Subramanian

Research Fellow: Institute for Telecommunications Research

Dr Ramanan Subramanian is working in the area of communication strategies for cooperative wireless networks. In particular, he is interested in the mathematical characterization of the performance limits of communication under various strategies such as relaying and hierarchical relaying, where wireless nodes cooperate to establish a certain task with little or no backbone infrastructure. These communication paradigms suit applications such as coverage enhancement in cellular networks through relays, ad-hoc networking and disaster-management networks.



Dr Dominic Thewlis

Lecturer in Human Movement: School of Health Sciences, & International Centre for Allied Health Evidence, Sansom Institute

Dr Dominic Thewlis is an engineer specialising in orthopaedic biomechanics. His research focuses on degenerative joint disease, in particular he is interested in exploring the multi-scale mechanics of biological tissues and how their properties respond to load and subsequently change with disease. Dominic also works extensively investigating the biomechanical function during daily activities of patients' with end stage degenerative joint disease and how these can be best treated with conservative and surgical techniques.



Dr Rebecca Thomson

Research Fellow: School of Health Sciences, & Nutritional Physiology Research Centre

Dr Rebecca Thomson has expertise in evaluating the role of lifestyle treatments involving diet and physical activity for improving health in overweight populations and assessing potential treatments to reduce tissue inflammation and promote tissue repair following muscle damage.



Dr Badri Vellambi Ravisankar

Research Fellow: Institute for Telecommunications Research

Dr Badri Vellambi Ravisankar's research interests include coding and information theory. His research focuses on identifying the ultimate limits of data communications in networks.



Dr James Ward

Lecturer: School of Natural & Built Environments, & SA Water Centre for Water Management & Reuse, & Barbara Hardy Institute.

Dr James Ward is a civil/environmental engineer looking at sustainability issues in the water and energy fields. His research includes theoretical modelling of aquifer storage and recovery (an urban stormwater reuse technology), as well as investigating the influence of fossil fuel depletion on projections of climate change impacts.



Dr Ping (Sally) Xiong

Lecturer: School of Law, & Centre for Asian Business

Dr Ping Xiong has research interest in some aspects of the TRIPS Agreement (Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, one of WTO covered agreements) and its impact on human rights protection. She is also interested in comparative study on China law and Australian law.



Dr Reiko Yoshida

Lecturer: Japanese, School of Communication, International Studies & Languages, & Research Centre for Languages and Cultures

Dr Reiko Yoshida is an applied linguist who investigates classroom interactions, learners' private speech, and teacher and learner beliefs about a foreign language teaching and learning, especially Japanese language teaching and learning as a foreign language.

