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Book of abstracts

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## **Demystifying discourses of power in educational policies: A critical policy analysis in the Pakistan Context**

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This paper discusses the preliminary findings of the study aimed to investigate the nature and meanings of the educational leadership experiences informed by heterogeneous forces that catalyse the formation of these leadership practices. This research draws upon the theoretical framework developed by harnessing critical analytical and interpretive phenomenological resources using Foucault's notion of *dispositif*. The first stage of inquiry is the focus of this presentation, which uses critical policy analysis adopted from Bacchi's What the Problem Represented to Be (WPR) approach to answer the research question that how contemporary global neoliberal education trends affect Pakistan's educational policies and practices. It functions on the principle of taking away the fore-granted-ness of the policies and unravelling their underlying discourses. The underpinning argument of policy analysis is that policies are not a body of objective data but are understood as a purposely created texts of various kinds, holding discourses, statements, and interpretations for what is true. The selected policy documents include the School Management Manual, implemented by the local Ministry of Education as a guidebook for school leaders for effective management and the manual for the Annual Performance Evaluation Report, which is used to determine fitness for promotion for government employees as per Federal Government policy. It is argued that these policy documents speak of the inherent discourses that shape their purpose/s to promise the outcomes of regulation of leadership practices. The initial conclusion illustrates education policies as technologies of control implied to regulate the practices of educational leaders and govern them, taking away their agency. It exemplifies discourses of power drawn upon the contemporary forces originating from global and local socio-political and cultural factors. The researcher argues that educational policies can be understood as produced knowledge enacting power through prescribed sets of practices, surveillance and controlling mechanisms, generating new loci of power.

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## **Embracing Complexity: Redefining Project Management in Complex Realities**

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Complex projects are distinguished by several unique attributes that differentiate them from conventional projects. These characteristics encompass the project's scale, the uncertainty of outcomes, stakeholder diversity, and the dynamic nature of the project environment. A holistic approach, emphasising the interrelation of project constitutes within the broader system over time, proves significantly more efficacious when compared to traditional methodologies as it underscores interdependencies, dynamics, and emergent properties inherent in such projects. This research investigates the application of complexity theory in project management, aiming to devise a responsive framework tailored to meet the distinctive challenges posed by complex projects. Through a systematic review conducted on available literature from the last 10 years and a comprehensive analysis of the limitations of traditional reductionist methodologies, the objective is to deepen the understanding of project complexity, bridge the gap between theory and practice and enhance project outcomes. This study will combine qualitative and quantitative methodologies in a sequential exploratory strategy, with case studies potentially supporting this approach. The anticipated outcome of this research includes the establishment of a novel framework, furnishing project managers with tools for effectively navigating projects. This framework is expected to address critical areas such as scheduling, stakeholder engagement, budgeting, scope, and risk management, thereby enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of project management practices in the face of complexity.

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## **Investigation into the Challenges Facing Refugee School Students in South Australia: Harnessing the Potential of Parents from Refugee Backgrounds to Improve the Education System**

Khadija Asmar  
School of Education

The main objective of this study is to explore the experiences of refugees within the Australian education system in South Australia. We aim to shed light on their journeys, socio-transitions, encountered challenges, and the effectiveness of support systems in place. This research aims to provide a representation by combining quantitative data and qualitative narratives that humanize the refugee experience. Two goals are guiding our work; Analysis: We aim to conduct an analysis that accurately captures the reality of the refugee experience within the Australian education context and informs Practice and Policy as we intend to translate our research findings into insights that can influence practices, policy-making processes, and community engagement strategies.

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## **Conscious teaching and learning. How do emotions affect the behaviour and performance of teachers and students?**

Saha Bajraktarevic

School of Education, Philosophy

This thesis explores the relationship between emotions, emotional regulation, academic performance, and behaviour in secondary school settings. Initially overlooked emotions gained recognition as significant factors shaping cognitive processes fundamental to learning (Schutz & Lanehart, 2002). The schooling experience can be emotionally overwhelming. Schutz et al. (2006) highlight the importance of emotional regulation in classroom management, as student misbehaviour can negatively impact early career teachers (Johnson, Sullivan, Williams, 2009; Jones, 2006).

In 1997, Mayer and Salovey emphasised the importance of developing emotional intelligence among students and creating supportive learning environments (Majdalani, 2019). Researchers emphasise the importance of emotional regulation as it can mitigate the impact of negative emotions, promote positive learning environments, and enhance academic outcomes for students and teachers (Schutz & Lanehart, 2002; Fried, 2011). Negative emotions can affect the frontal lobe and trigger the stress response, where fear, anger, anxiety, frustration, and sadness can take over our thinking and our logical brain (Siegel, 2007), weaken working memory and hinder academic performance (Linnenbrink & Pintrich, 2000; Pekrun, 1992). While theories like Cognitive Load Theory consider the role of emotions in learning processes (Plass & Kalyuga, 2019), there remains a gap in comprehending their influence on cognitive load and educational outcomes.

Teachers with higher emotional intelligence provide a more stable classroom environment and manage behaviour effectively, which is beneficial to learning (Maamari & Majdalani, 2019), whereas students with greater emotional competence demonstrate higher academic achievement (Farooq et al., 2017; Sánchez-Álvarez et al., 2020).

Even though the challenges continue in understanding the relationship between emotions, emotional regulation, academic performance, and behaviour, understanding it is important for managing the classroom and promoting students' well-being and success. Integrating it into teacher education programs, starting early to address these issues, maybe the key (Valente & Lourenço, 2020; Wara et al., 2018).

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## **A Short Story about Logical Consequence**

Aaron Baseley

School of Humanities, Philosophy

This will be a presentation on the initial chapters of my thesis, where I introduce some basic preliminary problems to do with defining our notion of logical consequence. These problems highlight the issues to do with constructing a coherent notion of logical consequence, without necessitating a foray into the minute details. In the 19th century, Bolzano published his thoughts on the nature of logical truth, claiming that logical truths are those sentences which are true in this world, and which remain true when we make certain substitutions of the words in the sentences. This approach was on the right track but was quickly shown to encounter significant problems as a result of the arbitrary and expandable nature of the limits of natural language. A century later, despite not having heard of Bolzano's work, Alfred Tarski surmounted these problems in his account of logical consequence. In place of Bolzano's notion of substitution, Tarski introduced the notion of satisfaction; instead of preserving truth, he claimed we should preserve satisfaction. But just what is this notion of satisfaction, and

does it deliver a robust notion of logical consequence? And are we all still on the same page, talking about the same concept? These are questions whose answers I hope to scratch at in this presentation.

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## **Stakeholder collaboration for the transition to a circular South Australian agri-food system**

Stephanie Bayancela Briones

School of Social Sciences, Geography, Environment & Population

While hunger and malnutrition persist worldwide, up to one-third of all food goes to waste. To face this challenge, the Circular Economy offers a powerful sustainability framework by promoting waste minimization and resource maximization through material circulation and natural regeneration. Moreover, the implementation of Circular Economy can lead to enhancing environmental sustainability through the reduction in resource use and greenhouse emissions while fostering economic opportunities by driving innovation and generating new business models. Its success, nonetheless, depends on robust collaboration across diverse stakeholders, from producers and processors to retailers, consumers, and policymakers. An area under-researched, where further exploration is warranted. This study aims to provide actionable insights into effective Circular Economy collaboration for food loss and waste management to contribute to the sustainability transition of agri-food systems in three stages. First, we conduct a systematic literature review to identify factors enabling successful food loss and waste management collaboration. Next, we assess the existing Circular Economy partnerships in South Australia to identify intervention areas (hotspots). And finally, we develop a practical collaboration strategy for the transitioning towards more circular and regenerative food supply chains tailored to South Australia's specific needs and opportunities.

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## **Impacts of migration experiences on households and livelihoods post-migration in Lombok, Indonesia**

Muhammad Busyairi

School of Social Sciences, Geography, Environment & Population

Working abroad has positively impacted individuals' economies in developing nations like Indonesia. This study aims to examine how the migration experiences of migrant workers from Lombok, Indonesia, benefit their households and livelihoods post-migration. These experiences encompass financial and social remittances (skills and networks). Applying Bourdieu and Coleman's Capital Theory, including economic, social, and human capital, this research will employ a mixed-methods approach. Initially, a cross-sectional household survey will be conducted in 9 villages in 3 regencies in Lombok, with three villages selected from each regency. Face-to-face interviews using a structured questionnaire will engage 450 migrant households. Building on the survey's findings, in-depth interviews will be conducted with migrant workers who utilize their migration experiences for livelihoods after migration. Following that, interviews and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) will be shown with government representatives, non-governmental organizations, and academic experts to delve into existing and potential policies that can benefit migrant workers. Finally, observational studies will be carried out in the selected villages to bolster the findings from the survey and interviews. This research will provide insights into productive ways of using migration experiences for livelihood. It will also promise a better understanding of the remittances, skills, and networks obtained from three types of different countries (Malaysia, Gulf countries, and more developed nations), which can aid in informed decision-making for those considering migration. This study could improve knowledge about government programs for prospective and past migrant workers and provide a framework for crafting policies to promote more advantageous migration using acquired remittances, skills, and networks.

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## **Disaggregating Ideological Extremist Groups: An Analysis of Islamist, White Supremacist and Sovereign Citizen Extremists**

Aaron Calbert

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Although a vast body of scholarship has been dedicated to the identification of radicalization risk factors for Far-Right militants in general, little attention has been given to the differences between specific ideological groups. Consequently, important distinctions between particular ideological groups may have been overlooked. The proposed presentation aims to partially address this gap by examining the similarities and discrepancies between Islamists, White Supremacist and Sovereign Citizen Extremists from the Profiles of Individual Radicalization (PIRUS) dataset. This will be done with respect to each group's demographic and socioeconomic makeup, radicalisation history, and modus operandi. These groups were selected for analysis as each demonstrably represents a significant threat to public safety. While statistical analysis showed a number of strong similarities with respect to gender composition, levels of high school completion and employment prior to radicalisation, significant differences were also revealed. In contrast to Sovereign Citizens, Islamist and White Supremacist Extremists are primarily composed of younger adults with no military experience. Furthermore, Islamists were the least likely to succeed in committing acts of terrorism despite having superior preparation and organisation in comparison to White Supremacists and Sovereign Citizens. Conversely, White Supremacists were paradoxically revealed to be the likeliest to succeed in executing extremist plots despite having the least amount of preparation. These results appear to refute claims made in the literature that demarcating between specific ideological groups is unnecessary due to Right-Wing Extremist groups being fundamentally similar, and highlight the need for researchers to understand how law enforcement agencies prioritise the interception of particular extremist organisations.

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## **Navigating Barriers: Disruptive Technologies and Internationalisation Adoption in Latin American SMEs**

Dannie Carr Quiros  
Adelaide Business School

Through a systematic literature review and context analysis from semi-structured interviews, this research assesses the barriers hampering the adoption of disruptive technologies and internationalisation of SMEs' growth and competitiveness.

Studying international business and its influence on companies of all sizes is important because it is a large, increasing, and fundamental part of the world's economy. This has created business opportunities and competition worldwide, a crucial aspect of all business strategies (Daniels et al. 2018). Companies, especially SMEs, have significant challenges getting international due to jeopardy of failure (Prashantham & Floyd 2019), resistance to change (Calabro, Chrisman & Kano 2022), or network limitations (Hunt et al. 2022). Internationalisation is interwoven with technology adoption and SME performance in several ways (Denicolai, Zucchella & Magnani 2021). It tends to increase profitability (Battaglia & Neirotti 2020) and product and process innovation (Abubakar et al. 2019; Genc, Dayan & Genc 2019). Technology adoption suffers several challenges that hinder its implementation in SMEs, such as the reluctance of owners to implement new technology (Eiriz, Barbosa & Ferreira 2018) or cultural, administrative, geographic, and economic constraints (Shaheer 2020).

The importance of this work stems from the insufficient research on effective internationalisation, the lack of problem-solving strategies to improve SMEs' capacity to enable internationalisation (Arregle et al. 2021), and qualitative research that is strong enough to develop new theories and explanatory power in this field (Dabić et al. 2019). Entrepreneurship is centred on opportunities to create innovative solutions to emerging problems and international business on the global reach of those opportunities. Technology adoption and internationalisation must be examined to address barriers in the intersection of these two fields (Zou et al. 2023). Finally, this research aims to join the conversation of technology adoption and internationalisation strategies on SMEs to scale and make more profitable businesses worldwide.

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## **Systems Thinking in Disaster Response**

Yuan Chai  
Adelaide Business School

In the context of the frequent occurrence of disasters in the world, operating the disaster response mechanism to maximize the safety of citizens and minimize damage to life and property has been a constant concern. Thus, this study will explore the framework of disaster response systems in countries worldwide. Using research methods of qualitative analysis and keyword searches across academic databases, the disaster

response framework of six countries and the technical means involved in various fields were sorted out, analyzed, and summarized. Preliminary findings indicate that based on the complexity of disaster response systems, more complex systems can instil a way of thinking to help improve disaster response. Furthermore, from the perspective of complex systems, multiple factors can be simultaneously considered in future research to establish a complex disaster response system that would minimize the impact of disasters on society.

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## **Stories from the field – using creative writing to communicate research from within organisations**

Nicole Cheesman-Dutton  
Adelaide Business School

I've spent the last thirty years redirecting the trajectory of failing and underperforming firms. As a GM, COO, CEO, founder and MD, of Engineering, Contracting, Infrastructure and Energy companies, I've done this over and over again in my professional practice. I've failed and succeeded, hit the targets set and exceeded them, together with the teams I've built, we've turned the businesses around by all recognised measures while aiming to get each organisation to thrive.

We knew what had to be done, the literature and practice is clear on what is required; client recruitment, sales campaigns, cost cutting and restructures. But everything a leader does has a ripple effect. The cost was high, people lost their livelihoods, the stress for everyone was enormous and lot of people's time and energy was wasted in the endless pursuit of hard success. I wanted to do better, to create a sustainable way for myself and others.

Using data collated from my career, failure and success, I used an ethnographic approach to study how to influence people to bring about last change. What we discovered is that leadership occurs in the most mundane of moments. They may feel insignificant to you, but each of these 'drop in the ocean' moments has a ripple effect on others.

By understanding how important each moment is, you can be more intentional in your approach. To ask questions, encourage, show leadership, nudge, empower, listen, act, create, serve, transform, transcend and adapt.

So, to tell the stories from my research, I wrote a novel which poses questions for reflection that might just help others with how to redirect the trajectory of failing and underperforming firms. Today I present an example of my work where characters evolve, many smaller stories intertwine, and a story emerges.

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## **How food sovereignty can guide Australian local governments and civil society organisations in building equitable, sustainable and healthful local food systems**

Kahlia Clarke

School of Social Sciences, Geography, Environment & Population

Food sovereignty is a concept that takes a critical systems focus and centres each individual's right to healthy, and ethically and sustainably produced food, in addition to their right to participate in decision-making processes within their food system. As a result, it has important differences to concepts such as food security, food justice and food democracy. While this concept gained momentum first in the Global South with movements such as La Via Campesina, its applications and translations to the Global North are as yet limited. The increased focus over recent years on the crucial role that local government and civil society organisations (CSOs) play in building resilient, equitable food systems presents an ideal opportunity to explore the potential benefits of, and pathways to, incorporating food sovereignty into the work of these groups. This research therefore aims to explore food sovereignty's potential value and expression in an Australian context, and the pathways to its incorporation by groups working on food systems within the local community. An initial literature review will provide initial guiding insights for this process. Multiple case studies will then be conducted using document analysis, and semi-structured interviews to understand the challenges, opportunities and characteristics of stakeholder collectives that aim to decentralise decision-making processes and empower stakeholder voices. A policy analysis of three local government will provide insight into their food-related actions and policies, and this combined with mapping of CSO initiatives in the Adelaide region will provide a

comprehensive picture of the opportunities for growth in the space. Recommendations can then be formulated for embedding food sovereignty more deeply into the city's wider region, with the potential for development of a trial program guided by a participatory action research approach.

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## **The “Sad Girl” Era of Screen Media: A feminist examination of how fans engage with “Sad Girl” characters in contemporary television**

Lisa Cooper

School of Humanities, Media

This project explores the resurgence of the “Sad Girl” trend in contemporary media, focusing on the protagonists shown in female-centric television shows, and how fans, particularly women, engage with these texts. Narratives of disillusioned and self-destructive women have emerged as a prominent theme in contemporary female-centric television. This research assumes that the resurgence of the Sad Girl in popular culture transpired as a rejection of the previous media culture that favoured postfeminist and neoliberal perspectives of women being projected as infinitely empowered and confident. Thus, this cultural turn of popularising images of sadness instead of confidence can potentially be a response to the current socio-political landscape. To investigate this and understand how feminisms are embedded and understood in contemporary texts, this project draws on Gill’s concept of the postfeminist sensibility with Lauren Berlant’s approach to affect theory, mainly her notion of cruel optimism. Focus groups with Australian women will be integrated with a textual analysis of two television series which are considered figureheads in the Sad Girl trend, these being Phoebe Waller-Bridge’s *Fleabag* (2016–2019) and the television adaptation of Sally Rooney’s *Normal People* (2020). By analysing how audiences engage with and interpret these representations of femininity in television, this research will provide an insight into the current social attitudes and cultural expectations placed onto women, as well as the relationship female viewers have with current feminisms.

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## **Will children’s mental health be affected by exposure to natural disasters? Evidence from Australia**

Trang Dang

School of Economics and Public Policy, Economics

Natural disasters frequently affect Australia, including bushfires, floods, and tropical cyclones. These events can cause widespread damage and disruption, impacting communities nationwide. The frequency and intensity of natural disasters in Australia have increased in recent years, driven by climate change and other environmental factors. This has raised concerns about the potential impact on the physical and mental health of Australians. Mental health disorders pose a significant burden on Australia’s healthcare system. They are the leading cause of disability in the country and the third biggest burden of disease, with a total cost of at least 12.7 million AUD. Children and adolescents are not immune to mental health disorders, with approximately 1 in 7 experiencing a mental disorder. We are interested in investigating the causal effect of natural disasters on children’s mental health. This study utilizes data from the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children. Using the longitudinal data, we used fixed-effects regression models to estimate the impact of natural disaster exposure on children’s mental health scores. The findings show that there is an existence of heterogeneity in the effects of natural disasters across the distribution of children’s mental health. In addition, the perspectives of Parent One and Study Child on children’s mental health are different when children are exposed to natural disasters. While children are self-aware and more resilient, parents tend to be sensible in recognizing their children’s mental health issues. Furthermore, we find that girls and Indigenous children are the group who suffered the most from their exposure to natural disasters. This research has highlighted the complex and multifaceted impact of natural disasters on children’s mental health in Australia. We conclude policymakers should design and launch tailored interventions that acknowledge the differing needs of children based on their gender, cultural background, and pre-existing mental health struggles.

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## **Examining engagement interplay in a sports context**

Harrison de Picot

Adelaide Business School

The Australian sporting landscape is unique yet highly saturated, with over 120 major sporting brands across its seven mainstream team sports (such as Australian-Rules Football, Rugby, and Soccer). This presents a challenging environment for brands regularly competing both on and off the field to engage their fans, who often need to split their engagement across different sporting codes, brands, and teams. As such, it is a rich context to examine determining factors and outcomes when one's attention is split across multiple points of engagement focus concurrently, and how these touchpoints influence one another to alter engagement outcomes (herein titled 'engagement interplay'). However, sports / marketing literature is surprisingly nascent on this phenomenon. Using an Australian sample (n=350) drawn from fans of Australia's four major professional football codes (AFL, NRL, A-League and Super Rugby), the dynamics of engagement interplay are investigated through the lens of 'Psychological Ownership' (PO). We hypothesise that the degree of PO exhibited impacts brand engagement and generates heightened multi-faceted outcomes (both positive and negative) otherwise unattainable via existing conceptualisations of engagement. This research provides rich theoretical implications by extending work on (multi)actor engagement to theorise and explain changes in engagement among multiple points of focus (i.e., brands), as well as practical implications for both managers and consumers to understand how engagement unfolds in an ever connected and digitalised world.

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## **From awareness to action: investigating environmental motivations for dietary changes in Australia**

Virginie Ducruc

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A few years ago, environmental reasons did not figure in many people's motivations to modify their diets. Previously, few considered the negative environmental impact of food systems or their links to climate change. However, within a short period, a growing segment of the population, has started to make dietary changes for environmental reasons. While motivations for food choices are multifaceted, this trend highlights a changing awareness among Australians. Despite the global relevance of this trend, interventions can be most effective at the national and local levels, where policies regarding agriculture, industry, trade, and food are implemented. Therefore, focusing on Australia is relevant. Despite this recent shift, there has been limited research on the general population's awareness of the connection between food systems, climate change, and its impact on dietary behaviours in Australia. This research seeks to address this gap by examining Australians' awareness of these issues, their environmental values, and how these influence their dietary choices. Existing studies on this topic have mostly used surveys with convenience sampling methods, limiting the generalisability of their findings. To enable a more complete picture, a representative sample of Australians will be surveyed. It also aims to understand the nature of dietary changes made or planned for environmental reasons and how these changes manifest at the household level using semi-structured interviews. By gaining insights into public perceptions, motivations and actions, this research can inform strategies to promote sustainable dietary practices. As social norms continue to evolve, there is a growing need to understand and encourage healthier and greener dietary behaviours, making further research in this area worthwhile.

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## **Optimizing land-use reallocation at different farm scales: A case study of Indonesia's sugar self-sufficiency program**

Zaura Fadhliani

School of Economics and Public Policy, Centre for Global Food & Resources

Ensuring food supply is crucial for national security and policies may be enacted to drive land-use changes through public/private investments to enhance agricultural capacity. However, reallocating limited resources like land can inadvertently lead to national, sectoral, and local welfare impacts including inefficiency and inequality. The reallocation of land resources can be assessed using optimization models that test possible reallocation options. This is essential where any reallocation assessment concerning food self-sufficiency across different farm scales involves smallholder farmers vulnerable to future inefficient/inequitable change. However, such applications are limited in the literature. This research aims to show how applying an optimization model, and conducting segregated analyses of various farm scales, can determine whether Indonesia has sufficient land resources to achieve the desired sugar production capacity and self-sufficiency status. Additionally, it aims to analyse any potential positive and negative welfare impacts of the program. The land allocation optimization model indicates that it is possible to acquire the necessary area for sugar



production to achieve national self-sufficiency. However, the inefficient/inequitable costs of reallocating land for sugarcane cultivation are substantial.

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## **Characteristics of facilitated critical thinking when students listen to and speak English as an additional language in Indonesia**

Ricky Fernandes  
School of Education

A qualitative case study of a teacher facilitating Critical Thinking (CT) through listening and speaking in an English as an Additional Language (EAL) Year 10 Indonesian high school class was conducted. Such CT facilitation and development are required not only by the Indonesian government's EAL policies, but also in other countries with developing economies. CT is thought to promote language acquisition as well as being developed through language learning, if well-facilitated. The study presents a case study of a teacher and her class based on triangulated data comprising pre- and post-interviews with the teacher, student classroom observations and documents on lesson plans, content materials, syllabus and assessment practices. The findings revealed evidence for rich CT when analysed through the analytical framework of Critical Thinking in English Listening and Speaking (CTELS). However, factors were identified as obstacles for CT development, including first language interference, insufficient authentic content materials and constraints on the design of appropriate assessment tasks. These barriers to effective facilitation of CT in EAL listening and speaking form the basis for further investigation of the areas of CT in EAL listening and speaking pedagogy and assessment. Moreover, the CTELS shows promise to illuminate CT as evidenced by students and has the potential to guide teacher facilitation of CT.

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## **The effect of sunk costs, competency and asset specificity on the outsourcing decision: An Experimental Study**

Yalin Han  
Adelaide Business School

This study explores whether sunk costs in competency resources make a difference to managers' outsourcing decisions. The prior literature does not provide clear guidance on how sunk costs in competency resources will affect this type of choices of managers. We first pose two research questions as to (1) whether there is any difference between sunk costs in core competency and non-core competency resources for motivating managers to choose outsourcing and (2) whether asset specificity (customization) interacts with the competency logic in outsourcing decisions. An experimental survey compares the effects of sunk costs in core competency and non-core competency resources variants. The results reveal a significant competency variable, confirming a difference between sunk costs in core competency and non-core competency resources, specifically managers are more likely to outsource activities with sunk investments in non-core competency resources. We then test hypotheses on whether there are differences between high asset-specific investments and low asset-specific investments on this type of choices. The results show that there is a significant difference between these two levels of asset-specific investments on the selection of outsourcing, specifically managers are more likely to outsource low asset-specific investments. However, there is no interaction effect of sunk costs in competency resources and asset specificity on the outsourcing decisions. Our collective evidence therefore supports the hypothesis that sunk costs in core competency resources and asset specificity have an effect on managers' outsourcing decisions respectively. Our study findings extend the extant sunk cost literature to test the specific circumstances of core and non-core competency resources and hold practical implications for firms in the strategic design of outsourcing based on organizational capability considerations rather than opportunism concerns alone.

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## **Gender roles and women's empowerment in dairy farming in Indonesia**

Vyta Hanifah  
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Achieving gender equality through women's empowerment in farming households can significantly contribute to other sustainable development goals (SDGs), including zero hunger and poverty reduction. Studies have

consistently linked women's empowerment in agriculture to increased farm productivity and improved health outcomes for women and their families. However, in many rural areas of developing nations, women's roles and levels of empowerment remain poorly understood. This gap in knowledge limits the design of gender-inclusive interventions in agriculture. Despite efforts by international organizations to collect sex-disaggregated data, such data are predominantly available for some countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, leaving a significant gap in understanding for other countries in Southeast Asia, such as Indonesia. This paper presents a unique dataset from a survey conducted in three different time periods and a panel dataset from a baseline and an end-line survey in West Java Province, Indonesia, as a case study. The exploratory and comparison analyses were conducted to understand the changes in gender roles at the household level. The findings reveal significant disparities in men's and women's participation in various dairy farming activities, with women's participation notably lower than men's. The chi-squared test indicates that the relative participation of women to men in dairy production is lower by 23% and 25% at baseline and end-line, respectively, and by 46% and 38% in milk marketing. Among women, the absolute participation at baseline and end-line does not show statistically significant differences. However, there is a statistically significant increase in participation in milk marketing. In terms of the role in decision-making, women generally perceive decisions as joint with their husbands, while men perceive themselves as making self-decisions. Overall, the study underscores the importance of examining household characteristics where women are more or less empowered and discussing implications for designing and implementing gender-inclusive interventions in agriculture.

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## **Preparing for Tomorrow's Remote Learning: Voices of Students, Parents, and Teachers on Their COVID-19 Experiences in Central China**

Mengyuan He  
School of Education

This study explores remote learning in Central China during the COVID-19 pandemic through the perspectives of students, parents and teachers. It will determine how online learning can be effectively developed in the future. The sudden onset of COVID-19 provided us with insights that real-world problems are not always predictable, regular and routine (Hu & Spiro, 2021). If online learning is only viewed as a temporary substitute for formal education during the COVID-19 period, then participants may still be unprepared in the next educational emergency.

The experience of Central China requires a deep investigation. Three years of experience of shutdowns and online learning may have made a lasting impact on learning (Wen et al., 2022; Ye et al., 2023 & Li et al., 2023). Given that education in Central China has traditionally lagged behind eastern and western China due to the unique social and economic characteristics makes the investigation of remote learning equity in Central China both necessary and instructive. Collating the impressions, challenges, and consequences of extended online education on parents, students and teachers provides a way to achieve this.

Utilizing activity theory, alongside methods such as surveys, interviews, and document analysis, the study aims to understand the dynamics affecting learning among students from year 1 to year 10 in 2020 (who are now year 4 to year 1 university students). By examining these experiences, the study seeks to inform future strategies for resilient and effective online education, ensuring readiness for any upcoming educational emergencies.

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## **Lost and Found**

Anna Henwood  
Elder Conservatorium of Music

I am a confirmed Doctor of Philosophy student, and my research looks at the flute pedagogy of Raymond Guiot, renowned flute teacher, composer and performer and my teacher for three years in Italy. Maestro Guiot was a student of Marcel Moyse, another renowned flute teacher, who was born in France in the late 1800s, and whose pedagogical output is legendary among flute players worldwide. My research project has taken me on two research study trips overseas to Europe. During my first research trip, I was in Paris and with some difficulty I located the gravesite of Marcel Moyse's flute teacher, considered the founder of the modern French flute school. The problem I encountered was that the gravesite was no longer recognizable, and no living family member was known to the cemetery because the address on record was from sixty years ago. My presentation will take the audience on a journey that begins in Père Lachaise Cemetery in Paris during my first research

study trip in late 2022. I will explain how I solved the problem of connecting the Cemetery with distant family members related to those buried at the gravesite, and why this connection is important. My presentation will also provide an update on the gravesite from my recent study trip to Europe in late 2023, highlighting the benefits of finding what was once lost.

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## **Barriers to the circular economy are diverse and business model-specific: evidence from the Australian cheese manufacturing sector**

Jack Hetherington

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The pursuit of Sustainable Development Goal 12.3, aimed at halving food waste by 2030, relies on a concerted effort from various stakeholders to engage in different practices that improve the utilisation of resources throughout the life cycle of a product. Circular business models (CBMs) have emerged as a promising avenue for achieving this goal by acknowledging there are multiple pathways that can contribute to the same outcome. CBMs can reduce the inputs into and/or waste and emissions from supply chains via a range of management practices, organisational configurations and part of broader value networks. This study seeks to contribute to the growing body of literature on CBMs by examining the diverse barriers across different types of business models. To explore these barriers in-depth, we thematically analysed semi-structured interview data from the Australian cheese manufacturing sector. Our research reveals that adopting various types of circular business models have, and can mitigate to an extent, different types of barriers. We find that when firms consider in-house management practices, they predominantly faced internal barriers. These internal hurdles include technological constraints; financial viability concerns; and organisational challenges, such as competing priorities and timing issues with the business cycle. The exploration of alternative business models, such as selling to or forming partnerships with other firms, offers a contrasting picture. In these scenarios, firms tend to report predominantly external barriers that are closely tied to supply chain dynamics. These external barriers include geographical remoteness, a lack of industry coordination, and ambiguity surrounding the distribution of costs, benefits, and responsibilities. These findings have the potential to assist with decision-making within the cheese manufacturing sector and other industries facing similar issues. By highlighting the differences in barriers faced across various circular business models, our study underscores the importance of exploring multiple pathways to achieve the same goal, while also identifying residual issues that will need to be addressed – e.g., industry coordination, clear business plans, etc.

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## **The use of pre-recorded evidence for 'vulnerable' witnesses in South Australia**

Jemma Holt

Adelaide Law School

In recent times, there has been a discernible movement towards pre-recording the evidence of 'vulnerable' witnesses in criminal proceedings. There has been an ever-increasing class of witnesses who are deemed 'vulnerable' and, in turn, an ever-expanding use of pre-recorded evidence across the criminal justice system.

The ability for pre-recorded evidence to minimise the impact and trauma of the trial process on certain witnesses is not disputed. Nor is the fact that, in the right cases, pre-recorded evidence is also able to secure the witnesses' 'best evidence'. However, arguably the widespread use of pre-recorded evidence does not result in the 'best evidence' being obtained in many cases but, rather, an inherently vulnerable evidentiary product and, more generally, further entrenches the vulnerability of these witnesses within the criminal justice system.

It is timely and necessary to conduct a critical evaluation of the use of pre-recorded evidence in South Australia and to reconsider the policy and legal framework that underpins the current scheme.

The aim of this research is to learn how the pre-recorded evidence scheme is operating in practice and to evaluate whether and to what extent it may be improved. Are there substantive and/or procedural matters which need to be addressed within the current legislative framework? Are there practices and approaches of investigating authorities, counsel and/or the courts that influence the application of the scheme and, therefore the practical outcomes? Are there more fundamental issues with the underlying policy, such as the issues inherent with the terminology of 'vulnerability' and the allocation of special assistance measures on the basis of fixed definitions of vulnerability, and do we need to consider an alternate approach based on the emerging

discourse which recognises the vulnerability inherent in every witness called to give oral evidence in an adversarial system?

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## **George Cruikshank's 1816 Waterloo etching – art or history?**

James Hurst

School of Humanities, Historical and Classical Studies

In the course of conducting research for my thesis, I discovered two paintings which, after a good deal of investigation, I concluded may possess an unrecognised historical significance.

My thesis is a re-examination and re-assessment of the great cavalry charge by the British heavy cavalry at the 1815 Battle of Waterloo, the battle that saw the downfall of Napoleon Bonaparte.

I discovered one of the paintings in a family collection. The other, by George Cruikshank, better known for political satire, has been in the public domain since about 1816. Two things caught my eye: it was created 'under the inspection of officers who were present', and it displays a cavalry charge. Examination of the location and uniforms suggested that it depicts not only British heavy cavalry, but possibly the subjects of my thesis – the 2nd Life Guards.

What these two paintings have in common is that they were apparently, or reputedly, the product of eye witness input. Paintings of Waterloo abound; most are products of an artists' imagination. The tantalising part is this: if some or much of the detail in these depictions is a reflection of what eye witnesses recalled, does this set them apart from other art – are they in fact historical documents? Are they giving us a unique insight into aspects of a battle that pre-dates the camera? If so, what can they tell us about the battle from an "insiders'" perspective?

The problem lies in answering these questions. How accurate are these depictions? Where do they fit on a scale between imagination and historical accuracy? What, if anything, might they be telling us?

This presentation will explore these problems by examining the Cruikshank painting.

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## **Walking, Wandering, and Writing: A Psychogeographical Practice of Poetry and Street Photography in Adelaide**

David Osu Ishaya

School of Humanities, English, Creative Writing and Film

Biological motion is a natural, physical characteristic of human beings and all organisms. Organisms in all forms move in one way or the other; some fly, glide, some hop, others swim, some others walk. Among several ways that the human body moves, is walking—a whole body movement. Walking has been studied and theorised extensively in fields of health and science, art, religion, business and economics. City strollers, poets, novelists, playwrights from ancient times to our contemporary age have explored (and continue to explore) the act of walking in various forms and methods of enquiry and creativity. Cities are not just arrangements of infrastructure, population size and flow, they are also embodiments of the people who live in them or interact with them—ranging from dwellers to visitors. What does it mean to walk or move in the city? What does the city mean to the individual? Drawing from my work-in-progress, this presentation lays out a selection of poems and pictures from a practice-led intermedial research on walking, wandering and writing in the city of Adelaide. Titled 'Squint' and 'Poetry as Geography, Poet as Psychocartographer: A Reading of Uche Nduka and Reflections on Writing Adelaide', this project explores perspectives of the poet walking and wandering through the city. How does the embodied exploration of the city in its multilayered nature influence the poet, the poet's imagination, and forms of poems they make? Framed within theories and experiences of wanderlust, psychogeography, urban drifting, this paper will chart trajectories and fragments of my psychogeography of Adelaide.

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**Psychological Safety**  
**Aya Jabareen**  
Adelaide Business School

My research aims to unpack the concept of psychological safety, which refers to speaking up without fear, through the lens of the deconstruction theory. Deconstruction challenges traditional interpretations of concepts and offers new and different perspectives (Bakour, 2022). Most studies examine psychological safety on a team level using a 7-item scale by Amy Edmondson. This research challenges the notion that psychological safety is measurable through a scale, asserting its complex and intangible nature. Additionally, it argues that psychological safety is subjective and inseparable from social safety. This qualitative study seeks to reveal different interpretations, enriching the literature on psychological safety by incorporating the lived experiences of counsellors with Palestinian background working in South Australia.

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**Let us tell a story...**  
**Karolina Kaczorowska**  
Adelaide Business School

Prosocial effects of storytelling, examined thus far in our quantitative studies, remain at the heart of our research. In the final, qualitative phase, we explore interactions between storytellers and story receivers as a co-creative process of playing with the story's sense and ownership.

For charity organisations, storytelling can facilitate the articulation of the value proposition (Gasparin et al., 2022), and convey the overarching cause-focused meta-story, reflecting the charity brand meaning for all its stakeholders (Bublitz et al., 2016). A brand can be, therefore, perceived as a story open to retelling, co-creating, reincarnating, and playing with meaning (Holt, 2003). Even if it consists of various sub-stories, a mutually acceptable and coherent meta-story has a better chance of driving social change.

In a series of interviews, we investigate how a meta-story emerges when local charity organisations supporting people experiencing homelessness use storytelling to connect with people. We consider voices and interactions at all (micro, meso, macro) levels, the dynamics of central and supporting characters, the intricacies of the hero's journey, and the dissonance of intentions, roles, and anticipated outcomes. This study explores the complexity and challenges of using storytelling to co-create a charity brand meaning and drive social change. Whose voices do we hear? Who plays the central, supporting and villain roles? How does the story unfold, and who brings value and benefits from it in the process? Those are some of the questions we aim to answer.

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**Acquisition of optimism in entrepreneurial ecosystems**

Jyoti Khisha  
Adelaide Business School

What occurs within a startup incubator? Startup incubators, offering various forms of assistance and resources to startups, have become essential elements of the entrepreneurship landscape. From providing workspace for new ventures to providing mentorship and networking opportunities, fostering a growth-oriented environment, and even extending financing, startup incubators play pivotal roles in facilitating the establishment and advancement of ventures across diverse sectors. Scholars in academia have highlighted the significance of startup incubators through numerous research projects. Within a startup incubator, activities such as mentoring, workshops, networking functions, rituals, resource sharing, and community involvement shape the trajectory of an entrepreneur. Prior studies have indicated that entrepreneurs exhibit greater optimism compared to the general population. Thus, they are more likely to take the initiative to start a venture. Research also highlights optimism as an important stable personality trait. However, within a startup incubator, as entrepreneurs engage with one another in the community, they are exposed to positive experiences, whether in celebrating the accomplishments of different ventures, receiving favorable news for grants or growth in sales through the network they created. This raises the question of what happens to entrepreneurs' optimism and how it changes through these interactions. Does optimism transfer among entrepreneurs, and if so, what are

the outcomes? This research explores the phenomenon of the acquisition of optimism by entrepreneurs in a startup incubator setting. Through participant observation, text analysis, and surveys, this research will investigate how entrepreneurs acquire optimism, which factors influence this process, and what the outcomes are.

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## **Relations of space, time and beyond: An analysis of concrete and abstract prepositions in German L1 and L2 academic presentations**

Vanessa Kreuzsch

School of Humanities, European Languages, and Linguistics

Presentations are a pivotal component of university curricula, yet, spoken academic genres have not been extensively researched despite their prevalence in academia and beyond. Presenting successfully is an essential skill students need to develop. However, they pose a great challenge to non-native (L2) speakers since they not only have to handle the cognitive pressure of producing a spoken text in real-time but are also faced with linguistic obstacles. It is the aim of this project to suggest pedagogic interventions in the L2 classroom, enabling language learners to perform confidently. To improve practices in the German L2 classroom, an empirical analysis of prepositional phrases in native-speaker (L1) and L2 transcripts of academic presentations is conducted. The linguistic analysis focuses on prepositions as they are a frequent and highly polyfunctional structure in the German language. Prepositional phrases are used to establish various semantic relationships, e.g. referring to space and time, between elements in a sentence. In academic language, abstract uses of prepositional phrases are common. This finding raises the question whether L2 speakers of German can use them successfully to perform at the level of L1 peers. Using tools of corpus analysis, the study aims to uncover the differences between prepositional structures in transcripts of L1 and L2 student presentations. On the one hand, a quantitative analysis is conducted to compare the frequencies of prepositions in the two groups. On the other hand, a qualitative analysis is applied to understand the semantic and functional differences between the use of prepositions by L1 and L2 speakers. By understanding deficiencies in the L2 productions, the findings of the linguistic analysis can be applied to improve curricula and develop materials based on the authentic use of linguistic structures. The project underlines the importance of supporting multilingualism and imparting professional skills in academic contexts.

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## **Collective Engagement towards Social Purpose: Scale Development, Purification and Validation**

My Le

Adelaide Business School

In the face of many social challenges, corporations have recently been encountering increasing pressure from stakeholders to create greater social impacts in addition to serving their shareholders. For companies to achieve social impacts, it is important to establish collective engagement. Existing marketing literature has primarily focused on engagement at an individual level, with scant research on how engagement manifests at a collective level. This research aims to develop and validate a measurement scale for collective engagement within a social purpose context. Informed by recent conceptualisations of the collective engagement construct, we follow an established procedure for measurement scale development. This procedure began with a systematic literature review of engagement scales within the discipline of marketing research, and the broader fields of management and social science. Our analysis of 167 studies revealed over 500 individual-level items across four dimensions. These pre-validated measurement items are currently in the process of being further evaluated and adapted to the present study's context via an expert review (N = 15), an item-sort task (N = 20), an item purification study (N = 300) and a construct validation study (N = 300). Preliminary analysis will be presented at the ABLE Conference. By developing a valid measurement scale, this study will significantly advance our understanding of collective engagement within a social purpose context and enable future empirical examination of the concept. From a practical perspective, this study will offer a useful diagnostic tool for social purpose driven organisations to measure their own levels of collective engagement. By using this tool, organisations can identify and manage shortfalls in their collective engagement.

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## **Common Ownership and Its Impact on Executive Mobility**

Yanlin Liu

Adelaide Business School

This paper investigates the influence of common ownership on managerial mobility, focusing on its anticompetitive effects on executive labor markets. The analysis includes quasi-natural experiments to establish a causal relationship between common ownership and executive mobility by utilizing the variation in common ownership caused by S&P 500 index entries of industry competitors. Our findings reveal that common ownership negatively impacts executive mobility and that it is more salient for executives with better labor market opportunities. We also discover that common owners implement longer pay durations and higher option intensity in compensation contracts and vote for proposals that increase option intensity in managerial contracts to restrict executive mobility. These results contribute to the ongoing debate on the anticompetitive effects of common ownership and its implications for competition policy in labor markets, particularly in the context of c-suite executives.

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## **Advancing the Management of Risk in Complex Systems**

Benjamin Luther

Adelaide Business School

Theories of probability and risk management put forth by historical figures such as Keynes, Knight, and Friedman at the beginning of the 20th century have had a lasting impact on contemporary risk management practices. These theories have shaped the way we conceptualise, model and manage risk throughout society and an understanding the genesis of these schools of thought, can provide valuable insights into the limitations of the various theories. With the increasing levels of complexity in contemporary systems, limitations on the theory are now impacting the utility of the associated risk management frameworks.

The most prevalent risk model is the two-dimensional model, which is grounded in von Neumann and Morgenstern's Utility Theory. This model uses the quantification school of probability theory from the early 20th century and is often implemented in a two-dimensional risk assessment matrix. While this approach has been widely adopted, its assumptions are now limitations that are emblematic of the evolution that is required for risk management frameworks to support complexity in systems.

Application of a Cynefin lens as an ontological framework fits Knight's theory of probability, though this is not the prevalent theory of probability utilised in risk management. Research with participants in the flight test industry identified their unique position as risk managers of complex systems and their cultural norm in implementing a parallel approach that meets organisational and regulatory minimums, while improving the way risk is managed across Clear, Complicated and Complex system elements. The presentation will examine the intersection of social science, probability theory from economics, decision theory, and engineering systems theory, toward an understanding of improvements that can be made to managing risk within projects delivering contemporary, complex socio-technical systems.

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## **Faulkner, Romanticism, and Visual Media**

Xinru Ma

School of Humanities, English, Creative Writing and Film

This presentation will be divided into three parts. First, I will introduce the summary of my project: this thesis will explore different aspects of Faulkner's formal treatment of word and image, extending from poetic imagery and metaphors of painting in the nineteenth century to cinematography of the twentieth century. It also explores how Faulkner incorporates romantic tropes and artistic forms from the nineteenth century into his modernist application of visual strategies. Second, I will briefly introduce some of the main approaches of this thesis, along with the justification for why I have chosen them. Some of the media theorists like Kittler, Sconce, the great film artist Griffith, and some consideration of the important tropes and ideas from the romantic period will be included for this section. Third, I will present some preliminary findings of my thesis. This part will examine Faulkner's obsession with twentieth century media and his nostalgic, backward-looking predilection for the

media system of romanticism; how the haunted image serves as the token of the nineteenth century that casts a shadow on the twentieth century text, and the analogies between Faulkner and Griffith, in terms of their preference for romantic tradition and cinematic narrative devices.

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## **Fragments of Self: Contemporary Female Life Writing**

Meg Maggen

School of Humanities, English, Creative Writing and Film

My thesis *Fragments of Self: Contemporary Female Life Writing* examines the work of authors Rachel Cusk, Sheila Heti, Deborah Levy and Maggie Nelson.

Chapters One and Two set out concepts of autobiographical subjectivity, exploring the way memory, experience, identity, embodiment and agency are presented. I examine the construction of voice, and in particular the relationship between the fragments of form and content.

In Chapters Three and Four, I explore the way identity is formed; the writing process itself is a key function for the writers here, part self-reflection and self-determination. At the same time, a canon emerges as these writers draw on and integrate critical theory within their work. The texts do not simply reference concepts, but embed theory deeply within experience and understanding. The acts of reading and writing are central to the writers' construction of self.

My current research for Chapter Five explores the conditions of life writing, in particular the way each of the writers situate motherhood as both institution and experience. The fundamental transformation of self that occurs in motherhood serves as an emotive and generative study for these writers, and for myself as a researcher (having had two children during the course of this research).

With this in mind, Chapter Six will then look at how the writers' relationship to self is presented to the reader. The canon of theory, and my study of these writers' own work becomes circular; I will argue that the reader is invited into the act of self-reflection.

In this way, my work has expanded to include a series of personal essays, interspersed throughout the thesis. My proposed presentation would incorporate the writers' creative work alongside critical theory and autobiographical subjectivity, as well as a portion of my own personal, fragmented essays – a conversation in the round.

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## **Towards the Classification of Recording Technology**

Alexander Mader

Elder Conservatorium of Music

This presentation will be an adapted version of my conference presentation to the Audio Engineering Society in October 2023. This paper outlines the foundation and development of a classification system for recording technology. It seeks to identify and define the essential characteristics of recording technology by which its artefacts can be defined and rationally organised relative to one another. The paper details the theoretical foundations upon which this classification system has been constructed and provides historical examples where appropriate. The classification system has been developed using two parallel methods which have each informed and refined each other. The first is constructed from the observation of differences between groups of functionally similar recording devices. It then analyses these differences to describe the defining distinctions between these categories in a rational way. The second method is a facet analysis, whereby the fundamental properties of recording devices (or facets) have been mathematically defined and are represented for each example of recording device. This method allows for the further development of precise language and tools for the description and understanding of recording technology. The paper will present and evaluate both these methods before detailing the first four broad classes of recording technology which have thus been identified and rationally described. These first four classes examine devices ranging from the earliest examples of phonographic recording, to magnetic media, through to contemporary digital technologies. It will present each of these classes in a clear and ordered manner, with choice examples and analysis of edge cases where



appropriate. The paper will conclude with an overview of the current state of the classification system and a survey of the expected outcomes and opportunities for future research.

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## **Exploring work-life enrichment experiences among women in construction trades: An IPA study**

Linda Magin  
Adelaide Business School

Increasing skill shortages in the construction industry have been a common concern worldwide. This research explores the work-life enrichment experiences of construction tradeswomen to better understand how to encourage and support women to pursue careers in the industry. The purpose of this study is to examine their experiences, well-being, motivations for choosing and maintaining their jobs, flexibility in work arrangements, expectations and needs to balance family life and career advancement. This research aims to identify the multifaceted factors influencing the experiences of tradeswomen, shedding light on their unique work-life experiences and perspectives, which will provide understanding and insights for strategies and policy improvement within the construction industry. Mixed methods of Participant Observation, Semi-structured interviews, and Interpretive Phenomenology Analysis (IPA) will be used to deeply explore the essence and meanings of lived experiences.

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## **A systematic literature review on emerging technologies' role in addressing modern slavery risks**

Ardalan Marandi Alamdari  
Adelaide Business School

Abiding by principles of sustainable development, buying firms are responsible for alleviating the sinister practices of modern slavery in their supply chains. Despite the efforts and claims, there is still a debate about whether and how modern slavery risks can be effectively managed with multi-tier global supply chains. Through a combination of literature review, this study explores how firms deal with modern slavery in their multi-tier supply chains using emerging technologies such as blockchain. The research drew on Information Processing Theory (Galbraith 1969; Tushman & Nadler 1978) and followed systematic literature review guidelines developed by Durach, Kembro and Wieland (2017) to address our research question.

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## **Stewardship behaviours and well-being within organisations: An empirical examination of mechanisms, outcomes, and measurement**

Nicholas Marzohl  
Adelaide Business School

Stewardship pertains to situations where individuals act to benefit others, whether in harmony or defiance of their personal interests and is driven by the belief that stewardship actions enhance long-term collective well-being. My research delves into how organizations can facilitate stewardship behaviour to enhance stakeholder well-being, where stakeholders encompass any party influencing or influenced by an organization's decisions and actions. To explore this, I address three gaps in existing literature, each forming a separate paper within my thesis.

Firstly, while stewardship is widely discussed for its potential to promote stakeholder well-being, the literature lacks a clear framework on how organizations can foster stewardship among individuals. To tackle this issue, I conducted an abductive analysis of 122 articles, identifying antecedents, outcomes, and organizational factors influencing stewardship behaviour that support stakeholder well-being. I present an integrated framework illustrating how organizations can promote stakeholder well-being by facilitating stewardship.

Drawing on the findings of our review, I identify two further shortcomings within stewardship literature. Namely, there is a paucity of empirical studies investigating the mechanisms influencing well-being within organizations, and, secondly, there is a pressing need for improvements in the tools used to measure stewardship. To address these gaps, I plan to qualitatively examine mechanisms promoting the dual purpose of modern

organizations through semi-structured interviews with Australian non-executive directors, who play integral roles as organizational fiduciaries. Additionally, I aim to develop and validate a stewardship scale measuring individual-level stewardship.

Through my thesis, I aim to advance an understanding of how an organization can leverage stewardship to enhance stakeholder well-being. Moreover, my findings will provide insight into the mechanisms within an organization that facilitate stewardship. Finally, through the development and validation of a stewardship scale, I will provide scholars and industry with a novel tool to measure the influence of stewardship behaviour.

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## **Towards a Canon of Australian Art Song by Women Composers**

Fiona McArdle

Elder Conservatorium of Music

There has been an international resurgence in the performances of works by women composers. Databases such as Donne's BIG LIST of Women Composers, Institute for Composer Diversity, and the Boulanger Initiative have been created out of a desire to promote women and minority composers and their works, however Australian women composers are severely underrepresented across all three databases. Considering Australia's rich history of women composers of Art Song; one must only look at the compositions of Margaret Sutherland, Peggy Glanville-Hicks and Miriam Hyde for proof of this, there is a real lack of comprehensive records of Australian women composers' repertoire. In 2014, John Howell advanced research in Australian Art Song with his Introductory Survey on the Development of Australian Art Song including a Catalogue and Bibliography of selected works from the 19th through 21st centuries. In his appendices Howell includes a representative list of 141 composers, however only 36 of these are women. This only highlights the lack of diversity in the representation of Australian women composers in the repertoire. This paper builds on the work by Howell in his Survey of Australian Art Song. While work continues to build a survey of Australian women composers and art song compositions from the first quarter of the 21st century, this research will also provide insight into current compositional styles in Australia, with an aim to increase accessibility and performances of this incredible repertoire.

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## **International best practice in the tertiary teaching of music composition**

Lauren McCormick

Elder Conservatorium of Music

The professional field of musical composition has evolved tremendously throughout the 20th and 21st centuries, with the advent of new technologies and fragmentation of the creative discipline permanently altering the standard of practice for working composers in ways which were previously unprecedented (Throsby, 2016). So too has the realm of compositional training rapidly changed and evolved, aiming to remain in alignment with new standards of institutional education and professional practices. This research therefore seeks to explore best practices in the teaching and training of composers across tertiary institutions on a global scale. Ten leading institutions will be selected for in-depth case study, which includes the comparative examination of degree programs, course curricula, and institutional frameworks, as well as interviews with their leading pedagogues.

Central to the study's theoretical underpinning is Shulman's (2005) concept of "signature pedagogy", with a specific focus on the compositional workshop as the foundational mode of practitioner induction in music composition as established by Love and Barrett in 2018. This framework provides a lens through which case study analyses and interview interpretations will be conducted.

This research bears significant implications for the field of music composition pedagogy, as this is the first study of its kind to be conducted on an international scale. The final thesis of this research will also include a detailed degree plan and course structure—informed through the synthesis of the findings of the study—to act as a framework which may be adapted by institutions aiming to elevate their educational standards, and thus fostering advancement in the teaching practices of music composition worldwide.

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## **Acclimatising to new/near futures: Government paternalism and reimagining collective climate action**

Amelia McFarlane

School of Social Sciences, Geography, Environment & Population

Despite global acceptance that we are confronted by a climate 'emergency', the collective inaction of individuals to change persists. This new form of climate denial presents as behavioural inertia, a 'green gap' between knowing we must act and not. As citizens of the world's most affluent societies, our lack of a cohesive civic commitment to reduce our carbon emissions poses a plethora of moral and ethical dilemmas. It also presents as a crisis of culture and imagination, and offers an opportunity to examine new and possibly confronting ways to rethink the role of climate policy in the lives of private citizens. Posing as a 'perfect moral storm', climate change allows us to test the limits of democratic legitimacy and engage in more creative civic engagement. My project aims to enter these murky spaces between top-down and bottom-up Climate Actions, and to interrogate how, in a post-pandemic world, citizens might engage with notions of stronger government 'pushes' to change. A preliminary literature review reveals that qualitative explorations into paternalistic government interventions for civic climate action are lacking, but are emerging in the wake of the COVID pandemic. Those which do exist, uncover that across certain domains, individuals may be open to 'coercive' government policy interventions. As a world leader in 'green energy', and having announced a climate emergency, South Australia provides the perfect context in which to examine these possibilities. My research will engage small groups of citizens in conversations around new climate imaginaries, grounded in near futures. I will ask individuals to consider the 'what ifs' of being obliged to change their personal behaviour in collective efforts with fellow citizens. I hope to challenge and uncover new ways of thinking about efficient and impactful climate actions. In this presentation, I will provide further theoretical context to my planned qualitative research.

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## **Consumer Acceptance of Novel Food and Beverages: Systematic Literature Review and Future Research Agenda**

Syuzanna Mosikyan

Adelaide Business School

In response to the rising global demand for healthier and more sustainable food resources, novel and unconventional food and beverages are being developed and incorporated into our diets. However, existing literature provides a limited understanding of consumers' acceptance of these innovations. This study undertakes a systematic literature review to examine the dynamics between consumers and novel foods and beverages. The objectives are to uncover the factors that influence consumer choices in these products, identify future research needs, and contribute to the development of effective marketing strategies for novel food and beverage adoption.

This systematic review analysed 98 research papers, selected from an initial pool of 4,280, sourced from Scopus and Web of Science databases. The papers were published between 2011 and 2023 in journals listed by the Australian Business Deans Council (ABDC) and classified as Q1 in SJR journal ranking. The articles have been reviewed using the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis) protocol and TCCM (Theory, Context, Characteristics and Methodology) framework.

The findings reveal a predominant data-driven approach, suggesting a need for the integration of relevant theories for future research. Researchers primarily focused on investigating the acceptance of technology-based innovations in developed countries, indicating prospects to explore other novel food and beverage categories in developing countries. Consumer-related factors, particularly psychological aspects, are the dominant studied factors, underscoring the potential for exploring additional variables that influence the acceptance of novel foods and beverages. The majority of studies adopted quantitative research design, indicating an opportunity to explore qualitative and multi-method approaches.

Overall, this review contributes to the advancement of consumer behaviour literature and provides insights for industry stakeholders and policymakers to foster innovation successfully in the food and beverage sector.

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## **Urgent Action Required: Can an Analogy to Space Activities Accelerate Solar Radiation Management Governance?**

Rachel Neef  
Adelaide Law School

In 2023 the Earth only just stayed under the 1.5°C warming limit set by the 2015 Paris Agreement. Solar radiation management ("SRM") technologies are being researched as an additional means to address the catastrophic impacts of climate change. SRM aims to cool global/regional temperatures by reflecting a percentage of sunlight away from the Earth, and presents significant risks and governance challenges. Existing rules under international environmental law do not adequately address these risks, including transboundary harm and security risks. This paper looks beyond international environmental law to space law, not for direct application, but to explore its potential to provide a suitable analogy to inform the development of international SRM governance. Reasoning by analogy, enables actors to make predictions or comparisons on how a regime might work to solve a particular issue in a shorter timeframe. This is particularly important for SRM, which needs urgent governance. My thesis considers the process of reasoning by analogy in international law and asks three questions: (1) what makes a persuasive analogy and (2) can space law provide a suitable analogy to inform SRM governance and (3) what can we learn from space law for SRM governance? Space law regulates novel, hazardous technologies in global commons, that also present security and environmental risks, mirroring key attributes and governance challenges of SRM. Space law could therefore provide international law and policymakers with important lessons to accelerate the development of international law for SRM.

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## **'There are pianos everywhere': Oscar Commettant and the myth of piano saturation in colonial Australia**

Benjamin Nicholls  
School of Humanities, Historical and Classical Studies

There was movement at the station, for the word had passed around, that 'there were pianos everywhere'. What a jangle we've made of this.

The French musician and composer Oscar Commettant's hyperbolic writing on pianos in Australia has been taken up whole sale by Aussies in the last seventy years. Oftentimes he is quoted with little criticism, but occasionally there's a note of suspicion. In this paper, I look at South Australian data which shows that pianos were common, but depending on the decade, the numbers and geographic spread vary markedly.

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## **Possibilities and Pitfalls of Legal Regimes Criminalising 'Wage Theft'**

Irene Nikoloudakis  
Adelaide Law School

Wage theft is a serious and systematic problem in many labour markets around the world. Broadly defined, 'wage theft' involves the underpayment or non-payment of wages and other monetary entitlements legally owed by an employer to an employee. In Australia, approximately \$1.35 billion in underpayments occur per year. In the United States, it is estimated that employees lose \$15 billion annually from minimum wage violations alone. The rise in the prevalence of wage theft coincides with the global rise in precarious forms of work, particularly for vulnerable workers, and emphasises the need for lawmakers to search for innovative reforms to ensure effective compliance with labour laws. Since 2020, three countries (including Australia) have introduced laws that criminalise the deliberate underpayment of workers' monetary employee entitlements. These sanctions seek to deter future contraventions and ensure compliance with minimum labour standards. This study undertakes a comparative analysis of the regimes criminalising wage theft in these countries, including analysing their scope, the historical context to their enactment and how the regimes are enforced in practice. This comparative labour law perspective will assist in the articulation of guiding principles for lawmakers to consider in determining whether to criminalise wage theft and how to draft such legislative regimes. Preliminary findings from the study, which have focused on the Australian context, indicate that

criminalisation of wage theft is justified from both a moral and regulatory perspective, but the drafting of this offence, the regulatory context in which it is enacted and the existence of robust enforcement are relevant to determining whether this offence will assist in deterring wage theft and ensuring labour law compliance in practice.

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## **Exploring the use of a 3-minute mindful-meditation as an aid for tertiary student mental-health**

Stella Panozzo

School of Education

Ongoing research shows significantly higher levels of mental health issues in tertiary students when compared to the general population. The aim of this project is to uncover simple techniques that require minimal time-commitment to improve tertiary student mental health.

A 3-minute mindful-meditation was given at the start of a first-year class of 25 music theatre students, once per week for six weeks. 10 students participated in data collection by completing an online mental health survey (MHI: Mental Health Inventory) at the start and end of the six-week period. They were also asked to listen to a recorded version of the meditation a minimum of four times per week. The final survey included a feedback questionnaire. There was a 4-week follow-up survey.

The qualitative feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive. The total post-intervention mental health score for the 10 students increased by 15%, indicating an overall increase in mental health. 7 students also completed the 4-week follow-up survey which showed an overall increase of 16%. Due to the small sample size, it is not possible to conclude that the intervention directly affected this increase in mental health, but the qualitative feedback suggests some positive influence.

These results indicate that further research in this space is worth pursuing. This intervention offers one potential avenue, which is easy to administer, to address the ongoing concerns regarding the mental health of tertiary students.

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## **Sustainable home cooking behaviours of urban households: an empirical study in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam**

Thi Xuan Dieu Phan

School of Economics and Public Policy, Centre for Global Food & Resources

Transforming to sustainable food systems is crucial to maintaining food security for humans in the future. Among many actors from farm to mouth, the consumer – along with their consumption behaviours – is critical in the food system. Therefore, sustainable food consumption behaviours have been studied widely in the literature. Many households regularly cook at home besides eating out, eating ready-to-eat food, etc. However, there is no empirical study investigating behaviours in the entire process of home cooking: from ingredients purchase, preparation, storage, cooking, eating, and disposal.

Analyzing primary data of 719 households in Ho Chi Minh City, collected from September to October 2023, this research will answer two questions: (1) How to measure the current sustainability levels of households' home cooking practices? Moreover, what are the current sustainability levels of households in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam? (2) How many clusters exist among these households, and what are the differences between the clusters?

Policymakers first need to know the current sustainability levels of their targeted groups before designing suitable policies to promote sustainable consumption behaviours. By answering the Question (1), we aim to provide step-by-step guidance for practitioners in developing countries to calculate households' home-cooking sustainability index in their countries. Applying cluster analysis to the indicators, Question (2) will further analyze the case of urban households in Ho Chi Minh City. Finally, we will provide relevant recommendations for the Ho Chi Minh City government to transform households toward more sustainable cooking behaviours at home.

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## **Exploring the Application and Challenges of Project Management in Emerging Industries: A Perspective from Artificial Intelligence Industry**

Yinke Qin

Adelaide Business School

Industrial Artificial Intelligence (AI) stands at the forefront of technological innovation, poised to revolutionize decision-making processes and offer invaluable insights across diverse sectors. By leveraging AI's analytical process, organizations can process vast amounts of data in real time, leading to improvements in asset management, manufacturing efficiency, predictive maintenance, demand forecasting, inventory optimization, and risk management. Despite its transformative potential, the current landscape of AI is primarily characterized by Weak or Narrow AI, which raises uncertainties about its future trajectory amidst concerns surrounding safety, security, societal acceptance, and potential workforce displacement. Nevertheless, recent strides in computing power, novel algorithms, and big data have propelled AI and machine learning (ML) into uncharted territories, paving the way for a new era of innovation and economic growth. However, with its promise, AI also presents many social and legal challenges. Issues such as data integrity, privacy, algorithmic bias, explainability of outcomes, and transparency have become increasingly pertinent in discussions surrounding the ethical implementation of AI. Moreover, within industries like construction, the sluggish adoption of digital technologies due to perceived risks and high costs has stymied progress, resulting in inefficiencies, project delays, and suboptimal performance. Despite the potential benefits of AI in enhancing security and productivity, concerns regarding cybersecurity threats and the substantial initial investment required remain prevalent. Thus, while AI offers unparalleled opportunities for advancement, addressing its accompanying challenges will be pivotal in harnessing its full potential and ensuring a future where AI serves as a force for positive change. The paper will use a systematic literature review (SLR) methodology to synthesize research.

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## **(Re)Constructing the Noir City: Post-War Tokyo and the Urban Crime Films of Akira Kurosawa**

Kristian Ramsden

School of Humanities, English, Creative Writing and Film

Usually understood as a specifically American phenomenon, this project aims to interrogate the legitimacy of a film noir reading of Akira Kurosawa's urban crime films. Exploring how Kurosawa cinematically constructs the city, this thesis poses that a film noir reading is useful for exposing some of the latent tensions of the urban and economic reconstruction of post-war Tokyo during and after the U.S. Occupation.

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## **Teaching how we learn: Contrasting personal and professional pedagogical beliefs**

Amy Robinson

School of Education

Continuing from 2023's proposal, this presentation aims to share initial findings from a mixed method project investigating pre-service teacher's (PSTs) beliefs in teaching and learning during a final year professional experience assessment. Teaching Performance Assessments (TPAs) are a federally mandated requirement of all Pre-Service Teachers and Initial Teacher Educators (ITE) in Australia (AITSL 2022) and aims to provide consistency and confidence in the skill development of new teacher graduates. The complexity of competency assessing graduate teachers is by no means new (Goodwin & Oyler 2008; Goodwin; Charteris & Dargusch 2018; Charteris 2019) and continues to be considered in this project. This study invited final year PSTs at both undergraduate and postgraduate level to complete a Likert-Scale survey regarding their beliefs in teaching and learning, comparing and contrasting this with written reflections of the core assignment. The finding of this presentation is pre-service teachers prefer to learn in a transmissive manner but deem it more appropriate to teach their own students constructively. While these methods of teaching have often been in conflict with each other (Richardson 2003; Burger 2024), this presentation suggests such beliefs should work in tandem to support both classroom teacher and students rather than being continually conceptually opposed. This contrast of beliefs and practices will be the focus of this presentation to critique why such a contrast exists and consider

the advantages and disadvantages these beliefs in teaching and learning have on the potential pedagogical practices of graduate teachers and their status as classroom ready.

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### **Closer to the source: Do solutions journalism stories better include marginalised voices than mainstream news, and could the practice increase engagement with underrepresented sources in news reporting?**

Katherine Roff

School of Humanities, Media

Observing record levels of news avoidance, mistrust in media, and criticism of a negativity bias in reporting, media scholars have recently turned their attention to studying solutions journalism, a constructive reporting style that focuses on responses to problems. However, despite a sharp uptick in solutions journalism stories in local and national publications around the world, there has been limited research into the sources included in the emerging style. This study explores solutions journalism's role in news coverage of marginalized and minority groups, the media framing used, and the inclusion or exclusion of sources impacted by society's most pressing issues. Through a quantitative content analysis of Australian solutions journalism stories, identified through the Solutions Journalism Network's StoryTracker, this study examines whether the reporting style has the potential to include more marginalized voices than its mainstream equivalent, and the mechanisms within the practice that might encourage this. In a second phase involving semi-structured qualitative interviews with journalists practicing solutions journalism, this study examines the experience of Australian journalists in the field and their interactions with sources. Through both methods, this study seeks to identify the potential (or not) for the growing practice of solutions journalism to amplify voices from communities that have been traditionally underreported, or misrepresented, in mainstream media.

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### **Listening through the Static: De-communalizing Indian History through Radio Broadcasts**

Utsha Roy

School of Humanities, Media

The research project aims to analyze if and how the radio was used to spread communal ideology in India during the partition and independence movement. An aural exploration of the broadcasts will see how communal propaganda was woven into radio broadcasts by discursive groups to impact people's political and communal desires. The analysis will enable the assimilation of respective radio programs into the broader discursive landscape, in this case that of contemporary Indian communal politics, the history of the colonization, the partition and freedom movement to see how they shaped the Indian Radioscape. The presentation will focus on the progress made so far, i.e., discuss the literature available in the field of radio studies and its condition in the present era. Existing theoretical debates will be elaborated upon and how the argument of this project sits against pre-existing ones will be detailed. The presentation will also include a survey of the gaps in the field and an outline of how this project aims to bridge the said gaps. Apart from this, there will also be a comparison of the broadcasting policies of countries like Germany, the former USSR, South Africa, Rwanda and India and their impact on contemporary national politics. This shall highlight how similar antagonistic political situations in countries separated by great geographical distances and generations tend to use mediums of mass communication, the radio in this instance, to achieve similar results.

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### **Does High Veracity Level of Information on Bird Abundance Trends Improve the Economic Value of Bird Restoration?**

Mimi Salminah

School of Economics and Public Policy, Centre for Global Food & Resources

Quantification of economic values are potential to support successful ecological restoration, but the idea that underestimates economic values of restoration is widely accepted by the public. This misperception may arise from insufficient information, causing people to inaccurately assess the true value of restoration initiatives. Given a high concern on the role of ecological restoration to address environmental crises efforts are needed that can update the public perception and value preferences, hence motivate them to take collective action for

restoration. While providing information is often viewed as essential for economically-optimal decision-making, there is a risk of information overload. This occurs when individuals cannot process the information due to limited cognitive capacity or other psychological factors. Prioritizing quality over quantity of information is recommended to mitigate information overload effects and enhance the decision-making process. However, the definition and assessment of information quality conducive to economically-optimal decisions have been largely overlooked in studies of willingness to pay for ecosystem services. This study attempts to define information quality using the veracity of large longitudinal datasets, employing trends in woodland bird abundance information based on an actual bird monitoring survey within Mount Lofty Ranges Landscape South Australia. Veracity addresses epistemic uncertainty in information, that is the uncertainty caused by incomplete understanding of phenomenon due to limited observational data. Studies on willingness to pay (WTP) for ecosystem services often rely on hypothetical and cross-sectional information with limited observational evidence, leading to high epistemic uncertainty. This results in respondents' limited understanding of real environmental phenomena, changes over time, and their consequences, potentially leading them to underestimating the environmental values. Using longitudinal dataset with more complete and trustworthy information is expected to enhance people's understanding of the magnitude of environmental changes and their consequences. Consequently, they may adjust their beliefs and value preferences regarding restoration efforts.

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### **Decision making under risk and uncertainty**

Rubayat Sarwar

School of Economics and Public Policy, Economics

In our study, we investigate two behavioral factors: how people often misjudge the probability of winning when they bet on trendy betting products, and how they are thrilled by these products heavily. These factors could drive individuals to overspend on trendy sports betting products like multi-bets, in comparison to traditional single bets, despite both types of bets having the same probability of winning. We will also identify how people's betting decisions are influenced by changes in odds/ winning amount and changes in probability of winning. To achieve our research objectives, we will conduct a series of controlled economics experiments. Experiments are necessary because field data on how individuals make decisions in various betting markets is unavailable. However, we've noticed a problem that the terms related to betting can make people feel very excited, which is more intense than any typical excitement. Following the principles of controlled experimental economics, our objective is to control these intense emotions of the participants in our experiment. Therefore, as a solution, we have made adjustments by replacing all betting-related terminology with more neutral ones, which are equivalent to betting. For instance, "bets" have been substituted with "investments," "odds" with "payoffs and returns," "legs" with "individual events", "win" with "success", and "lose" with "failure". Thus, the adjustment ensures that our lab experiment will reduce the likelihood of losing control due to the use of betting terminology, which is a fundamental objective of experimental economics. Understanding how people make decisions under risk and uncertainty in our experiments will help us assess various policies regarding the promotion of trendy betting products.

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### **Semantics of Sedition: Unpacking Violence in Populist Speech through CBSTA**

Lucas Scheel

School of Social Sciences, Politics & International Relations (POLIS)

The rhetoric employed by populist leaders is often believed to tread a fine line between vehement advocacy and incitement to violence, to which Donald Trump's January 6th speech stands testament. However, the legal case of the Trump January 6th indictment exemplifies the issues of determining rhetoric violence in a legal sense, since frameworks struggle to (definitively) categorise such speech acts due to their use of coded language and subtle messaging. The difficulty lies in breaking the surface by applying a methodological approach suited to analyse these complex linguistic constructs, where traditional analysis methods may fall short.

Populism, characterised by a stark division between the "we" (the people) and "them" (the elite, the other), presents unique challenges for analysis. Not only is populism intertwined with other ideological elements that require a careful delineation, but their speeches also often leverage emotional appeals and implicit messaging,



complicating the task of identifying explicitly violent content. This paper argues that Clause-Based Semantic Textual Analysis (CBSTA) offers the possibility to unveil the subtleties of (possible) violence stemming from the populist antagonism of 'the people' and 'the elite'. CBSTA is able to determine grammatical relationships, revealing power dynamics and ideological underpinnings in the construction of 'the enemy'.

Employing CBSTA to analyse Trump's January 6th address, this study dissects the semantic relationships and narrative structures that underpin the populist "we" versus "them" dichotomy. It underlines the importance of understanding the semantic layers and narrative strategies that contribute to the mobilisation of aggressive acts, offering a comprehensive tool for researchers to navigate the complexities of populist discourse. Through this analysis, the paper contributes to the broader discourse on the social implications of populist rhetoric, highlighting the critical need for sophisticated analytical tools in the assessment of speech that borders on the edges of democratic legitimacy.

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## **Internal migration and formal employment: evidence from Indonesia**

Ruyi Shi

School of Economics and Public Policy, Economics

This paper examines the causal impact of internal migration on formal employment in Indonesia using longitudinal household survey data from the Indonesia Family Life Survey (IFLS). We use rainfall as the instrumental variable for migration to address the endogeneity bias led by reverse causality. Our empirical results show that, in general, internal migration is expected to increase the chance of having a formal job by approximately 16 percentage points. This impact is heterogeneous across gender and levels of education. The magnitude of this impact rises to around 25 percentage points for males but drops to only 7 percentage points for females. We also find migration only has a significant impact on individuals with senior high school education or higher, with the estimated impact being roughly 20 percentage points.

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## **Population Growth and Trade Liberalization**

Kumuthini Sivathas

School of Economics and Public Policy, Economics

Population growth differs across countries. A larger population in the future implies a larger market, making a country a more attractive partner for a trade agreement. Standard methods for evaluating trade agreements do not account for population changes. We use projected population growth rates to evaluate the welfare effects of trade liberalization as a function of market size. We illustrate our method by applying it to a potential EU-China Free Trade Agreement (FTA). We show that the value of the EU-China FTA as of future years measured in terms of welfare changes using projected trade data differs from the measurements based on observed trade data, for the counterfactual. We find that the potential EU-China FTA results in 0.76% welfare gains to the EU when its population shrinks by 5% in 2050. *Ceteris paribus*, higher population changes lead to changes in welfare effects.

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## **Is the Future of Education Virtual? The Effectiveness of Virtual Reality for learning on the Cognitive Load of STEM students**

Jaclyn Steffan

School of Education

In Australia, the number of students completing a full year of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) in their final year of schooling has continued to drop at an alarming rate. Australia has also recorded STEM results well below the international average across several important indicators (Mullis et al., 2012; Mullis et al., 2016; Mullis et al., 2020). These results, coupled with the increased pressure placed on digital learning brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, have prompted further investigation into digital educational technologies, such as virtual reality (VR). To summarise the current research status and developing trend of VR in the field of education, a systematic review and meta-analysis was conducted. A literature search of A+ Education, Education Research Complete, ERIC and Scopus was performed for English peer-reviewed journal articles published between January 2009 and February 2024, returning 4673 unique results. Analysis of these

articles indicated that despite the excessive emotional arousal of VR, participants could make connections between new content and established schema, without overloading the working memory. However, no literature was found which directly measured and investigated cognitive load during VR learning. Future experimental research aims to determine how VR for learning STEM content impacts the cognitive load of Year 7 students compared with traditional teaching methods. To achieve the research purpose, participants will be randomly allocated to either VR intervention (VR) group that will experience a VR learning experience, or a control (C) group that will experience traditional teaching methods. Quantitative data on both cognitive load and achievement will be collected from all participants using a pre-test, post-test, delayed-test methodology. It is expected that VR will enhance the transfer of knowledge in addition to reducing the impact on students' cognitive load due to the vivid and lifelike simulations which afford students the ability to assimilate new learning to previous knowledge.

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## **The Influence of Religion on the Voting Attitudes and Behaviour of Educated Middle-Class Electors in Bangladesh**

Arefa Sultana

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Bangladesh, a country that gained independence from Pakistan in 1971, has faced political turmoil and struggled to establish a stable democracy. Despite the constitution upholding secularism and freedom of religion and expression, corruption and vote-rigging have led to a decline in democratic principles and the rise of Islamism and authoritarianism. The educated middle-class Bengali people, who led the war against Pakistan, have historically promoted democracy and modern values in Bangladesh. However, the current political climate is in danger due to Islamic ideologies dominating politics.

Several authors (e.g., El-Said & Rauch 2015, p. 51; Elsayyad & Hanafy 2014, p. 128) have argued that educated people are less likely to vote for religious parties in elections due to their increased literacy and political awareness. This leads to well-considered choices among candidates, contributing to upholding secular politics and democratic values. Less-educated voters tend to adopt a religion-based voting pattern, rejecting secularism, pluralism, freedom of religion, laws of tolerance, and equal rights for women (Ciftci, Wuthrich & Shamaileh 2019; Ellien 2008; Entelis 2004; Jawad 2013; Rajavi 2006; Sherif 2016).

The current political tendencies, attitudes, and voting behaviors of the educated middle class in Bangladesh are unknown, making it uncertain whether or to what extent they are influenced by their religion when they vote. This study will be significant in understanding the voting behavior of educated middle-class people in Bangladesh, upon whom the democratic development of the country and its stability may depend.

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## **Exploring factors influencing food waste reduction strategies in the tourism sector**

Stacey Tabert

Adelaide Business School

Prior research establishes that firms generally adopt initiatives to protect the environment if these actions increase profits (Carroll & Shabana, 2010; Schaltegger & Burritt, 2018; Schaltegger et al., 2019). However, many tourism businesses have yet to implement food waste reduction strategies despite clear cost savings and associated profits (Berardo et al., 2020; WRAP, 2017). The failure of companies to implement food waste management is concerning as one third (1.3 billion tonnes) of all food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted each year, representing an economic value of US\$1 trillion (FAO, 2019) and contributing 8-10% of global annual greenhouse gas emissions (IPPC, 2020). Given organisational action is lagging (Lipinski, 2023), this research will explore factors influencing the implementation of food waste reduction strategies in the tourism sector by gathering qualitative interview data from a national sample of businesses operating throughout Australia. Through abductive coding we seek to extend understanding in the area of stakeholder theory and sustainability management, which includes environmental protection, by shedding light on the drivers that shape corporate decisions regarding food waste. In doing so the research seeks to contribute to management theory and practice by building an expanded theoretical model for sustainability management.

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## **Climate variability and the adoption of Climate-Smart Agricultural practices in Ethiopia: Insights from a temporal and geospatial Analysis**

Tadiwos Tiruneh

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Climate-related challenges are increasingly affecting the agricultural sector, with farmers in developing countries being the most affected. This underscores the importance of adopting Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) to ensure the sustainable productivity and resilience of farmers.

This study explored the adoption patterns of various CSA practices, tracing their temporal shifts and geographical distribution, while examining their interaction with climate variabilities. Using a panel household survey dataset from rural Ethiopia (2011/12, 2013/14, 2015/16, and 2018/19), and combining with village-level historical climate data - including precipitation, Wet-Day Frequency, and temperature - our method mixes both descriptive and geospatial analysis. We explored a range of climate-smart practices that potentially serve the purposes of productivity, resilience, and mitigation. These encompass crop-yield improving, agronomic and soil conservation measures, as well as livestock management practices.

We find the adoption patterns of majority of CSA practices present diverse trajectories. Notably, there has been an uptrend in the use of improved crop seeds and inorganic fertilizers, while agronomic and soil conservation measures show fluctuating patterns. Livestock related practices, though rising, maintain low adoption rates. A closer look at regions reveals noticeable disparities in CSA uptake, which reveals diverse behaviours among farmers by location. The intensity of adoption, indicated by the CSA portfolio index, presents a rising pattern between 2011/12 and 2015/16, with a slight decline by 2018/19, with varied pattern by regions, signifies the challenges associated with simultaneously adopting a wide range of CSA practices. Results of geospatial analyses highlight the existence of resilience in farming, especially in the central to northern part of the country, amidst climate variability. However, its limited geographic spread underscores a broader gap. These are compounded by our findings of presence of diverse climatic challenges by locations. Therefore, adaptive solutions should be tailored to address specific challenges posed by different climate variabilities, promoting sustainable and resilient crop and livestock production across the diverse regions of the country. Consequently, policymakers should give precedence to region-specific CSA adoption and intensification strategies over broad-based approaches.

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## **Un/forgetting Agent Orange: Towards A Reimagining of Vietnamese Forests**

Ngoc Lan Tran

School of Social Sciences, Asian Studies

This thesis sheds light on the lingering impact of Agent Orange, a chemical herbicide used during the Vietnam War, as a “forgotten” issue. It examines how the forgetting of Agent Orange is intricately woven into a political landscape of war legacy negotiations between Vietnam and the US. Within these negotiations, the politics of Agent Orange are constrained by the limits of scientific research and the moral complexities of post-war reparations, which later condition it to become a bargaining chip in international relations under the guise of humanitarian assistance. The forgetting is further perpetuated by a lack of legal recourse for victims as well as the lack of regulatory repercussions for parties responsible for the mass spraying of Agent Orange during the war. Without possible outcomes that benefit or empower them, millions of Vietnamese victims are left to grapple with grave health consequences and irreparable damage to natural forests and ecologies.

The thesis then turns to the victims’ voices and perspectives to resist this forgetting. Interweaving through different life stories and local knowledges, which are entangled in embodied evidence of toxicity but often marginalised in political, scientific, and academic discourses, the thesis critically and care-fully explores ways to un/forget Agent Orange, finding valuable lessons while challenging pervasive discourses that further discrimination and stigmatisation. By spotlighting the life stories of Trần Tố Nga and Cao Lê Quang, the thesis proposes a Vietnamese ecological awareness where humans, non/humans, and nature co-exist as one through an inherent cultural reverence for nature and land, even when and especially when such nature and land have been irrevocably contaminated. To un/forget Agent Orange is, thus, to ensure that the lessons from

Agent Orange victims are learnt and not forgotten, working towards a re/imagining of Vietnamese forests as a future for all.

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## **Supporting Personalisation through Artificial Intelligence (AI) Chatbots in Flipped German Classrooms: A Cross-National Study in China and Australia**

Yuran Wang  
School of Education

Advancements in AI chatbots are revolutionising personalised education, offering innovative strategies for language acquisition. This project investigates how AI chatbots can support personalised language learning, specifically by comparing their implementation in flipped classroom settings in China and Australia. The study unfolds in four stages: first, examining the shortcomings of current personalisation practices; second, formulating guidelines for AI chatbot self-interventions. Subsequent stages will follow a three-cycle design-based research methodology, focusing first on executing and refining AI chatbot interactions in a pilot study with role-playing activities. This process will be then transferred into a broader scope, ultimately leading to the development of guidelines that apply AI for language education across diverse contexts. Preliminary findings highlight a need for clarity and practical implementation strategies around personalisation, as well as a need to increase student familiarity with AI technologies. In this presentation, early insights derived from the collected data will be presented. This research is set to provide valuable insights into the effective integration of AI in personalised language learning, delivering evidence-based guidelines for educators and policymakers. The expected findings aim to address the literature gaps in the acquisition of the German language, cross-national comparative studies, and the application of flipped classroom models.

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## **Building Resilience through Digital Transformation in Construction Industry - Dynamic Capability View**

Paliyapana Navodi Wijayarathne  
Adelaide Business School

This research study aims to investigate how resilience is built in the construction industry through the utilization of digital transformation and dynamic capabilities. This study seeks to fill the existing research gap by exploring the temporal effect of resilience and focusing on the specific context of the construction industry. The significance of this study lies in its contribution to the field of management discipline, addressing the role of digital transformation in enhancing organizational resilience and providing practical implications for construction industry managers. The expected outcomes include a better understanding of the relationship between digital transformation, dynamic capabilities, and resilience, as well as insights into strategies for building resilience in the construction industry.

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## **Transforming Markets for Future Crop Technologies**

Ava Wilkinson  
Adelaide Business School

Unlocking the future of crop technology is not only about adapting to the market, but shaping it. The market for Future Crop Technologies requires wide-scale change to gain acceptance and further develop. Future Crop technologies is an area that involves the use of genetic modification and gene editing, among other new breeding technologies, that provide socially responsible future crops, while enhancing sustainable crop productivity. These advancements play a crucial role in improving global food security and nutrition. This research project aims to understand how managers, organisations, and other market actors (i.e. regulators) attempt to deliberately influence or transform the market for Future Crop Technologies. Market-shaping emerges as a viable strategy to transform the agricultural landscape and shape the future crop technologies market. Market-shaping involves the intentional shaping by firms and market actors of market structures, expectations, and practices, amongst other factors. This research proposes to examine the theoretical bases that underpin the market-shaping concept, and the evolutionary nature of expressing, setting, and implementing market-shaping strategies through time.

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## **Navigating the Marketplace of Ideas: A Critical Analysis of Political Dynamics and Voter Engagement in Contemporary Indonesia**

Rudolf Wirawan  
Adelaide Business School

**Abstract:** This study offers an in-depth examination of the political dynamics in Indonesia, employing a novel marketplace analogy to conceptualise the interaction between political entities and the electorate. By treating political parties and leaders as vendors and voters as consumers, this research illuminates the transactional nature of political engagement, where policy proposals and leadership visions are exchanged for electoral support. Through qualitative analyses of political debates, manifestos, and public engagement, the paper highlights a prevalent focus on the conflict over substantive policy dialogue, underscoring a need for a shift towards more meaningful political discourse. The analysis extends to the influential roles played by key political figures, including President Joko Widodo and notable protégés, assessing their contributions to societal welfare and governance structures. The paper also navigates the complex terrain of foreign influence within Indonesian politics, advocating for a sophisticated approach to deciphering and managing international relations to safeguard national interests and political autonomy. Central to this research is the call for a well-informed electorate capable of critical evaluation, emphasising the necessity of transparent and integrity-driven political communication. This work contributes to the ongoing discourse on democratic refinement in Indonesia, proposing pathways to a political ecosystem driven by informed choice and substantive engagement rather than dominated by superficial rhetoric or external pressures. The ultimate goal is to enhance the robustness of Indonesian democracy, ensuring it remains responsive and accountable to the needs and aspirations of its citizenry.

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## **Guardians of (In)equality: Unmasking the role of military spending in shaping income inequality**

Shuhrat Yarashov  
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For the last three decades, the ex-Soviet republics have been facing a dual challenge: moving away from communism and dealing with a tricky geopolitical reality. In this context, it is interesting to investigate the role that military spending played in shaping the wealth gap of their citizens. Employing Two-Way Fixed Effects and Fixed Effects Two-Stage Least Squares models, we robustly estimate the causal relationship between these variables, mitigating concerns about endogeneity and shedding light on potential mechanisms at play. While our analysis reveals a generally positive correlation between military expenditure and income inequality, a "Robin Hood" effect emerges for high-income countries, where increased military spending appears to lead to inequality reduction. Further, by employing decomposition techniques such as military expenditure and GINI index decomposition, we provide a grained understanding of this relationship's mechanism. Notably, our findings suggest that focusing on troop number expansion within military expenditure can exacerbate inequality while prioritizing investment in the military-industrial complex, particularly heavy weapons manufacturing, can reduce income disparity. These insights offer valuable guidance for informing public policy discussions on equity and resource allocation.

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## **Cultivating Human-Nature Bonds: Are Schools Struggling to Effectively Connect Adolescents with the Natural World?**

Gulsah Yildirim Kirbaci  
School of Education

Research shows students in transition to adolescent spend inadequate time in nature, exhibiting symptoms of 'nature deficit disorder' and a propensity for alienation from nature. Such disconnection from nature may be, in part, why humanity is currently engaged in wreaking massive environmental change, and reconnecting with nature may be a major but difficult pathway to a sustainable future. While schools represent critical sites for cultivating human-nature bonds, questions persist about the effectiveness of environmental education initiatives in strengthening these connections. This mixed methods research aims to investigate how

environmental education programs in secondary schools in Australia impact students' connection to nature. Quantitative surveys will assess changes in students' cognitive, affective, and behavioural connections over one school year. Comparisons between schools with and without explicit sustainability-focused curricula will determine the differential impacts of specialized programming. Qualitative interviews will examine teacher perspectives regarding curriculum, pedagogies, and activities implemented to strengthen student affinity for nature. Classroom observations and student focus group interviews will elicit students' firsthand insights into educational experiences perceived as influencing their developing environmental awareness and ecological identity. Interviews with principals will provide additional perspectives on school-wide efforts. The study is theoretically grounded in the Biophilia Hypothesis, asserting humans possess an innate attraction towards the natural world rooted in our evolutionary origins. This framework is expanded through multidimensional models encompassing various pathways, which shape one's nature connectedness. As research shows children's bonds with nature often decline as they enter adolescence, this research focuses on students making this pivotal transition. Expected outcomes include new perspectives on promising curricular strategies and practices that effectively nurture students' nature connectedness. Findings will address gaps in understanding the impacts of school-based efforts to mitigate adolescent nature alienation. Results aim to build knowledge on empowering students with ecological knowledge and concern to contribute to more sustainable futures.

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## **Subjectivity and Character in Virginia Woolf's "The Waves"**

Sophie Zadow

School of Humanities, English, Creative Writing and Film

My research considers how modernist texts contribute to an intellectual history of subjectivity. I have considered evolving understandings of the human subject in psychology and philosophy, giving particular attention to interventions from the late 19th-century by thinkers (Freud and Nietzsche) who challenged the accepted notion of the subject as a unified, rational singularity; instead offering a conception of a subject as multiple and heterogeneous. I argue that innovations in literary character by modernist authors—Virginia Woolf, Gertrude Stein, Mina Loy—mobilise these changing notions of subjectivity in the literary sphere, and contribute unique formal explorations of character to a broader intellectual movement in understanding subjectivity. The majority of my research so far has focused on Virginia Woolf, so discussion of her work, particularly her 1932 text "The Waves", will form the bulk of my presentation.

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## **The Impact of Retirement Policy on Informal Care Provision in Urban China**

Wenxuan Zhong

School of Economics and Public Policy, Economics

In most countries, informal care giving is deeply woven into the fabric of society, as relying solely on formal care provisions is often not feasible, either due to limited availability or affordability. In China, the proportion of elderly people in urban area who received informal care increased by 30 percent from 2015 to 2018 (Chen et al., 2022). China Family Panel Studies (CFPS2010) Data also shows that 58.3 percent of children between the ages of 0 to 16 years are cared for by their mothers during the day.

The provision of informal care can be seen through the lens of either space, money, or time (Cardia and Ng, 2003). When focusing on both time and money, it is apparent that the dynamics between these two resources shift during working life and retirement. Retirement may free time but money is often limited. Working life may provide better financial resources but time available to care for others is limited. This tension motivated our approach to investigate whether in urban China the current retirement policy, and specifically the statutory retirement age (henceforth, SRA), promotes or hinders informal care provision. We use a two stage least square (2SLS) strategy to exploit the exogenous discontinuity created by the SRA through a fuzzy regression discontinuity design (FRDD) and identify the effects of SRA on informal care provision.

We find that although the SRA exerts the largest positive impact on informal care provision through the decision of individuals to retire, its impact decreases by close to 20 percent when comparing informal care provision of workers and retirees over the weekends. This suggests that while SRA is an effective mechanism to support the provision of informal care, employment policies advocating for flexible or reduced work hours may play a similar role, without the drawbacks associated with premature retirement.

