Director of Research Report

Welcome to our final research newsletter for 2019!

There continues to be much creative activity in the research space, and our researchers continue to score hits in high-ranking journals, while our Research Clusters continue to build a culture of research excellence.

In reflecting upon our achievements for 2019, it is worth highlighting that the School of Business and Tourism:

- Published over 25 journal articles in A*, A and Q1 ranked journals;
- Secured 12 higher degree research completions; and
- Secured research income from a range of sources.

In this edition, we also profile and congratulate our recent PhD graduate Dr Carolyn Seton. Her PhD topic was in the area of digital literacy for older people in vulnerable communities.

So, please take a moment to look at the achievements of our researchers.

Kind regards

Michael Kortt
Associate Professor | Director of Research
School of Business and Tourism

17 December 2019
Below is a list of our 2019 publications.

**A*, A & Q1 Ranked Journals**


B & Q2 Ranked Journals


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**New Research Book**

*Networks and Collaboration in the Public Sector*

*Essential Research Approaches, Methodologies and Analytic Tools*

Edited by Joris Voets, University of Ghent, Belgium, *Robyn Keast, Southern Cross University, Australia*, and Christopher Koliba, University of Vermont, USA.


Networks and collaborations are central to the public sector’s ability to respond to their diverse responsibilities from international development and regional governance to policy development and service provision. Great strides have been made towards understanding their formation, governance and management, but more opportunities to explore methodologies and measures are required to ensure they are properly understood. By bringing together leading and upcoming scholars in network research, this book will be of enormous assistance in guiding students and scholars in public management.
Australian Business Deans’ Council (ABDC) release 2019 ABDC journal quality list

On the 6 December 2019, the Australian Business Deans’ Council (ABDC) released the 2019 ABDC journal quality list:

https://abdc.edu.au/research/abdc-journal-list/

The above link contains the:

- 2019 ABDC journal quality list (downloadable as an Excel file); and
- The accompanying Report (downloadable as a PDF file).

In brief, the 2019 list endorses 2,682 journal entries with the following classifications:

- A* 7.41% (199)
- A 24.27% (651)
- B 31.69% (850)
- C 36.61% (982)

It includes 144 upgrades; 17 downgrades; the addition of 157 new journals; and the removal of 241 journals.

Please note that there is one prominent downgrade. The journal *Public Money and Management* has been downgraded from an A-ranked journal to a B-ranked journal.

Research Income in 2019

Below is a reflection of the research income received in 2019:

- **Binnewies S (Griffith) & Alaei A (2019).** A social media listener to measure and enhance the reputation of Gold Coast Education and Training, *Study Gold Coast* ($34,293).
- **Che D, von der Heidt T, Caldicott R, Muschter S (2019).** Airbnb in the Byron Shire – An investigation into the nature and range of impacts of Airbnb on approved accommodation providers (AAPs). $6,000 (SBaT Tourism Cluster Seed Funding) plus $6,000 from Byron Shire Council.
- **Noble D, Charles M, Keast R (2019).** Foundational research on concierge services for start-ups, NSW Department of Industry and Investment ($29,741).
- **Von der Heidt T, Che D, Muschter S, Caldicott R (2019).** A comparative study of resident perceptions of short-term holiday lettings (STHL) and regulatory responses in North Coast NSW council areas. $4,000 (SBaT Tourism Cluster Seed Funding) plus $14,400 in additional funding from Destination North Coast (DNC).
Open Educational Resources (OERs) for Academics and Researchers

OER’s are works that have a Creative Commons (CC) license applied to them, which means that the work is freely available and can be used and shared in your teaching and research. There are many benefits of using OER’s including:

- Easier to check for plagiarism
- You can customise/add for local content (e.g., including videos)
- You can update at short notice
- Perfect for building the teaching profile of SCU.

Academics can move into the space of creating OER’s / enhance existing OER’s and feeding back into the global community of teaching. Underlying the philosophy of OER’s is that students are already sharing resources with others, so by applying for the CC license, we are acknowledging that the sharing is already happening.

Some great examples of OER platforms for Business and Tourism related content are:

https://open.bccampus.ca/browse-our-collection/find-open-textbooks

https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks

https://openstax.org/subjects/business

Jupyter (https://jupyter.org/) is an example of Open Notebook software – Researchers can share their data as it’s being created (live). For example, malaria researchers at the University of Sydney came up against a specific problem that they were struggling with. They made a mention of it in the Jupyter notebook… overnight, a researcher in Scotland had read it, added her knowledge and shared her results. This is a perfect example of how Open Scholarship can help researchers in a timely and collaborative way!

If you would like to chat about anything OA (or anything else!) contact Marin and Cintsy: librarian.sbat@scu.edu.au, call (07) 5589 3170 / (07) 5589 3079 or pop into the GC Library.

Research Project Update

Tourism Research Cluster seed projects studying impacts of Airbnb

As reported in the last SBAT Research newsletter, the Team of SBAT researchers studying the impacts of Airbnb (Deborah Che, Tania von der Heidt, Sabine Muschter and Rod Caldicott) is at it again! Earlier this year we received $10,000 funding from the SBAT-Tourism Cluster for two projects. Here’s an update on where we’re at:

- Project 1 (led by Deborah): An investigation into the nature and range of impacts of Airbnb on approved accommodation providers (AAPs) in the Byron Shire. With the $6000 allocated to this project we’ve surveyed about 30 (of around 100) Byron’s AAPs regarding their attitudes towards the impact of Airbnb on their businesses. Interim results have been submitted to the Byron Shire Council to help inform their planning proposal regarding short-term holiday letting (STHL) caps.

- Project 2 (led by Tania): A comparative study of resident perceptions of STHL and regulatory responses in North Coast NSW council areas*. With the $4,000 SBAT seed funding and $14,400 in external funding from Destination North Coast (DNC) NSW, we surveyed residents (including SCU staff and students) in 12 DNC local government areas (LGA). Thank you to all SBA&T staff who participated!

During the two month survey period (2 September to 31 October) SCU Media Officer, Sharlene King, arranged several interviews with local media, including local ABC radio, NBN, and Prime7. The Prime7 interview can be accessed here: https://www.prime7.com.au/news/15239-short-term-holiday-letting

Over 1600 completed responses have been received, which we are in the process of analysing. By the end of the year, each council will receive from us a unique report of results in their LGA. The study provides comparable data sets to understand why different regions in NSW might need different planning responses or interventions on STHL.
PhD Candidate

PhD candidate Carolyn Seton graduates in December 2019
Congratulations to Dr Carolyn Seton who graduated with her PhD last week at the Gold Coast campus, in the area of digital literacy for older people in vulnerable communities. Carolyn’s PhD topic was “Digital Division to Social Inclusion: Strategies for ‘vulnerable’ users facing isolation by the digital divide”.

The research was part of the Digital Age Project, a cross-disciplinary study including Information Technology, Education and Psychology. The project was run in close collaboration with Housing NSW and Department of Family and Community Services and funded by the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network. The research investigated several strategies designed to encourage digital literacy in people living in public housing, who are predominantly older Australians. The strategies included:

- Access to technology onsite with an eight-month onsite and online digital literacy program.
- Cognitive Load Theory principles applied to the instructional design of all resources.
- User Interface and interaction designs to promote older Australians’ use of ICT.
- Use of computer games, social activities and communication tools in digital literacy activities.

HDR completions in 2019

Congratulations to the following higher degree research (HDR) candidates who graduated in 2019:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Program</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adam Donson</td>
<td>Prof Doc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baharak Mohabbat Talab</td>
<td>Prof Doc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carolyn Seton</td>
<td>PhD</td>
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<td>Chin Tsu</td>
<td>Prof Doc</td>
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<td>David Noble</td>
<td>PhD</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Green</td>
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<td>George Coles</td>
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<td>Gurmeet Kaur Matharu</td>
<td>Masters by Research</td>
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<td>Jacqueline Leigh</td>
<td>PhD</td>
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<td>Panha Heng</td>
<td>PhD</td>
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<td>Ruth Wai Yee Ma</td>
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<td>Siang Meng Sin</td>
<td>Prof Doc</td>
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Share your research success with us
Do you have a news item to share with the School of Business and Tourism and the wider community? If so, we would love to hear and promote your research achievements within the School. Please email your research achievements to tanya.stewart@scu.edu.au