



Research News February 2018

Director of Research Report

Welcome to our first research newsletter for 2018!

This is, once again, shaping up to be a big year on the research front!

Our researchers have already scored a number of **hits in high-ranking journals** and our **Research Clusters** have been integral in continuing to build a culture of research excellence. As you will see in this edition of the newsletter, the **IT Research Cluster** has already funded and commenced work on a range of interesting (and practical) research projects. The **Tourism Research Cluster** and, more recently, the **Business Research Cluster** have held planning days to help promote and support research activity within each cluster (so watch this space). In addition, the **Cluster Heads** will be looking at ways to engage in **cross-cluster collaboration** with a view to investigating whether there may be scope to establish innovative research projects that sit at the **intersection** of business, IT, and tourism.

A number of our **tourism researchers** also attended the CAUTHE 2018 Conference *Get Smart: Paradoxes and Possibilities in Tourism and Hospitality*, which took place at the **NewSpace City Campus**, which houses the **University of Newcastle's Business School** in downtown Newcastle. For further details, please refer to the **CAUTHE conference report** in this edition of the newsletter.

While we have made excellent progress in supporting high quality research and building a culture a research excellence, much work remains. In addition to promoting our research strengths, further attention and effort will be directed towards **attracting** and **retaining high quality research candidates**. As a School, we have a lot to offer potential higher degree research candidates – the challenge is to ensure that we recruit candidates that align with our research interests and strengths.

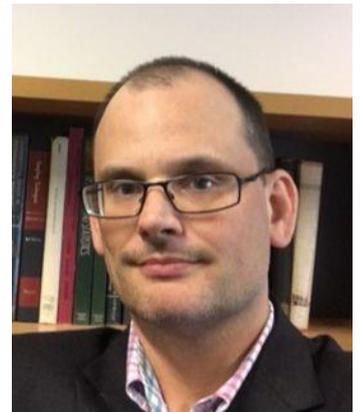
So, in conclusion, please take a moment to look at the achievements of our researchers.

Kind regards

Michael Kortt

Associate Professor | Director of Research
School of Business and Tourism

21 February 2018



Research Hits

The journal rankings below comply with the current **ABDC** journal quality ranking. However, please let us know if you publish in a **Q1** ranked journal listed on **Scimago** (<http://www.scimagojr.com/>).

A*, A & Q1 Ranked Journals

Charles M B and Trischler J (2018). The Application of a Service Systems Lens to Public Policy Analysis d Design: Exploring the Frontiers, *Journal of Public Policy and Marketing*. In press.

Markwell K (2018). An assessment of wildlife tourism prospects in Papua New Guinea, *Tourism Recreation Research*. In press.

Nam Y, **Niblock SJ**, Sinnewe E and Jakob K. (2018). Do corporate managers 'heap' dividends? Evidence on dividend heaping and information uncertainty in Australia, *Australian Journal of Management*. In press.

Noble D, Charles M and **Keast R**. (2018). The Research Collaboration Paradox: A Tale of Two Governance Narratives in an Australian Innovation Setting, *Australian Journal of Public Administration*. In press.



Saunders R, **Weiler B, Scherrer P**, Zeppel H. (2018). Best Practice Principles for Communicating Safety Messages in National Parks. *Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism*. In press.

B & Q2 Ranked Journals

Costa BA, Jakob K and **Niblock SJ**. (2018). Out of the money or striking it rich? Evidence on the risk-adjusted return performance of options-based equity funds versus the S&P 500 and other benchmark alternatives. *The Journal of Investing*. In press.

Call for papers in a special issue of PMR

Public Sector Professionals in Crisis: A role for HRM?

Professor Yvonne Brunetto along with Professor Rona Beattie, Glasgow Caledonian University, Scotland, are the editors in a special issue of *Public Management Review*, *Public Sector Professionals in Crisis: A role for HRM?*

With the relative exception of Employee/Industrial Relations, the public sector has been neglected by HRM scholars compared to studies of the corporate sector (Beattie and Waterhouse, *forthcoming*). Furthermore, and perhaps by way of consequence, politicians and policy makers across the world are informed by the hegemony of HRM models, strategies and practices developed in the business world. This is evident in the introduction of New Public Management (NPM) reforms where governments wholeheartedly embraced business HR models to public sector organisations, often leading the damaging consequences (e.g. Brunetto et al, 2017).

For further details regarding the special edition, please contact **Professor Yvonne Brunetto** at yvonne.brunetto@scu.edu.au

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 michael.kortt@scu.edu.au and tanya.stewart@scu.edu.au

Research Income



The school was successful in obtaining the following income:

Kortt MA & Drew J (UTS) (2017). Does the religious institution administering a school influence educational achievement? *The Institute of Public Administration Australia/University of Canberra, Public Administration Research Trust Fund. \$3,500.*

Project Aim: There is substantial literature on the association between religious affiliation and educational attainment. What is less well understood is the relationship between the religious affiliation of the school administering authority and educational achievement. The researchers propose to take advantage of an eight year panel of nationwide academic test data (NAPLAN data) – in reading, writing, grammar, spelling and numeracy – along with a comprehensive range of control variables to examine the effect of the religious affiliation of the school administering authority on the academic performance of school students.

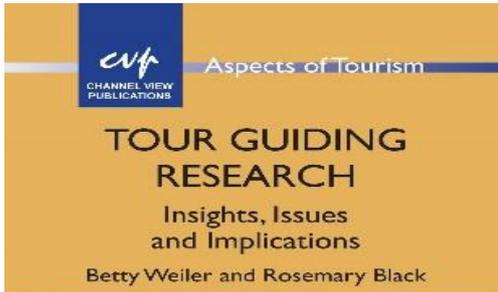
This study is one of the first of its kind in the international literature and the first in Australia to thoroughly disaggregate schools by religion (previous studies have only grouped schools as ‘Public’, ‘Catholic’ or ‘Other Independent’). Eight religious categories will be employed to analyse the NAPLAN data between 2009 and 2016.

SBaT Information Technology Research Cluster Seed Funding

The Information Technology Research Cluster has awarded the following seed funding:

- **Sorwar G and Bui V (2017).** E-Health self-care and remote monitoring system for home-based assisted living patients. **\$4,995.**
Project Aim: To investigate and develop a tele-health system tailored to the needs of elderly, chronically and acutely ill patients, especially those living in remote areas of Australia.
- **Xu J, Gao X and Sorwar G (2017).** Developing and Testing a Model of Adoption and Continued Use of My Health Record System among Health Care Providers in Australia. **\$5,000.**
Project Aim: This project aims to investigate the adoption and use of My Health Record (recently rebadged from previous Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record (PCEHR)) system among health care providers in Australia. The specific aims of the project are to: (1) examine the current status of adoption and continued use of the My Health Record system among health care providers in Australia; (2) identify factors influencing health care providers’ decision on adoption and continued use of the My Health Record system; (3) develop and test a model of the My Health Record system adoption and continued use of health care providers; and (4) disseminate the results of the project across the country and provide the recommendations arising from the project to relevant government agencies for the ongoing rollout of the system.
- **Mason R and Seton C (2017).** Mental Effort Project: Phase 1 - Assessing the validity of a mechanism for measuring cognitive load in authentic learning environments. **\$4,976.**
Project Aim: The “Mental Effort Project” is a multi-phase project that aims to develop, validate and disseminate a mechanism for ascertaining students’ cognitive load during actual learning activities – for example, in a lecture or while students are reading a study guide. This phase of the project aims to validate the subjective measures that are used in this method with direct objective measures of cognitive load measured by eye-tracking.
- **Bui V and Tjondronegoro D (2017).** Internet-of-Thing platform for low-cost smart parking solution. **\$2,079.**
Project Aim: This project aims at building a **low-cost** platform for smart parking using Internet of Things (IoT) technologies. Finding free parking spots in a large carpark can be difficult. There are working solutions to improve the parking experience such as <https://www.smartparking.com/>, which has been implemented in ACT (<https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/smartparking/home>). However, the current solutions are available at a relatively high cost (\$500 or more for a parking spot). This project is therefore aimed at creating a platform (software + hardware) for low-cost smart parking solution (\$50 or less per parking spot). The expected outcome is a demo solution for 5 parking spots.

Engagement and Impact



Channel View Publications Ltd / Multi-lingual Matters have just sold the rights to **Professor Betty Weiler** and Associate Professor Rosemary Black (CSU) book titled "Tour Guiding Research: insights, issues and implications" to a Turkish publisher, for them to translate and publish the work for a Turkish audience. Congratulations Betty!



ANZAM has invited **Professor Yvonne Brunetto** to continue in her role as an ANZAM "Research Mentor". This prestigious honorary is in recognition of a continuous record of high research outputs. Yvonne's role involves reviewing potential PhD projects, giving presentations on research topics and other research-led activities. In April, 2018, Yvonne has been invited to give a presentation on "Ensuring your research has Impact" to colleagues at Glasgow University. This will be followed by reviewing PhD presentations.

CAUTHE Conference Report, 2018

The CAUTHE 2018 Conference, *Get Smart: Paradoxes and Possibilities in Tourism and Hospitality*, took place at the brand spanking new NewSpace City Campus, which houses the University of Newcastle's Business School in the Newcastle CBD between 5-8 February. Just over 200 delegates attended from across Australia and New Zealand as well as a small number of delegates from other countries, including several delegates from African nations. A total of 151 papers were presented (of which 38 were full, refereed papers) and another 12 posters displayed. Not unexpectedly, tourism-related papers dominated, with just over two thirds of the full papers being tourism-related.

SCU's presence at this year's conference was somewhat smaller than usual with **Betty Weiler**, **Mieke Witsel**, **Erica Wilson** and **Kevin Markwell** comprising the staff contingent and John Pearce (a research masters student of Erica's and Kevin's) also presenting. However, the lack in overall numbers was counterbalanced by active involvement in a variety of areas: two paper presentations, presentations within the PhD and ECR workshop and formal mentoring of ECRs, chairing of sessions, involvement in workshops regarding two cross-institutional teaching and learning projects and co-chairing of a special interest group seminar as well as participating in CAUTHE Chapter Directors' meetings.

Keynotes were given by:

- Ms. Cherie Johnson, Managing Director of Speaking in Colour: 'My Aboriginal Lens: Connecting Cultures'.
- Professor Annette Pritchard, recently retired from University of Wales and now an independent tourism advisor and researcher: 'The Paradox of Tourism Enquiry'.
- Professor Sara Dolnicar, University of Queensland: 'Peer to Peer Accommodation Networks: A Tsunami of fear, the Perfect Wave to Catch ... or Both?'
- Professor Cathy Hsu, Honk Kong Polytechnic University: 'Hospitality and Tourism Education: Research and Future Directions'.

We all felt that the conference was marked by a high standard of presentations, Q&As that were generally insightful and constructive, and good time-management of sessions. The keynotes this year were particularly notable in being well-delivered and thought-provoking – and all by women, a fact that had not gone unnoticed on Trinet when the keynote line-up was first announced last year.

The conference was a terrific opportunity to connect with fellow researchers at other institutions, former colleagues, and former and current HDR students and supervisors. For many it was a one-off chance to put a face to a familiar name and have a real conversation with international researchers whose papers or books you have read. Indeed the mid-career researcher workshop pairs researchers with these individuals, for some valuable one-on-one career and CV advice. The conference is also an opportunity to hear the ideas of Australia's and New Zealand's rising stars of tourism, hospitality and events research, and of course to meet and chat with them. Judging by the large number of high quality presentations by higher degree research students and early career researchers, the state of tourism and hospitality research in Australia and New Zealand looks particularly bright.

Tamara Young and Paul Stolk and their team did an excellent job of hosting the conference which had a very friendly and welcoming tenor. The city of Newcastle may have helped as well, putting on spectacular weather of endless blue skies, warm temperatures and opportunities to explore the rapidly transforming urban fabric as well as the sparkling ocean from the Bathers Way and ANZAC Memorial Walks.

Next year's CAUTHE Conference will be hosted by Central Queensland University and held in Cairns in February. It would be great if SCU could have a very strong showing.

Kevin Markwell, Betty Weiler, Erica Wilson and Mieke Witsel.