



SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY
Research Report
2015



UNIVERSITY
OF WOLLONGONG
AUSTRALIA



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Introduction



A/Prof Peter Caputi Head of School

I am delighted to present the School of Psychology Research Report for 2015. In 2015, the University of Wollongong celebrated its 40th anniversary. Psychology, as a discipline, has contributed significantly to University life during this period. Academic staff and their students have made some wonderful achievements in research during this year of celebration; these achievements are showcased in this report.

2015 represents a year of consolidation of our research efforts. We continue to produce a high volume of quality publications, attract excellent Higher Degree Research students, and strengthen research programs with successful externally and internally funded research grants. The School's research programs engage in high quality basic and applied research, as evidenced by Dr Mark Schira's successful NHMRC that will develop a 3-D atlas of the human brainstem and Dr Leonie Miller's successful ARC Linkage grant which examines consumer value and disability services. This report includes research profiles of academic staff. These profiles highlight the range of nationally and internationally renowned research undertaken by our staff. We have considerable research expertise in mental health, clinical and health psychology, psychophysiology, visual perception and cognition.

We have a vibrant, talented and highly engaged higher degree research cohort conducting high quality innovative research. Our HDR students contribute significantly to the research "engine-room" within the School. A listing of thesis topics is included in this report.

This report provides a snapshot of the research activities and achievements of staff and students in the School of Psychology. These achievements are the result of hard work, a commitment to producing quality research in partnership with colleagues, industry and community organisations.

Further information about individual researchers can be found at scholars.uow.edu.au

List of Staff

HEAD OF SCHOOL

A/Prof Peter Caputi

PROFESSORS

Professor Robert Barry
Professor Rodney Croft
Professor Frank Deane
Professor Brin Grenyer
Professor Stuart Thomas

SENIOR LECTURERS

Dr Emma Barkus
Dr Amy Chan
Dr Trevor Crowe
Dr Simone Favelle
Dr Christopher Magee
Dr Leonie Miller
Dr Mark Schira

LECTURERS

Dr Mark Allen
Dr Harry Hill
Dr Peter Leeson
Dr Michael Matthias
Dr Rebecca Sng
ARC Future Fellow
A/Prof Nadia Solowij

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS

Dr Samantha Broyd
Dr David Camfield
Dr Sarah Loughran
Dr Erika Van Hell

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

Dr Peter Kelly

HONORARY SENIOR FELLOWS

Dr Nadia Crittenden

RESEARCH FELLOWS

Dr Marianne Bourke

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

A/Prof Mitch Byrne
A/Prof Adam Clarke
A/Prof Brett Deacon
A/Prof Lynne Magor-Blatch
A/Prof Stuart Johnstone
A/Prof Stephen Palmisano
A/Prof Steven Roodenrys

HONORARY ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

A/Prof Nigel Mackay
A/Prof Beverley Walker

NORTHFIELDS CLINIC

Mark Donovan (Director)
Chris Allen (Coordinator)

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Len McAlear

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

Cassandra Farrar
Monica Ferrari
Marie Johnson
Kate Newnham
Liesl Radloff
Michelle Summerhayes
Cathy Wood

Grants Awarded in 2015

INTERNAL GRANTS

Caring for Community

Global Challenges Project Funding

Awarded: \$47,711

Kathleen Clapham, Scott Winch, Peter Kelly,
Kate Senior, David Kampers, & Bronwyn Carlson

An innovative ergonomic conceptual design of heavy duty vehicle driver seat

Global Challenges Project Funding

Awarded: \$20,000

Haiping Du, Weihua Li, David Stirling, Montserrat Ros, Stephen Palmisano, & Paul Stapley

Self-motion perception on the brain

Social Science Seed Grants

Awarded \$11,660

Robert Barry, Stephen Palmisano

A pilot study of the relationship between interactions of the caregivers and the care recipients of dementia and their anxiety in residential aged care

Global Challenges Seed Funding

Awarded: \$10,000

Ping Yu, Victoria Traynor, Emma Barkus, Mengxiang Li, Siyu Qian, & Nicole Carrigan

Cognitive Defects in Residential Drug and Alcohol Clients: Implementing a cognitive remediation intervention to improve treatment outcomes

Social Sciences Partnership Grants

Awarded: \$10,000

Peter Kelly, Samantha Broyd, Nadia Solowij, & Jo Lunn

Enhancing employee engagement and wellbeing in at-risk units at Illawarra Hospitals

Global Challenges Seed Funding

Awarded: \$10,000

Suresh Fernando, Shamika Almeida, Albert Munoz Aneiros, Sim Lau, Peter Caputi,
Marianna Milosavljevic, Susan Cartwright, Shyamali Dharmage, & Bishan Rajapakse

Developing large-scale electrophysiological and neurocognitive training research projects in China

International Links Grants

Awarded: \$9,900

Stuart Johnstone, Steven Roodenrys, Robert Barry, & Adam Clarke

Applications of Principle Components Analysis (PCA) in the frequency domain

Centre for Health Initiatives Grant

Awarded \$5,162

Robert Barry

EXTERNAL GRANTS

Project Air Strategy for Personality Disorders

NSW Ministry of Health - Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Office MHDAO
Awarded \$2,876,190.
Brin F.S. Grenyer

Notifications to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency: Identifying ‘hot spots’ of risk to help improve the quality and safety of healthcare (awarded 2014)

NHMRC Partnerships Project for Better Health
\$562,601
Marie Bismark (University of Melbourne), David Studdert, Ron Paterson, Martin Fletcher, Lisa Wardlaw-Kelly, Brin Grenyer

The flipside of noise: Does it benefit listening and learning?

Australian Research Council (ARC)
Awarded \$359,000
David Copland, Anthony Angwin, Robert Barry, Wayne Wilson

A 3D Cross-Modality Atlas of the Human Brainstem for Scientists and Clinicians

National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
Awarded: \$352,077
George Paxinos & Mark Schira

Consumer value and disability services: The impact of increased autonomy

Australian Research Council (ARC)
Awarded: \$326,506
Melanie Randle, Leonie Miller, Sara Dolnicar, Glenn Connor-Brown, & Deanna Maunsell

Alcohol advertising to women in Australia

ARC Discovery Project (2015-2017)
\$289,201
Jones SC, Croft RJ

Investigating the efficacy of an online intervention aiming to increase respite use amongst carers of people with dementia: Roles of motivational enhancement and professional delivery

Alzheimer’s Australia Research (Dementia Grants Program)
Awarded: \$50,000
Elizabeth Cridland, Lyn Phillipson, & Trevor Crowe

Ongoing Grants in 2015

ONGOING INTERNAL GRANTS

Generating the Next Generation Condoms (awarded 2014)

Global Challenges Project Funding
\$100,000

Robert Gorkin III, Jason McArthur, Christopher Magee, Sina Naficy, Simon Moulton & Geoffrey Spinks

Move for Mental Health (awarded 2014)

Global Challenges Project Funding
\$75,000

Stewart Vella, Anthony Okely, Simon Eckermann & Frank Deane

ONGOING EXTERNAL GRANTS

Promoting Male Mental Health using a Sustainable and National Sport-Based Intervention (awarded 2014)

Movember Foundation
\$1,986,778

Stewart Vella, Anthony Okely, Frank Deane, Sandra Jones, Simon Eckermann, Helen Christensen, Stewart Trost, Remco Polman, Erika Borkoles & Chris Lonsdale

Cannabis and the brain: the good, the bad and the unknown (awarded 2011)

Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellowship
\$818,576

Nadia Solowij

Vulnerability markers in the association between cannabis and schizophrenia (awarded 2011)

NHMRC Project Grant
\$515,765

Nadia Solowij, Rodney Croft, Juanita Todd, Francesca Fernandez, Patricia Michie, Philip McGuire, Robin Murray, Stuart Johnstone, Paul Tooney, Antonio Zuardi

Working with parents with a personality disorder to enhance their parenting role (awarded 2014)

MH-CYP / SCHN - Mental Health Children and Young Persons - Sydney Children's Hospital Network Westmead
\$149,006

Brin Grenyer

Examining the feasibility of a peer-delivered healthy lifestyle intervention to reduce cardiovascular and cancer disease risk for people living with Schizophrenia (awarded 2014)

Schizophrenia Fellowship of NSW
\$49,658

Peter Kelly, Amanda Baker, Ayna Turner, Frank Deane, Robin Callister, Clare Collins, Kathleen Griffiths, Rebecca Mcketin & Adam Zimmermann

Motorcycle protective clothing: heat discomfort and physiological strain

NRMA ACT Road Safety Trust (2014-2015)
\$46,705

de Rome L, Brown J, Taylor N, Troynikov O, Croft RJ.

Commercial Research Contracts 2015

Responding to medication non-adherence in psychiatric populations

Melbourne Health
Mitchell Byrne

Literature review and protocol development to investigate the relative benefit of within school social worker engagement for disadvantaged children

Barnardos Australia
Rodney Croft

Train-the-Trainer Course for Neami Ltd

Neami Ltd
Frank Deane

Evaluation of the Salvation Army Detoxification, Residential and Out Client Services

Salvation Army Recovery Services
Frank Deane

Development of a model to provide support and wellbeing to telephone crisis volunteers

Lifeline South Coast (NSW)
Frank Deane

Health Administration Corporation

Strategy for personality disorders Ext'n
Brin Grenyer

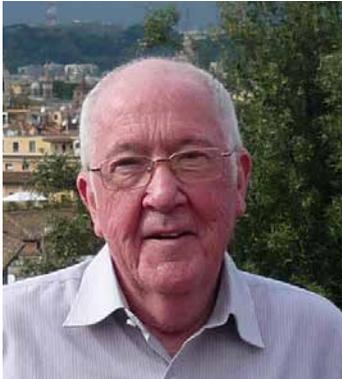
Improving worker confidence, skill and knowledge of borderline personality disorder

We Help Ourselves
Brin Grenyer

We Help Ourselves

We Help Ourselves review
Peter Kelly

Staff Research Profiles



Professor Robert Barry

Professor Robert Barry is Director of the Brain & Behaviour Research Institute (BBRI) at UOW that is affiliated with the School of Psychology.

Bob's research spans three interconnected areas of psycho physiology. The first is focused on brain dynamics and explores the mechanism of the genesis of the event-related potential (ERP) in the ongoing electroencephalogram (EEG). In particular, this research explores the timing of stimulus events in relation to both amplitude and phase of the current EEG constituents. The second area is the Orienting Reflex, the automatic mechanism that grabs our attention to novel events in our environment. This program of research aims to integrate autonomic and central measures of the Orienting Reflex to novel stimuli and to explore the meaning of different profiles of response decrement over stimulus repetitions. His third area of research is in normal and atypical development. This research investigates aspects of development and individual differences using autonomic measures, EEG, and ERPs.

Professor Barry's current work is focused on resting-state brain activity, and processing in the equiprobable Go/NoGo task, in healthy individuals (children, young adults, and the elderly). He is also interested in aspects of arousal and functioning in attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (AD/HD). He recently began new collaborations with scientists in the National Research Institute of Police Science and universities in Japan, working on electrophysiology in the detection of deception, and with Russian colleagues in relation to EEG differences between the sexes, and in women across the menstrual cycle.

Innovative data processing techniques in his laboratory are opening exciting new perspectives in development and brain dynamics, encouraging cross-fertilisation between all these research areas.

Bob is currently a Chief Investigator on an ARC-funded Discovery Project (2016-2018) with colleagues at the University of Queensland. This is investigating "the flipside of noise" – the improvements in listening and learning that can occur in some individuals with low attentional capacity (such as in AD/HD) when additional white noise is present in the environment.

Professor Barry is well-regarded nationally and internationally in the field of psychophysiology, having been the Founding President of the Australasian Society for Psychophysiology, and a Fellow of the International Organisation of Psychophysiology (IOP) for some 35 years. In IOP, he has been a member of the Board of Directors for more than 20 years, and acted as Treasure for the last 6 years. He reviews grants for ARC, NHMRC, and agencies in Canada, Israel, UK, Singapore, Hong Kong, Netherlands, Jordan, and Qatar, and also serves the profession on the Editorial Boards of leading journals in psychophysiology, clinical neurophysiology, neuropsychiatric electrophysiology, and caffeine research, as well as acting as a regular peer reviewer for many other journals.

Recent Publications

- **Barry RJ** and De Blasio FM. (2015). Performance and ERP components in the equiprobable Go/NoGo task: Inhibition in children. *Psychophysiology*, 52, 1228-1237.
- **Barry RJ** and De Blasio FM, Bernat EM and Steiner GZ. (2015). Event-related EEG time-frequency PCA and the Orienting Reflex to auditory stimuli. *Psychophysiology*, 52, 555-561.



Associate Professor Mitch Byrne

Associate Professor Mitch Byrne is the School's Director of Clinical Training and has research interests in treatment adherence, the influences of Omega 3, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, and de-stigmatising autism in mainstream education environments.

Mitch developed his interest in treatment adherence through his clinical practice.

While working in the UK, he observed the negative outcomes of clients who struggled to maintain consistency with prescribed medication. In 2001, Mitch commenced his PhD research into treatment adherence in severe mental health. This research involved developing strategies for the identification of patients at risk of treatment non-adherence, as well as skills to enable front line clinicians to enhance adherence behaviour. This research has led to multiple publications and consultancies to external agencies. In recent years, Mitch has been developing online and video based training programs. Mitch's interest in adherence to health enhancing behaviour, combined with his experience as a forensic psychologist, has brought him into partnership with Associate Professor Barbara Meyer (School of Medicine) for research on how dietary supplementation with Omega 3 influences aggressive behaviour. As both a clinical and forensic psychologist, Mitch has had a long interest in the causes and amelioration of antisocial and aggressive behaviour. Mitch joined Barbara's team in a funded pilot project investigating the relationship between behavioural, psychological and dietary variables, specifically the levels of Omega-3 fatty acids, and this research was featured on the ABC Catalyst program in 2014. So far, three papers have been published on this ground-breaking research. Mitch and his colleagues have submitted a multimillion dollar NHMRC Project Grant to extend this research further and are developing a funded pilot to investigate diet and behaviour in pre-school children.

On top of this, Mitch has led ground breaking research into de-stigmatising autism in mainstream educational environments. Driven by his personal interest in the needs of children with high functioning autism (Mitch has a son diagnosed with autism), Mitch and his students have developed a de-stigmatisation program that has been successfully trialled in mainstream high schools.

Two studies thus far have been published in the high impact *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, and he won the 2015 Aspect National Recognition Advancement Award for his program "Understanding Our Peers". He is now engaged in an extension of this research with Lidija Balaz (a D.Psych Student) to investigate the impact of a modified version of the program in a pre-school educational setting.



Recent publications

- **Byrne, M. K.**, Parletta, N., Webster, D. G., Batterham, M. & Meyer, B. J. (2015). Adult attention deficit disorder and aggressive behaviour: an exploration of relationships between Brown Attention-Deficit Disorder Scales and the Aggression Questionnaire. *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law*, 22(3), 407-416.



Associate Professor Peter Caputi

Associate Professor Peter Caputi is currently Head of the School of Psychology at the University of Wollongong. Peter has been Interim Director of the Centre for Health Initiatives and he is currently a member of the Research & Evaluation Committee at Neami National.

Peter's research interests are in applied psychology, specifically in applied health and clinical psychology. Much of his research work is interdisciplinary, working with colleagues in public health, medicine and business. Trained originally as a quantitative psychologist, Peter has a particular interest in measurement issues and model development in applied and clinical settings. Peter's work on psychological recovery from serious mental illness illustrates this point. In conjunction with Dr Retta Andresen and A/Prof Lindsay Oades, Peter developed a number of measures of stages of recovery, including the STORI (Stages of Recovery Inventory). These measures are underpinned by an innovative stage model of psychological recovery. A description of these recovery measures is available at <http://socialsciences.uow.edu.au/iimh/stori/index.html>. The impact of this work is not only evident in excellent citation rates but also by Wiley-Blackwell commissioning a book titled *Psychological Recovery from Mental Illness* that was published in 2011. The STORI has been translated into several languages including French, Spanish, Greek, Persian and Italian. It has been used as a clinical tool as well as a research inventory.

Peter's collaborations with Dr Chris Magee and Professors Iverson and Xu-Feng Huang has led to a body of work that has significant impact on our understanding of the relationship between sleep and obesity. In particular, this body of research (highlighted by the award of an ARC Discovery grant DP110100857) highlights Peter's contribution in applying complex data modelling to the health discipline. More recently, Peter has focused his research attention to the occupational health psychology, especially, understanding the concept of presenteeism.

Internationally, Peter is recognized as a leading researcher in Constructivist Psychology. While, he has published numerous influential papers on methodological and measurement issues in this domain, Peter has also contributed to theoretical and conceptual development. Peter has edited two influential books on Personal Construct Psychology, chaired two International Congresses on Constructivist Psychology, the most recent in 2013, and he is on the editorial board of the *Journal of Constructivist Psychology*.

Recent publications

- Haver, A., Akerjordet, K., **Caputi, P.**, Furunes, T. & Magee, C. (2015) Measuring mental well-being: A validation of the Short Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-Being Scale in Norwegian and Swedish. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health* 43 (7), 721-727.
- McGregor, A., Iverson, D., **Caputi, P.**, Magee, C. & Ashbury, F. (2015) Relationships between work environment factors and presenteeism mediated by employees' health: A preliminary study. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* 56 (12), 1319-1324.



Professor Rodney Croft

As leader of the UoW-based Australian Centre for Electromagnetic Bioeffects Research (ACEBR) and Chief Investigator with the Centre for Population Health Research on Electromagnetic Energy (PRESEE; based at Monash University in Melbourne), Professor Rodney Croft is currently involved in a range of scientific studies addressing impacts of electromagnetic radiation on human health.

Professor Croft and his team of post-doctoral scholars and PhD candidates have recently started recruitment on several new studies, including one looking at the effect that mobile phone emissions have on the sleep patterns of children, a study on the phenomenon known as electromagnetic hypersensitivity, as well as a number of experimental studies aimed at improving our understanding of risk communication strategies and effects.

Professor Croft recently accepted an invitation to lead the IHMRI-affiliated Centre for Health Initiatives. If this all sounds exhausting, he admits that it often is: “Getting a good work-life balance tends to be quite a challenge, but so long as I find time to relax with my family and play a bit of sport, it’s great to be able to get involved in such interesting research,” he said. To put Professor Croft’s work into context, it is helpful to know that he obtained degrees in philosophy and psychology from the University of Wollongong and was later awarded a PhD in Psychology. His studies exposed him to the emerging field of bioelectromagnetics, which explores the interaction between radiofrequency electromagnetic energy (RF-EME) emitted from mobile phones, base stations, WiFi and other technologies. This was around the time that mobile phone use was accelerating and so, after working as a postdoc in the area of cognitive psychology at the Imperial College London, and then Swinburne University, Professor Croft returned to UOW to carve out a career as a world-renowned expert on the health outcomes of RF-EME. This is supported by the fact that Professor Croft is one of 14 commissioners with the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection, the body which sets the safety limits for such devices.

Rodney also attracted UOW’s first-ever National Health and Medical Research Council Centre of Excellence (CRE) grant in 2012, followed by a second CRE in 2013 totalling \$5M. He commented: “With the sweeping developments of wireless technologies and ever-growing mobile phone subscriptions, the electromagnetic energy that powers this technology is now widespread, as is community concern about the possibility of associated health effects...responding to this concern, the ACEBR has embarked on a multidisciplinary five-year research program to address the most pressing radiofrequency radiation exposure questions to better protect the health of Australians.” Professor Croft therefore describes his work as being in the realm of health protection: “Health protection isn’t about one particular discipline, but about putting it all together. Indeed, what I find exciting about this work is that it covers so many different domains and disciplines”.

Recent publications

- Jackson ML, Raj S, **Croft RJ**, Hayley AC, Downey LA, Kennedy GA, Howard ME (2015). Slow eyelid closure as a measure of driver drowsiness and its relationship to performance. *Traffic Injury Prevention* 2015, 11,1-7.
- De Rome L, Taylor EA, **Croft RJ**, Brown J, Fitzharris M, Taylor NAS (2015). Thermal and cardiovascular strain imposed by motorcycle protective clothing under Australian summer conditions. *Ergonomics*, 24, 1-10



Professor Frank Deane

Professor Frank Deane is Director of the Illawarra Institute for Mental Health and Head of Postgraduate Studies in the School of Psychology at the University of Wollongong. He trained as a clinical psychologist at Massey University in New Zealand and practiced in the USA for six years before returning to New Zealand where he became a Senior Lecturer at Massey University. Frank came to the University of Wollongong in 1998 to be the director of the clinical psychology program.

Frank's research interests include understanding the effects of between-session therapeutic homework tasks on treatment outcomes. In particular, his research has explored the effects of homework on mental health outcomes for people receiving psychosocial interventions for schizophrenia and other expressions of psychosis.

Professor Deane also has a keen interest in the predictors of help-seeking for mental health problems. In particular, the research questions he is interested in answering include: what are the pathways to care for individuals with mental health problems? What factors determine whether someone will actively seek help for mental health problems? Why are people who experience suicidal thoughts reluctant to seek help from others? Frank is particularly interested in the phenomenon of "help negation" and understanding why there is a negative correlation between help seeking intentions and suicidal ideation in non-clinical samples. The identification of this relationship amongst people who are *not* acutely suicidal might suggest a psychological vulnerability that becomes further activated by stress or psychological distress. Frank is also interested in the role that values and acceptance play in a wide range of human experiences such as coping with death, stress in the police force, coping with having a loved one gone missing, weight loss amongst morbidly obese persons, treatment of people with Borderline Personality Disorder, and recovery from drug and alcohol addiction.

Frank has conducted extensive research aimed at evaluating the drug and alcohol treatment programs (detoxification, residential, out-client) offered by The Salvation Army in Australia. Frank is also a member on The SMART Recovery Australia Research Advisory Committee. This committee was established to ensure that all prospective projects for SMART Recovery Australia are evidence based and that the latest research in addiction and mutual aid is considered in the implementation of drug and alcohol treatment interventions.

Recent publications

- Vella, V.E., **Deane, F.P.** & Kelly, P.J. (2015). Comorbidity in detoxification: symptom interaction and treatment intentions. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 49, 35-42.
- Whiting, D.L., **Deane, F.P.**, Ciarrochi, J., McLeod, H.J. & Simpson, G.K. (2015). Validating measures of psychological flexibility in a population with acquired brain injury. *Psychological Assessment*, 27 (2), 415-423.



Professor Brin Grenyer

Professor Brin Grenyer is a practicing clinical psychologist and Professor of Psychology. He is a senior clinical researcher and supervisor at Northfields Clinic and provides consulting and research services across the Government and non-Government Sectors. Professor Grenyer's research program focuses on the treatment of people with chronic and complex psychological problems, such as personality disorders, self-harm and suicidal behaviours, depression, aggression and violence, early attachment difficulties, chronic lifestyle diseases and substance dependence.

Influenced by Professor Lester Luborsky and colleagues at the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Psychiatry and Psychology, Professor Grenyer also spent part of his early professional career in the United Kingdom and learnt to appreciate the value of regional universities. He notes that UOW offers a unique environment for scholarship and contemplation, commenting: "UOW has always been a breeding ground for academic leaders and many staff and graduates have gone on to senior posts both locally and internationally". He adds that "UOW has always been a good friend of high quality psychology research". He is Foundation Chair of the Psychology Board of Australia, which sets the standards for the profession and oversees the regulation and registration of all 32,000 Psychologists practicing in Australia.

He is currently Director of the Project Air Strategy for Personality Disorders, an initiative of the NSW Ministry of Health to improve pathways of care and researching new approaches to treatment. The Strategy won a Mental Health Matters Award in 2013. He was a member of the NHMRC Borderline Personality Disorder Guideline Development Committee, and is currently on the RANZCP Advisory Group for a Consumer Guide on Borderline Personality Disorder. He is on the Editorial Boards of Psychotherapy Research, and Personality and Mental Health.

Professor Grenyer is deeply involved in communicating evidence-based research, with many invitations to present as a keynote speaker both locally and internationally. He has also chaired, organised and been on scientific committees for many international conferences, including the International Congress on Licensure, Certification and Credentialing in Psychology; World Congress of Psychotherapy; International Society for the Study of Personality Disorders; and the International Meeting of the Society for Psychotherapy Research. He has been successful in acquiring over 35 grants totalling more than \$11.3M and has published over 100 peer reviewed journal articles, book chapters and books. He has also supervised 24 doctoral students to completion.

In reflecting on his research, Brin notes that 'mental health issues occur in the context of families, communities, schools and workplaces, and sophisticated research in the future will need to develop broader models in which interventions can be targeted at multiple levels'.

Recent publications

- **Grenyer, B.F.S.** and Lewis, K.L. (2015). Psychologist misconduct and public protection. In S. Morrissey, P. Reddy, G. Davidson, & A. Allan (Eds.), *Ethics and Professional Practice for Psychologists* (2nd ed.). Melbourne: Cengage Learning Australia.
- Bailey, R.C. and **Grenyer, B.F.S.** (2015). The relationship between expressed emotion and wellbeing for families and carers of a relative with Borderline Personality Disorder. *Personality and Mental Health*, 9, 21-32.



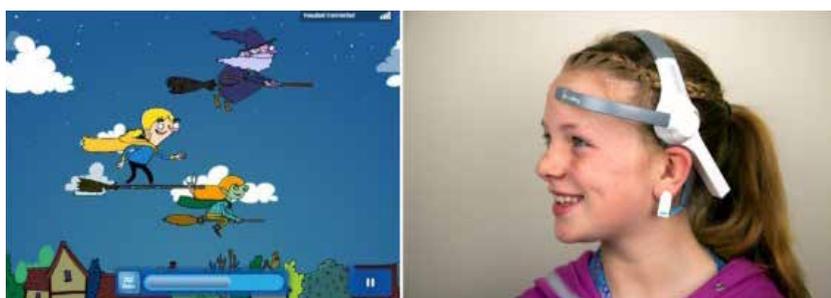
Associate Professor Stuart Johnstone

Associate Professor Stuart Johnstone is Academic Program Director (Singapore). Stuart completed his undergraduate and postgraduate studies at the University of Wollongong. Following a short spell in the Department of Psychological Medicine at the University of Sydney, Stuart returned to UOW in 1999 to take up an academic appointment in the School of Psychology

Stuart's research uses brain electrical activity measures (such as EEG and event-related potentials) to understand processes such as attention and inhibition. In particular, his research has focused on understanding clinical disorders in special populations such as children diagnosed as having attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). This has led him to investigate the benefits of cognitive and neuro-cognitive training to improve individual functioning.

Stuart is responsible for the invention and development of the world's first evidence-based neuro-cognitive training tool for the improvement of behavioural control in children with ADHD. He was instrumental in securing an industry license to the UOW Intellectual Property (IP), and has continued researching the efficacy of this approach. This neuro-cognitive training tool is now embodied as two software products that are being sold internationally. The software is a system of cognitive training incorporating objective attention levels obtained via a wireless brain electrical activity recording device. The commercialisation effort has resulted in the "Focus Pocus" software product being marketed in Australia, the United States, China, Canada, and European countries. His efforts have resulted in demonstrable global benefit by bringing to market an affordable, research-supported, non-drug treatment program for children diagnosed with ADHD. This commercialisation effort also led to Stuart receiving the 2013 Vice Chancellor's award for "Outstanding Achievement in Research Commercialisation".

The future potential of the UOW IP in other treatment domains has also been recognised and has generated additional research output and collaborations. For instance, the neuro-cognitive training tool has recently been explored as a potential training approach for adults with Traumatic Brain Injury (in association with IBIS Wollongong and Nowra, and Liverpool Hospital Rehabilitation Unit) and for children with Post Traumatic Amnesia (in association with Sydney Children's Hospital).



The dry-sensor EEG recording device (right) allows the user to control aspects of the training game Focus Pocus (left) with their brain activity. Improving control of brain states can result in improved behaviour.

Recent publications

- Dalecki, A., **Johnstone, S.J.**, and Croft, R.J. (2015). Clarifying the functional process represented by P50 suppression. *International Journal of Psychophysiology*, 96, 149-154.
- Jiang, H., and **Johnstone, S.J.** (2015). A preliminary multiple case study report of neurocognitive training for children with ADHD in China. *Sage Open*, 5 (2), 1-13.



Dr Peter Kelly

Dr Kelly is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Psychology and also a Cancer Institute NSW Early Career Research Fellow.

Following the completion of his 4-year undergraduate studies here at the University of Wollongong, Peter undertook employment at Kedesh Rehabilitation Services – a local residential alcohol and substance abuse treatment service. It was during this experience that he developed an interest and passion for work in the non-government treatment sector and a desire to help improve the quality of treatment provided across mental health and substance abuse treatment settings. He returned to UOW and completed his Ph.D (Clinical Psychology) in 2007.

Dr Kelly's research is focused on cardiovascular disease and cancer prevention. In particular, he is interested in developing and trialling health behaviour change interventions for 'at risk' populations. For instance, mental health and substance abuse among Indigenous Australians. These interventions tend to focus on reducing cigarette smoking, improving diet and promoting physical activity. Peter has been successful in acquiring a number of research grants from consultancies supporting this type of work. Indeed, he recently completed a Heart Foundation funded trial of a group-based healthy lifestyle intervention within remote Indigenous individuals that focused on substance abuse treatment.

Peter has also secured a Schizophrenia Fellowship of NSW grant to advance trials of the Better Health Choices program. This is a telephone-delivered chronic disease risk reduction intervention to be conducted in partnership with the psychosocial health and rehabilitation support provider, Neami National. The program targets people living with severe mental illness and involves training peer workers (people with their own lived experience of mental illness) who telephone others and talk to them about the benefits of decreasing their smoking, improving their diet and reducing their screen time. Peter notes "As highlighted in the National Mental Health Plan, we need to do more to lower the risk factors and improve the management of physical illness in those who experience mental health problems. Peer workers are well placed to deliver healthy lifestyle interventions, as they are strong role models and are particularly effective in promoting hope and establishing meaningful goals. The program incorporates clear health messages, well-established behavioural strategies and can be tailored to the personal goals of each participant." The results will be compared to a standard care treatment and will be used to underpin future National Health and Medical Research Council partnership or project grant applications.

Recent publications

- **Kelly, P. J.**, Deane, F. P. & Baker, A. L. (2015). Group cohesion and between session homework activities predict self-reported cognitive-behavioral skill use amongst participants of SMART Recovery groups. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 51, 53-58.
- **Kelly, P. J.**, Baker, A. L., Deane, F. P., Callister, R., Collins, C. E., Oldmeadow, C., ... & Keane, C. A. (2015). Study protocol: A stepped wedge cluster randomised controlled trial of a healthy lifestyle intervention for people attending residential substance abuse treatment. *BMC Public Health*, 15(9), 1-9.



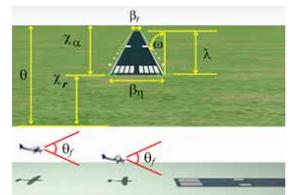
Associate Professor Stephen Palmisano

Associate Professor Stephen Palmisano is the Director of *Early Career Research, Engagement and Development* in the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Research Theme director for the Centre of Health Initiatives. His research targets how people perceive and control their self-motions and also how having two eyes benefits perception of depth (i.e. stereoscopic depth perception). Stephen became interested in these areas when working on his Ph.D under the supervision of Scientia Professor Barbara Gillam at UNSW and later as a post-doctoral fellow working with Distinguished Research Professor Ian P. Howard at the Centre for Vision Research, York University, Canada.

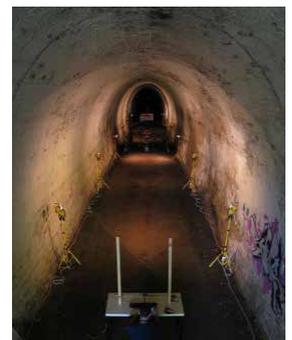
Stephen is internationally recognised as an expert on self-motion perception and in particularvection. One real-world example ofvection is the “train illusion”, where passengers on a stationary train experience illusory self-motion when they see a train moving along the next track. Stephen’s research has demonstrated that many visual consequences of self-motion play important roles in its perception. For example, his research has shown that adding visual “bob, sway and lunge” head motions to self-motion simulations enhances the experience ofvection. His research team has also found that susceptibility tovection can be predicted by individual differences in postural sway. This research was featured in a recent ABC News-in-Science article entitled “Moving train illusion strong in swayers”.



Stephen is also interested in the visual control of fixed-wing aircraft. His research investigates out-of-cockpit cues that pilots use for glideslope control and flare timing during landings. He has also conducted eye-tracking studies to determine where pilots actually look during the various phases of landings. This research has provided explanations for the increased likelihood of aviation accidents at night based on systematic misperceptions of either ground slant or height above the ground plane.



Stereoscopic depth perception occurs largely because our left and right eyes are horizontally separated, and as a result they receive slightly different views of the same scene. These binocular differences are the basis for powerful impressions of depth. Until recently, it was believed that stereopsis was only useful up to about 6 m away. However, research conducted by Stephen and his team in a disused railway tunnel shows that stereo contributes to depth perception at least as far away as 300 metres. These findings suggest that stereopsis plays an important role in guiding whole body self-motions such as walking, cycling and even driving.



Recent publications

- **Palmisano, S.**, Allison, R. S, Schira, M. M., & Barry, R. J. (2015). Future challenges forvection research: Definitions, functional significance, measures and neural bases. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 6, 193. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2015.00193.
- **Palmisano, S.**, Apthorp, D., Seno, T., & Stapley, P. J. (2014). Spontaneous postural sway predicts the strength of smoothvection. *Experimental Brain Research*, 232, 1185-1191.

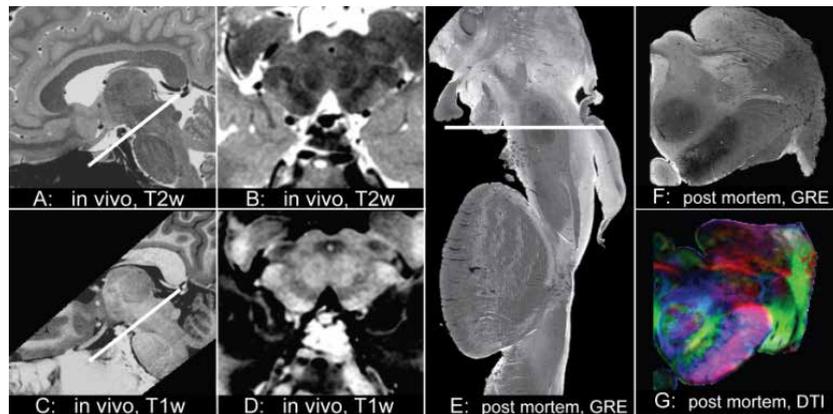
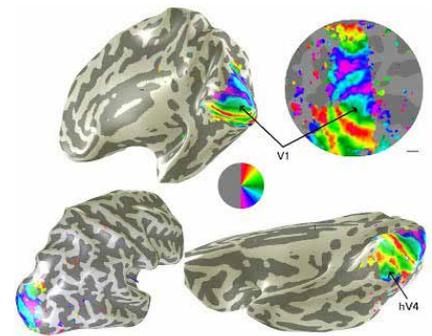


Dr Mark Schira

Dr Mark Schira is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Psychology at the University of Wollongong and a Senior Research Officer at Neuroscience Research Australia. He received a Dr. rer. nat. (Doctorate in Natural Sciences) in Human Neurobiology from the University of Bremen and the Charité University Hospital in Berlin, under the supervision of Prof. Manfred Fahle and Prof. Stephan Brandt.

Mark worked as a postdoctoral fellow with Christopher Tyler at the Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute in San Francisco, and with Michael Breakspear and Branka Spehar at the University of New South Wales.

Mark's research targets the organisation and function of early visual cortex. In 2009 Mark and his team solved a 40 year old mystery surrounding the organisation of the fovea (the centre of gaze). This research demonstrated that the areas V2 and V3 form continuous bands around the tip of area V1. The fovea is the only part of the visual field supporting highest acuity and hence it is critical for day-to-day activities such as reading or fine motor control. Understanding it's cortical organisation is a requisite for understanding it's function. Mark is currently developing computer models of human visual cortex aiming to provide most accurate and complete predictions of fMRI experiments.



In addition, Mark is collaborating with the leading brain cartographer Prof. George Paxinos (Neuroscience Research Australia) and Prof. G. Allan Johnson (Duke University) to produce the next generation of brain atlases. The aim is a modern atlas suite that serves the needs of clinicians, researchers and education. Providing stunning MRI images with the best quality currently available, from both in vivo and post-mortem samples, these atlases will be fully 3D, interactive and conveniently accessible through web interfaces a la Google maps and convenient tablet apps. The project is currently funded through an NHMRC research grant.

Recent publications

- **Schira, M. M.**, Robinson, P. A., Breakspear, M., & Aquino, K. A. (2015). Towards a complete forward prediction from visual stimulus to BOLD. *Journal of Vision*, 15(12), 583-583.
- Palmisano, S., Allison, R. S., **Schira, M. M.** & Barry, R. J. (2015). Future challenges for vection research: definitions, functional significance, measures, and neural bases. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 6(193), 1-15.



Associate Professor Nadia Solowij

Associate Professor Nadia Solowij has been leading a program of research on the effects of cannabis on the brain for many years. She has been an Australian Research Council Future Fellow since 2012 and her program of research has received funding of approximately \$6 million. The majority of Nadia's research has been on understanding the long term effects of chronic exposure to cannabis.

In recent years, Nadia and her team have sought to better understand the effects of acute administration of specific cannabinoid compounds, such as Cannabidiol (CBD) and tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). This research focus is in response to two key findings in recent years: 1) an association between exposure to high potency THC strains of cannabis and the development of psychotic-like symptoms or schizophrenia; and 2) increasing interest in cannabinoids as medicine. Intriguingly, CBD has shown antipsychotic properties and is thought to ameliorate some of the adverse effects of THC. With the rapidly shifting policies worldwide around legalisation of cannabis for medicinal or recreational use, it is more important than ever to understand the effects of cannabis, the mechanisms of action, and individual differences in response to cannabis.

Nadia's team, together with international collaborators, have demonstrated structural brain alterations in long term heavy cannabis users, and in particular, reduced and shape altered hippocampal and amygdala volumes, and reduced white matter axonal connectivity. Her research team has also demonstrated impaired brain electrophysiology, particularly in components implicated in schizophrenia, as well as impaired cognition in adult and adolescent cannabis users.

This work has led to an invitation to join the ENIGMA Consortium to conduct large scale multisite collaborative analyses of "big data" from neuroimaging and genetics studies in the area of addiction. Exciting findings from Nadia's team now suggest potential recovery of brain structural and neurochemical alterations but not necessarily of brain function or electrophysiology.

Nadia and her team have recently completed two large-scale randomised controlled trials of acute administration of THC and CBD. It is hoped that the findings of these studies will inform mechanisms by which cannabis may trigger psychotic-like outcomes in vulnerable individuals, possibly involving GABA-ergic and glutamatergic mechanisms, and what makes an individual vulnerable to adverse outcomes. The findings might also inform the controversial claims about the benefits of CBD and proposals to "put CBD back into street cannabis", and further, to inform harm minimisation strategies around medicinal cannabis use. Of note, Nadia is part of a large team that has recently been awarded \$2 million from the New South Wales Ministry of Health to conduct Australia's first medicinal trial of cannabis for managing symptoms and improving quality of life in terminal cancer patients.

Recent Publications

- Coyle, H., Traynor, V. & **Solowij, N.** (2015). Computerised and virtual reality cognitive training programs for individuals at high risk of cognitive decline: Systematic review of the literature. *American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 23(4), 335-359.
- Lorenzetti, V., **Solowij, N.**, Whittle, S., Fornito, A., Lubman, D.I., Pantelis, C., Yücel, M. (2015). Gross morphological brain changes with chronic, heavy cannabis use. *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 206, 77-78.



Dr Mark Allen

Dr Mark Allen's research focus is in sport, exercise and health psychology. Mark completed his Ph.D at Staffordshire University and his thesis focused on the social psychology of explanation (attribution) and emotional responses in athletic competitions. Mark spent six years at London South Bank University before joining the School of Psychology at the University of Wollongong in February 2014.

In recent years, Mark has been researching the psychological correlates of physical activity and sedentary behaviour. His research has demonstrated that screen time (television viewing and electronic gaming) is a key determinant of long-term change in adolescent mental health, that personality traits of Indigenous Australian children relate to the accumulation of excessive body fat during the transition into adolescence, and that health-related behaviour (alcohol intake, physical activity, diet and cigarette smoking) predict long-term change in personality over the life course.

In addition, Mark often works as an applied sport psychologist and has developed mental training programmes for elite sportsmen and sportswomen competing in athletics, association football, rugby union, canoe slalom, netball, cricket, golf and rally car driving.

Recent publication

- **Allen, M. S., & Vella, S. A.** (2015). Screen-based sedentary behaviour and psychosocial well-being in childhood: Cross-sectional and longitudinal associations. *Mental Health and Physical Activity, 9*, 41-47.



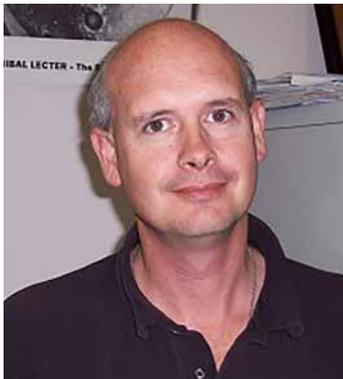
Dr Emma Barkus

Dr Emma Barkus' work encompasses psychological, biological and genetic markers for risk for psychosis and centres on the utility of using schizotypy as a marker for psychosis risk. Emma was awarded her Ph.D from Manchester Metropolitan University in 2005 under the supervision of Dr. John Stirling, Manchester Metropolitan University, and Professor Shôn Lewis, University of Manchester. Her PhD focussed on understanding the factors which predicted of auditory hallucinations in otherwise healthy people. Emma obtained a NARSAD Young Investigator Award prior to joining the University of Wollongong in 2010.

Emma and her team have demonstrated that non-clinical auditory hallucinations activate the same brain areas as those experienced by patients with schizophrenia, and that people who are prone to psychosis report more psychotic-like experiences after using cannabis. Emma obtained a Stepping Stone Research Fellowship in 2007 that eventuated into a collaboration with a pharma consortium called P1vitol to investigate the utility of biomarkers to detect antipsychotic effects in high schizotypes. More recently, Emma's research has turned to focus on the effects of stress on mental health and how stress might exacerbate vulnerabilities to mental health disorders.

Recent publications

- **E. Barkus, T. Muddle, J. Stirling, & S. Lewis** (2015). Are cannabis expectancies related to subjective drug experiences and schizotypy? *Journal of Addiction Research, 6* (4), 100249-1-100249-5.



Associate Professor Adam Clarke

Associate Professor Adam Clarke is Head of Students in the School of Psychology. Prior to joining the UOW teaching team, Adam worked as a psychologist in a paediatric practice in Sydney where he worked with children living with a broad range of behavioural disorders and learning disabilities. During this time he also completed a Ph.D at UOW that explored electroencephalogram (EEG) patterns in children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

Adam's main area of research interest is the electrophysiology of children with behavioural difficulties. Through his research, Adam and his team have demonstrated maturational changes in the EEG of children with ADHD, sex differences in children with ADHD, and effects of comorbid learning and behavioural disorders. Adam's research has also explored the effects of medications in children with behavioural difficulties providing insight into how such medications work.

In addition, Adam is a recipient of the Presidential Award of Merit from the International Society for Neuronal Regulation. Adam continues to research electrophysiological abnormalities in children with behavioural disorders and has over 100 published journal articles to date.

Recent publication

- **Clarke, A. R.**, Barry, R. J., Indraratna, A., Dupuy, F. E., McCarthy, R., & Selikowitz, M. EEG activity in children with Asperger's Syndrome (2016). *Clinical Neurophysiology*, 127(1), 442-451.

Dr Amy Chan



Dr Amy Chan is a senior lecturer in the School of Psychology and the coordinator of the 4th year honours programme. Amy completed her Ph.D at the University of New South Wales and her thesis focused on inductive and deductive reasoning. Her research focus is in developmental and performance psychology. In particular, Amy's research has explored counterfactual thinking, emotions, and emotional intelligence as they relate to performance and development.

Over the last few years, Amy has been researching the performance consequences of counterfactual thinking. Counterfactual thoughts are mental representations of alternatives to past events, actions, or states. Amy's research has demonstrated that counterfactual thinking influences subsequent performance and the development of new skills. Her research has also demonstrated age related differences in the generation of counterfactual emotions (such as regret) providing insight into when these cognitive processes develop in childhood.

In addition, Amy has recently been collaborating with Dr. Sarah Howard (School of Education at UOW) to evaluate potential benefits of the New South Wales one-on-one laptop programme in which high school students are provided complementary laptops.

Recent publication

- Howard, S. K., **Chan, A.** & Caputi, P. (2015). More than beliefs: Subject areas and teachers' integration of laptops in secondary teaching. *British Journal of Educational Technology*, 46(2), 360-369.



Associate Professor Brett Deacon

Associate Professor Brett Deacon earned his Ph.D in clinical psychology from Northern Illinois University in 2002 and completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in medical psychology at Mayo Clinic. He worked as assistant and associate professor at the University of Wyoming for 10 years. In June of 2014, Brett relocated from the United States and joined the University of Wollongong.

Brett's research program focuses primarily on investigating the nature and treatment of anxiety from a cognitive-behavioural perspective. In particular, his research program is targeted toward the evaluation and dissemination of exposure therapy for anxiety. Brett has additional interests in the development and maintenance of anxiety and the validity and utility of the biomedical (brain disease) approach to psychological problems.

Brett has published approximately 100 peer-reviewed journal articles, chapters, and books. His research has been cited over 6500 times (Google Scholar). He is editor of the *Behavior Therapist*, associate editor of the *Journal of Cognitive Psychotherapy*, and serves on the editorial board of five additional journals. In addition, Brett was the program chair for the 2015 convention of the Association of Behavioural and Cognitive Therapies in the United States that was attended by over 3000 mental health professionals. Brett is a frequent presenter of clinical workshops on exposure-based cognitive behavioural therapy for anxiety at national and international conferences.

Recent publication

- Arch, J. J., Twohig, M. P., **Deacon, B. J.**, Landy, L. N., & Bluett, E. J. (2015). The credibility of exposure therapy: Does the theoretical rationale matter?. *Behaviour Research and Therapy*, 72, 81-92.



Dr Simone Favelle

Dr Simone Favelle is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Psychology, Year 3 undergraduate coordinator and Deputy Academic Program Director (Singapore). She completed her Ph.D on the visual processes involved in object recognition in 2004 here at the University of Wollongong under the supervision of Associate Professor Darren Burke (University of Newcastle) and Associate Professor Stephen Palmisano (University of Wollongong). Simone's main area of research is in visual cognition.

Simone's research investigates the different kinds of visual information used in the perception and recognition of objects and faces. Her work was among the first to systematically explore how we generalise across views of faces from above and below, showing that face recognition is particularly difficult with views from above. This has implications for the use of CCTV footage in security situations. More recently, her research has explored face recognition and face perception in conditions more closely approximating the real-world including motion and changes in viewing angle. Her research has demonstrated that holistic processing, a process found to be critical for recognising faces in static images, is also important for the perception of faces in motion and across changes in viewpoint.

Simone is currently collaborating with researchers at the University of Western Australia and the Australian National University to explore facial expression, motion and viewpoint in face recognition.

Recent publication

- **Favelle, S.**, Tobin, A., Piepers, D., Burke, D., & Robbins, R. A. (2015). Dynamic composite faces are processed holistically. *Vision Research*, 112, 26-32.



Dr Harold Hill

Dr Harold Hill completed his PhD on the effects of lighting on perception of facial surfaces at the University of Stirling in 1993. He joined the School of Psychology at UOW in 2007 and his research has been largely focused on face perception. In particular, his research aims to understand what role three dimensional face perception has in facial processing and how that information can be recovered.

Harry's research has demonstrated that Accommodation (an oculomotor cue for depth perception) may have a role in three dimensional depth perception, that facial movement and voice perception have an important connection in converging identity, and that lighting (in addition to viewpoint) has an important role for matching identity.

In addition, Harry's current research is exploring the use of game software for face representations and the relationship between expression and the other race effect (an established finding that people are better at perceiving people of their own race).

Recent Publication

- Koessler, T. & **Hill, H.** (2015). Pinhole viewing strengthens the hollow-face illusion. *i-Perception*, 6 (4), 1-9.



Dr Peter Leeson

Dr Peter Leeson's main area of expertise is in personality and social psychology, with a particular focus on the social psychology of media use. Peter completed his Ph.D exploring social identity theory in the context of prejudice at the University of Wollongong in 2007. He joined the teaching team here at UOW in 2009 and is the Year 1 coordinator.

Peter is currently researching attachment style in the use of social media and his research has found that attachment style is important for social media behaviour including Facebook stalking. Peter is also researching ideology and his research shows that ideological viewpoints stem from fundamental beliefs about the causes of action (e.g., person or environmentally driven).

Peter and his current team of Ph.D students are exploring social media use as it relates to factors such as alienation, belonging and prejudice. He is also researching how personality might moderate these associations, and how life coaching might foster positive personality trait development.

Recent publication

- Thomas, S., Larkin, T. & **Leeson, P.** (2015). The role of biological factors in social withdrawal and avoidance of treatment for major depressive disorder: A path analysis. *Psychoneuroendocrinology*, 61, 62-62.



Dr Christopher Magee

Dr Christopher Magee's primary area of research is in health psychology, with specific interests in the following two areas: (1) understanding the influence of poor sleep quality on well-being; and, (2) investigating how factors such as sleep, work-life balance and workplace bullying affect employee outcomes (e.g., work engagement and absenteeism).

He is also interested in the determinants and consequences of health behaviours more broadly (e.g., condom use, alcohol), and the well-being of vulnerable populations. He holds a number of grants and consultancies, and has a keen interest in the translation of research findings into policy and practice.

In addition, Christopher has a keen interest in quantitative methods and his research involves the use of contemporary statistical modelling approaches for longitudinal data such as lagged panel mediation models and mixture modelling.

Recent publication

- **Magee, C. A.,** Lee, J. & Vella, S. A. (2014). Bidirectional relationships between sleep duration and screen time in early childhood. *JAMA Pediatrics*, 168(5), 465-470.



Associate Professor Lynne Magor-Blatch

Associate Professor Lynne Magor-Blatch has a Ph.D in Public Health and Community Medicine from the University of New South Wales where she completed a large scale research project that assessed the effectiveness of a specialist intervention for use with clients with Amphetamine-type Stimulant (ATS) use disorders. The study showed that a new group intervention for amphetamine-type stimulants was more effective than the usual treatment programme in reducing substance use and criminal offending.

Lynne is a practicing psychologist with more than 38 years' experience in the alcohol and other drug (AOD) area. She has worked in non-government and government sectors as program director, policy officer and consultant, and within Mental Health as Secretariat Manager to the National Mental Health Working Group and the National Comorbidity Taskforce, in crisis counselling and intervention, child and adolescent mental health, and forensic services. She has also developed programs and interventions for families with substance use issues and for offenders in correctional settings.

Lynne's research interests include alcohol and drug use, prevention and early intervention and evaluation of mental health and substance use strategies. In addition, Lynne was inducted into the National Alcohol and Drug Honour Roll for significant contribution to the AOD sector over a considerable period of time. In 2016 Lynne will argue for a policy shift toward treatment and harm reduction for drug users at the United Nations General Assembly Special Sitting.

Recent publication

- **Magor-Blatch, L. E.,** & Ingham, L. (2015). Youth with mental illness: attitudes towards and therapeutic benefits of residential stepped care. *Community Mental Health Journal*, 51(3), 338-346.



Dr Leonie Miller

Dr Leonie Miller completed her Ph.D in cognitive psychology at the University of Wollongong in 2010 under the supervision of Associate Professor Steven Roodenrys. Her thesis, which was awarded with special commendation for outstanding thesis, explored the word frequency effect in short-term serial recall. Leonie joined the teaching team in the School of Psychology full-time in October 2012 and is currently leading the revalidation of the undergraduate psychology degree programme.

Leonie is interested in understanding the nature of the word frequency effect in short-term serial recall (an experimental paradigm used to examine short-term memory). Serial recall involves remembering lists of words. Her research has shown that the frequency effect is more complicated than first considered in the literature with the size and appearance of the effect altered by what items constitute the list and the order in which they appear. Leonie's research has also introduced a novel method of examining data in short-term memory.

Leonie's research has also tapped into personality and organisational psychology. Leonie was also part of an interdisciplinary investigation aimed at identifying psychosocial factors associated with good foster care and effective marketing strategies for fostering agencies.

Recent publication

- Mogensen, C., **Miller, L. M.** & Roodenrys, S. (2015). Not so fast! Talker variability in serial recall at standard presentation rates. *Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 69(1), 39-53.



Associate Professor Steven Roodenrys

Associate Professor Steven Roodenrys completed his Ph.D on repetition and retrieval effects in implicit and explicit memory at the University of New South Wales in 1991. Steve joined the University of Wollongong in 1994 and was Head of the School of Psychology from 2010 to 2014. Steve is a cognitive psychologist whose research is mostly within the area of memory.

Steve has been researching short-term and working memory for over 20 years, examining this cognitive function in diverse populations including adults, normally developing children, and children with developmental disorders of cognition such as dyslexia and Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Steven also has interests in research on improving cognitive function or maintaining cognitive function into old age, and has been engaged in studies on the effects of dietary supplementation on cognition in younger and older adults, and the effects of training cognitive functions in children with ADHD.

In addition, Steve's current programme of research is targeted toward understanding the connection between short-term and long-term memory, understanding the development of mindfulness in childhood, and exploring how mindfulness relates to inhibition and effortful control.

Recent Publication

- Mogensen, C., Miller, L. M. & **Roodenrys, S.** (2015). Not so fast! Talker variability in serial recall at standard presentation rates. *Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 69(1), 39-53.



Dr David Camfield

David Camfield received his PhD in cognitive neuroscience from Swinburne University (Melbourne) in 2009 before completing his first postdoctoral Fellowship at the Centre for Human Psychopharmacology (Swinburne). Since 2013 he has been employed by the University of Wollongong as a Vice Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellow, working with Senior Prof Rodney Croft on the depression biomarker research program.

Dr David Camfield and Prof Rodney Croft are conducting a 3-year research program within the School of Psychology at the University of Wollongong, in association with IHMRI and the Centre for Health Initiatives. The aim of the project is develop a set of computerized tests, combined with electrophysiological (EEG) recording, which can clearly differentiate individuals with depression, from those who are healthy. The desired outcome is a set of validated tests which can be adopted by health care professionals in order to accurately assess depression severity and be of guidance in treatment selection.

What sets this research program apart from the majority of previous studies in the field is that the battery of tests is being administered to each patient, across two 3-hour sessions. In this way, a full picture of their brain function both during the acute stage of the illness, as well as during recovery, can be accurately determined.

Recent publication

- Wong, W. P., **Camfield, D. A.**, Woods, W., Sarris, J. & Pipingas, A. (2015). Spectral power and functional connectivity changes during mindfulness meditation with eyes open: a magnetoencephalography (MEG) study in long-term meditators. *International Journal of Psychophysiology*, 98 (1), 95-111.



Dr Sarah Loughran

Dr Sarah Loughran received her BSc in physiology and psychology from Deakin University before completing a PhD in cognitive neuroscience/psychophysiology at Swinburne University of Technology, investigating the effects of electromagnetic fields (EMF) on human sleep, the electroencephalogram (EEG), and melatonin. Sarah joined the School of Psychology in 2013, and is currently a researcher in two NHMRC Centres of Research Excellence: the "Australian Centre for Electromagnetic Bioeffects Research" (ACEBR) and "Population Health Research on Electromagnetic Energy" (PRESEE). Her current research focuses on a wide range of bioelectromagnetic health issues including the effects on sleep, human brain function, and the mechanisms associated with these effects, as well as sleep and cognitive neuroscience research more generally. She is also currently leading a world-first investigation into possible effects of RF EMF exposure on sleep and brain activity in children. Additionally, Sarah has recently established the first sleep research laboratory at UOW, with many sleep and neurophysiology studies currently underway or near completion.

Sarah is a recognised world leader in bioelectromagnetics research, is currently an invited member of the World Health Organisation's RF Environmental Health Criterion evaluation committee, as well as an invited member of the scientific expert group at the International Commission for Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection.

Recent publication

- **Loughran, S. P.**, McKenzie, R. J., Jackson, M. L., Howard, M. E. & Croft, R. J. (2012). Individual differences in the effects of mobile phone exposure on human sleep: rethinking the problem. *Bioelectromagnetics*, 33 (1), 86-93

School of Psychology

HDR Students

Gamze Abramov	Identity disturbance in borderline personality disorder - Patient narratives and clinician perspectives
Jonathan Allan	The Relationship Between Subjective Wellbeing and Personality
Megan Andrews	Business Analytics and Managerial Decision-Making
Elly Bailey	The Relationship between Interpersonal Problems and Experiential Avoidance in a Carer Population
Lidija Balaz	Implementing the “Understanding Our Peers” program in a preschool environment
Dana Bassett	Does Biofeedback Enhance Treatment Outcome for Online CBT with GAD
Camilla Beale	Exploring brain function in people who have adverse experiences with cannabis
Fiona Calvert	An Examination Of The Effect Of Reflective Dialogue Within The Supervisory Relationship To Enhance Supervisory And Clinical Outcomes
Nicole Carrigan	Subjective cognitive competence in everyday life
Haider Catan	The effect of Arabic Linguistic features on verbal short-term memory
Anna Cavanagh	Men and Depression: Help Seeking Behaviour
Esther Davis	Acceptance amongst palliative care patients and family members regarding illness and end of life.
Kristy Dawson	The Influence of Attitudes, Stigma, and Perceived Function on Students’ Help-Seeking Intentions for Others’ Deliberate Self Harm
Frances De Blasio	Prestimulus brain state affects event-related potential indices of cognitive processing
Saskia de Leede-Smith	Evidence for presence of neurological soft signs and language processing abnormalities across the psychosis continuum
Ian Evans	The Psychological Effects of Magnetic Fields on Occupationally-Exposed Individuals
Lauren Gardner	Reducing Drop-Out Rates From Youth Sports: The Role Of Implicit Beliefs
Lisa-Marie Greenwood	What does the altered Mismatch negativity in Schizophrenia represent?
David Hammer	Self-Regulation in Early Childhood: Antecedents and Consequences
Melinda Hickey	Neurocognitive training for adults with traumatic brain injury
Tara Hunt	Factors Impacting The Professional Performance Of Telephone Crisis Supporters
Diarmuid Hurley	A Sports-Based Family Intervention to Promote Mental Health among Adolescent males
Diana Karamacoska	Preparatory EEG Activity in relation to performance outcomes
Carol Keane	Trauma and Substance Misuse

Douglas Kerr	Multiple Selves, Multiple Stories
Taneile Kitchingman	Help-negation among telephone crisis support workers: factors impacting wellbeing and performance
Brett MacDonald	ERPs in the context of the orienting reflex
Matthew Macfarlane	Basal Ganglia Size and Shape in Cannabis Use and Schizophrenia
Carol Manns	Predicting and Responding to Medication Non-adherence in Psychiatric Populations
Ely Marceau	Neuropsychological deficits in substance abusing residential rehabilitation patients
Breanna McGaffin	A longitudinal investigation of complete mental health during recovery from drug and alcohol problems
Simone Mohi	Values Amongst Individuals Being Treated for Borderline Personality Disorder
Karumathil Murali	The relationship between cognitive function and treatment adherence in patients with chronic kidney disease-potential causes, impact on outcomes and trial of improvement strategies
Fiona Ng	Models of recovery oriented care for borderline personality disorder
Briony Osborne	Trauma, Attachment Relationships and Parenting Self-Efficacy in Male Caregivers Receiving Substance Abuse Treatment - A Randomised Controlled Trial
Bradley Parkinson	Psychological barriers to participation in higher education
Judith Pickard	The exploration of cross generational factors influencing attachment factors in early development
Karin Sandquist	Understanding Complex & Chronic Self Critical Depression
Krystal Sattler	Do Stigma, Emotional Eating and Motivation to Exercise Predict Weight Loss and Physical Activity in People Who Are Overweight?
Kerry Searle	“Breaking Down the Barriers”: Using Drama to Engage Young People in Mental Health Promotion and Prevention- A quantitative and qualitative research trial
Harriet Taylor	Distorted images of HV4: Disturbing the order in human visual cortex
Marianne Torres	Trauma, Attachment Relationships and parenting Self-Efficacy in Male Caregivers Receiving Substance Abuse Treatment
Brie Turner	Cognitive Factors Involved in Help Negation Following Suicidal Ideation
Louise Turner	Predictors of wellbeing and psychopathology in an ageing population: The effects of age and illness self-perceptions
Adam Verrender	The Determinants of Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity
Emma Walter	Schizotypy, Stress and Cognition
Angeline Wilson	Personality, Self Control, Anger and situation perceptions as predictions of counter productive work behaviours
Dawei Zhang	Examining resting EEG features and applying non-pharmacologic interventions among Chinese children with AD/HD
Leah Zozak	Occupational Health Psychology

HDR Completions 2015

Doctor of Psychology	Danielle Ruth Clifford	<i>Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome: Perceived treatment needs and social support</i>
Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology)	Claire Rowsell	<i>Exploring the link between emotional awareness and social functioning during adolescence</i>

School of Psychology 2015 Publications

- Allen, M. S., & Vella, S. A. (2015). Screen-based sedentary behaviour and psychosocial well-being in childhood: cross-sectional and longitudinal associations. *Mental Health and Physical Activity, 9*, 41-47.
- Allen, M. S., & Vella, S. A. (2015). Longitudinal determinants of walking, moderate, and vigorous physical activity in Australian adults. *Preventive Medicine, 78*, 101-104.
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