The Hon. Victor Dominello MP
Minister for Citizenship and Communities
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
Minister Dominello is the Minister for Citizenship and Communities and the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. He is a law graduate and practiced for 14 years both in the Supreme Court of New South Wales and the High Court of Australia.

In 1995, at the age of 28, Minister Dominello was elected as a Councillor of Ryde City Council. In the 2008 by-election he won the NSW seat of Ryde with one of the largest swings in NSW history.

Professor Gail Whiteford
Pro Vice Chancellor (Social Inclusion), Macquarie University
Professor Gail Whiteford is responsible for Equity and Diversity as well as Indigenous strategy and outreach programs in rural, Indigenous, refugee and disadvantaged communities. She also oversees international development projects, was invited to facilitate EU programs in Bulgaria and Turkey, and has given keynote and invited presentations in 13 countries. She was honored with a Canadian professional award for outstanding international contribution, and last year received a national award for her contribution to social cohesion.

Gail’s recent initiatives include the development of the Building Inclusive Communities Awards in conjunction with the Ethnic Communities Council of Australia, as well as a mentoring program for refugee and CALD students with SBS. She has numerous publications to her credit and her new book Society, Participation and Inclusion was launched by the Minister for Social Inclusion in 2012. Gail is currently the Chair of Bridges to Higher Education, a $22 million, five university consortium, and is also Co-Convenor of Universities Australia Executive Women Forum.

Associate Professor Sherman Young
Associate Dean of Learning and Teaching, Faculty of Arts, Macquarie University
Associate Professor Young has previously worked as a new media designer and producer and has an MA (Media, Communications and Law) from Macquarie University and a BSc in Design Studies from UNSW. He has a PhD from The University of Queensland on the topic of internet content regulation, working closely with the Key Centre for Media and Cultural Policy and the Australian Broadcasting Authority.

Sherman’s research interests cover internet studies, new media technologies, media convergence, media policy, copyright, video games, e-books, publishing studies and digital cultures. His focus is on the social, cultural and political impact of the new media technologies, and the effect of those technologies on existing media industries and infrastructures.

Dean Groom
Manager of Educational Development, Faculty of Arts and Social Science, University of New South Wales
Dean Groom is the Manager of Educational Development in the Faculty of Arts and Social Science at University of New South Wales, and oversees strategic and operational aspects of online learning from Moodle to Coursera. Dean has been involved in developing online communities and audiences for over 15 years. In 2011 he co-founded Massively Minecraft, a community where teachers, parents and children can learn and promote digital citizenship and social inclusion. The community has since grown to thousands of players from around the world. It aims to build agency and cultural literacy in children and adults, and was widely received as a transformational model.

Dean has written on the topic of games, virtual communities and education for ACER Press, ABC Television and the DET. He is now undertaking a doctorate at Macquarie University and is investigating family negotiations of next-generation games and media consoles as cultural objects.
Meeting Local Needs

Professor Richie Howitt
Professor of Human Geography, Department of Environment and Geography, Macquarie University

Richie Howitt is currently director of Macquarie’s innovative Macquarie-Ryde Futures Partnership with Ryde City Council. His research is concerned with the interplay across scales of social and environmental justice, particularly in relation to Indigenous rights and well-being in local communities of diversity. He advocates deep integration of social, environmental and economic dimensions of justice into local governance systems.

Richie’s current research includes work on the engagement of the not-for-profit sector with Indigenous welfare and community development (ARC Linkage Project with Australian Red Cross), the implications of social, economic and environmental change in rural NSW for Aboriginal communities (ARC Discovery Project) and enhancing relationships between universities and local communities.

Professor Michael Cuthill
Chair, Regional Community Development, University of Southern Queensland

Professor Michael Cuthill is the Chair of Regional Community Development at the University of Southern Queensland. Prior to this he was Director of the UQ Boilerhouse Community Engagement Centre, at the University of Queensland. He has also worked in local government as head of Social Policy and Research at the Gold Coast City Council, serving a resident population of 500,000 people.

Michael has published extensively on topics such as community capacity building, social sustainability, community engaged research, and social resilience. His work has been recognised through recent invitations to speak at the United Nations 7th Global Forum on Re-Inventing Democracy in Vienna, and as a keynote presenter at both the International Nations 7th Global Forum on Re-Inventing Democracy and the University Civic Engagement Conference in Dublin and the University Community Engagement Conference in Chiang Mai, Thailand. He is Vice-President of the Asia Pacific University Community Engagement Network, and was the University of Queensland delegate to the Australian University Community Engagement Alliance for six years.

Professor Hilary Winchester
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and Research), Central Queensland University

Professor Hilary Winchester is Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and Research) at Central Queensland University. She holds undergraduate and postgraduate degrees from the University of Oxford and has a background in social geography, with an emphasis on migrant and marginal groups.

Hilary has held roles as Pro Vice Chancellor: Strategy and Planning at the University of South Australia, Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic) at Flinders, and President of Academic Senate at the University of Newcastle. She was an AUQA auditor for ten years and has also been a panel member for the Australian Research Council and an assessor for the Australian Learning and Teaching Council. From 2010, Hilary ran her own company, specialising in audit, review, registration and quality assurance processes. In 2011 she was the recipient of the Australian Higher Education Quality Award. She is the author of numerous articles relating to quality assurance and has presented papers and workshops at international conferences, including INQAAHE in 2009 and 2011.

The ACHRC Centres Project

Associate Professor Robert Phiddian
Deputy Dean, School of Humanities, Flinders University

Robert Phiddian is Deputy Dean of the School of Humanities and Associate Professor in English at Flinders University. He researches political satire, both in 18th century literature and current Australian political cartoons (with Haydon Manning). He is Chair of the Adelaide Festival of Ideas, a board member of the Australian Book Review, and Director of the Australasian Consortium of Humanities Research Centres (ACHRC).

The University Community – a learning space

Associate Professor Kenn Fisher
Learning Environments, Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning, University of Melbourne

Associate Professor Kenn Fisher is a consultant for the OECD, and previously held the post of Head of the Program on Educational Building in Paris. He has worked in Australia, Asia, the Middle East and Europe and is multi-skilled in a range of disciplines, having practiced as a teacher and academic, a strategic facility and campus planner, a project, facility and design manager and also as a structural engineer.
Through his specialist practice in educational planning, Kenn acts as the prime interface between designers, researchers and teachers to co-create learning environments for new and emerging teaching, learning and research paradigms. He has been engaged by more than 30 universities in Australia and overseas, over a dozen vocational training and community college clients, as well as international, state and national Government Ministries of Education, school organisations and government and corporate entities.

**Associate Professor Robert Ellis**  
Director, eLearning & Learning Space, University of Sydney

Associate Professor Robert Ellis is the Director of eLearning at the University of Sydney and oversees the University’s strategic direction in the integration of physical and virtual learning space. He has been Chief Investigator on a number of ARC Projects into university learning and teaching since 2005.

Robert’s 2010 Routledge book *Student experiences of e-learning in Higher Education* with Peter Goodyear offers insight into student approaches to higher education when technologies support learning over physical and virtual learning space.

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**The NZ Perspective**

**Associate Professor Paul Warren**  
Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research) Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Victoria University of Wellington

Associate Professor Paul Warren is the Associate Dean (Postgraduate Research) in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. His main research interests are in psycholinguistics and experimental phonetics. He has been involved in extensive research in spoken word recognition, with a particular focus on the interpretation of acoustic-phonetic cues and of naturally-occurring variation resulting from coarticulation and discourse-level factors such as informational status.

Paul also has a long-standing interest in the relationship of intonation and sentence comprehension, an area which is the subject of his doctoral dissertation as well as of many recent articles and his edited volume *Prosody and Parsing* (1996, Erlbaum).

**Dr Daniel Hikuroa**  
Research Director of Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, National Centre of Research Excellence

Dr Daniel (Dan) Hikuroa is an established Earth System Scientist and world expert on integrating indigenous knowledge and science. He was recently a national committee member of the Sustainability Society of NZ (IPENZ) as well as the Auckland representative at the Geoscience Society of New Zealand.

Dan was previously the Community Earth Systems Science Programmes Manager at the Institute of Earth Science & Engineering, University of Auckland. After leading a deep field geology mapping expedition for the British Antarctic Survey for his PhD, he then completed a post-doctoral fellowship investigating how the world’s oceans and biota responded to naturally driven climate change in the ancient past. Increasingly drawn to his Maori roots, Dan then went on to explore the interface between mātauranga māori and science. He has since undertaken many projects including geothermal developments, hazard and vulnerability assessment and industrial waste site rehabilitation.

**Associate Professor Rawinia Higgins**  
Principal Investigator, Te Kawa a Māui, Victoria University of Wellington

Associate Professor Rawinia Higgins (Ngāi Tūhoe) works at Te Kawa a Māui, School of Māori Studies at Victoria University in Wellington. She is co-principal Investigator of Te Kura Roa, a three-year Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga funded Pae Tawhiti Initiative that examines the value of the Māori language within modern academic discourse. This research program examines both state and community responsiveness to Māori language revitalisation efforts in Aotearoa New Zealand. Rawinia leads the community project in collaboration with Te Ataarangi and Te Kōhanga Reo.

Rawinia studied at Victoria University and completed her postgraduate degrees at the University of Otago. Her MA thesis was written in te reo Māori and examined the relationship between grandparents and grandchildren, and her PhD thesis examined the identity politics of *moko kauae*. Her research is entrenched in the discipline of Māori Studies, with a particular focus on language and culture.

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**Conference Dinner Speaker**

**Mr Paul Vittles**  
Chairman, RSA Australia + New Zealand

Mr Paul Vittles has a unique set of skills and experience which includes 17 years in director-level leadership roles, 8 years as a CEO, and 14 years practicing as an executive coach. Paul is also a Fellow of the UK Market Research Society. As both a professional researcher and consultant he has spent 25 years studying leadership, visioning, strategy development, and what makes individuals, teams and organisations successful.

Paul was also awarded Fellowship of the RSA (Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce) in 1996 in recognition of his groundbreaking work in the field of community development and regeneration. Paul is currently Chairman of the RSA in Australia and New Zealand.
Universities and Refugees

Professor John Simons
Executive Dean, Faculty of Arts, Macquarie University

Professor John Simons is Executive Dean of Arts at Macquarie University. He has previously worked at the Universities of Wales, Exeter, Winchester, Edge Hill and Lincoln in the UK, and has held various visiting professorships and fellowships in the USA, where he is also an alumnus of the State Department’s International Visitor Program. In the 1990s he worked extensively in Eastern Europe on projects to build universities after the fall of communism.

John is a Fellow of the RSA, the Higher Education Academy, the Zoological Society of London and the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics. He is President of CHASS, an Executive Board member of DASSH, member of the Academic Council of the International League of Higher Education in Media and Communication, and an advisory council member of the charity Voiceless.

Universities, Communities and Languages

Professor Martina Möllering
Head, Department of International Studies, Faculty of Arts, Macquarie University

Professor Martina Möllering is Head of the Department of International Studies and Professor of European Languages at Macquarie University. Her research spans work on Language Studies and Linguistics with a particular focus on the learning and teaching of second languages. Her work on corpus-based approaches to language teaching and computer-mediated communication in second language acquisition have made Professor Möllering an expert in this field, with peer recognition on the national as well as international level. Her current work on language in the context of migration has an international and interdisciplinary approach and addresses issues of language policy in Australia and abroad.

Professor Jane Simpson
Chair of Indigenous Linguistics, Head of School of Language Studies, ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences

Professor Jane Simpson is Head of the School of Language Studies at ANU. In this role she has been working on online learning of languages and the needs of Australia for comprehensive cross-institutional approach for sharing language teaching resources. She has written on bilingual education in Aboriginal Australia, and with Gillian Wigglesworth she embarked on the Aboriginal Child Language Acquisition project, a major longitudinal study of Aboriginal children in remote communities. This led to research on NAPLAN results for Indigenous children, and on language testing for Indigenous languages.

In 1986-1988 Jane worked with David Nash at the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, setting up a digital archive of Aboriginal language material. More recently she helped set up PARADISEC, a digital archive of sound recordings of languages of the Asia-Pacific region, and Living Archive of Aboriginal languages, a project for digitising and making accessible the vernacular literature in Aboriginal languages.

Associate Professor Angela Scarino
Director, Research Centre for Languages and Cultures, University of South Australia

Associate Professor Angela Scarino is the Director of the Research Centre for Languages and Cultures at the University of South Australia. She researches and publishes in the areas of languages education, language and culture in education and language assessment. Her experience includes national work in Australia, as well as in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and New Zealand. She has recently led a number of research projects focused on intercultural language learning and on assessment of student achievements in learning languages.

Angela is currently the lead writer of the Shape paper for Languages in the Australian Curriculum. She has served as the President of the Applied Linguistics Association of Australia and the President of the Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations.

Students in the Community – the PACE experiment

Dr Kate Lloyd
Academic Director, Professional and Community Engagement (PACE), Faculty of Arts, Macquarie University

Dr Kate Lloyd is a geographer specialising in tourism-as-development and critical development geography, and has expertise in cross-cultural research in Australia and Asia. Her research has a number of interconnected themes: tourism as development, geographies of transition, and innovative Indigenous-Academic research collaborations. Her research focuses on socio-economic and political changes taking place in the region, and uses international tourism as a lens to investigate state and societal responses to globalisation and as a tool for poverty alleviation and development.

Kate is currently working with Indigenous communities and government departments in North East Arnhem Land to explore opportunities that tourism can offer in seeking self-determination. This research has focused on achieving policy impact through collaborative documentation of Indigenous knowledge and perspectives. She also has research and teaching expertise and interest in the area of experiential learning, and has developed international collaborations leading to research and publications in the areas of field based learning, on-line role plays, ethical practice in work integrated and service learning and changing research environments and challenges to researchers in the field.