Issue Nine – December 2014

From the Associate Dean Research

As the academic year winds down and Christmas fast approaches, we can pause and reflect on the past year. There have been challenges and constraints aplenty, as usual, with a tightening of public funding opportunities uppermost and no slackening of the pressures on all of us in terms of securing research grants, publishing the results, supervising higher degree students, and discharging a myriad of service commitments, not to mention teaching.

Through all of this several achievements shine through including securing over $1.3 million external research funding from the Australian Research Council, the CRC for Low Carbon Living, the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute and other funding bodies. There have been 11 authored or edited books and AHURI reports, holding our own from 2013 in terms of the broad spectrum of HERDC publications, and the highest number of research student completions (PhD, MPhil and MRes) in recent years. The Research Clusters have had a productive year in both their actual outputs and in laying the ground for future outcomes. The City Futures Research Centre has remained at the forefront of housing and socio-demographic research in Sydney and indeed nationally.

The research culture of the faculty has been enlivened by a series of seminars, symposia and workshops, over 20 in total. The seminars, organised by City Futures on behalf of the faculty, have featured speakers from all over the globe, including Chile, Hong Kong, US, UK, New Zealand and the United Arab Emirates.

Several staff members have picked up various professional awards. And at the Faculty's end-of-year review on 18 December we will announce the winners of this year's awards for research excellence. Please come along to acknowledge the achievements of our colleagues.

Rob Freestone
Associate Dean Research

Research Highlights

Sydney Architecture Festival Features BE Lecturers

Dr Ainslie Murray and Dr Paola Favaro took part in the symposium and exhibition ‘Expanded Architecture’ as part of the Sydney Architecture Festival in November.

Located in Australia Square, the exhibition artworks were selected by a panel including Penelope Seidler, UNSW Built Environment alumnus Dr Caroline Butler-Bowden (Sydney Living Museums), international curator Vladimir Belogolovsky and Dr Lian Loke.

Full story.
ARC Discovery Grant Success for Built Environment Researchers

Congratulations to four BE staff who were successful in securing ARC Discovery Grants in the latest round. Hal Pawson and Bill Randolph have been awarded $280,275 for an investigation into the drivers and consequences of growing private rental investment in Australia's major cities, especially in disadvantaged areas. The second project, also in FOR1205, was awarded to Gethin Davison and Rob Freestone, with Richard Hu from the University of Canberra. They will be using their funding of $184,582 to examine the interplay between the changing economic structure and urban design of the Sydney CBD.

New Book Published – (Sub)Urban Sexscapes

Christine Steinmetz and Paul Maginn (University of Western Australia) have co-edited a book, (Sub)Urban Sexscapes, which was published by Routledge in October.

It brings together case studies highlighting contemporary and historical geographies as well as regulation of the commercial sex industry and sexualities. Contributors to the book examine the mainstreaming of commercial sex premises (sex shops, brothels and strip clubs and queer spaces) and products (sex toys, erotic literature and pornography) as commonplace in night-time economy spaces, main streets, suburban shopping centres and the home.

More information.

Professorial Promotion to Susan Thompson

Congratulations to Susan Thompson who has been promoted to Professor in the latest round of university promotions.

In addition to her teaching achievements, Susan's research on the interrelationships between urban planning and health was recognised by the UNSW Professorial Promotions Committee for its social impact and influence on policy development.

Her success also represents a significant milestone for the faculty being the first full-time female academic professorial appointment.

Planning Institute Australia Award to City Futures Research Centre

Leichhardt Council and City Futures Research Centre have been jointly awarded the NSW Planning Institute Australia Award for research and scholarship for a report aimed at improving access for older residents and people with disability in their homes.

The report “Home Modifications in Strata Properties”, authored by Hazel Easthope and Ryan van den Nouwelant, was awarded in the category of cutting edge research and teaching. More information.
Success in the Latest MREII Grants Round

Congratulations to Paul Osmond who has been awarded funding in the latest round of the university’s Major Research Equipment and Infrastructure Initiative. Paul secured $109,942 for the purchase of equipment to support field research in high performance architecture and informatics at building, landscape/site and precinct scale.

In supporting the application, ADR Rob Freestone noted that the grant will not only significantly extend the analytical possibilities of three current major research projects but also helps provide a foundation for the Faculty’s movement toward augmenting research capacity in the evaluation of high performance architecture and urban analytics.

Meet the Researchers – Martin Loosemore

Martin Loosemore is Professor of Construction Management. He is also a Visiting Professor at the University of Loughborough in the UK and the University of Hawaii, USA. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Building.

Martin has successfully managed five ARC grants and received over $5million of competitive research income in the last 10 years. He has published 6 books and 200 internationally refereed articles in the areas of innovation, risk management, human resource management, strategy and corporate social responsibility. His work has received numerous international awards and he serves on many international advisory committees and editorial boards of leading internationally refereed journals.

In 2003 Martin was appointed advisor on international workplace productivity and reform to the Australian Federal Government’s 2003 Royal Commission into the Building and Construction Industry. He was subsequently invited to provide evidence to the 2004 Federal Senate inquiry into the Building and Construction Industry Bill and the 2009 Federal Senate inquiry in to Building and Construction Industry Improvement Amendment (Transition to Fair Work) Bill 2009.

In 2009 he was appointed as a founding member of the Federal Built Environment Industry Innovation Council (BEIIC) and served for its entire two-term duration. The BEIIC advised the Federal Minister for Innovation, Industry Science and Research on innovation policy in areas like climate change, sustainability and industry competitiveness as well as issues such as regulatory reform, workforce capability, skills needs, access to new technologies and other priorities for the industry.

In 2014 Martin contributed significantly to 2014 Productivity Commission Inquiry report into Infrastructure and has written in various leading media outlets including the Australian Financial Review, Sydney Morning Herald, and The Australian.

BE Research in the News

Hal Pawson: Western Sydney’s overheated housing market, SBS World News, 15 November 2014. View video
Bill Randolph: Rent rises of up to 125% are the dark side of the housing boom, The Sydney Morning Herald, 14 November 2014. View article.
News from the Centres

City Futures Research Centre

City Futures and the faculty were heavily represented at the recent invitation-only three day summit held by UrbanGrowth NSW at the Australian Technology Park in Redfern, on the redevelopment of the Bays Precinct on Sydney’s harbourside. This redevelopment scheme will involve 94 hectares of old dockside waterfront land, mostly owned by the NSW Government. The summit brought together a stellar cast of national and international experts and practitioners from a range of global cites where comparable major dockside redevelopment has been implemented over the last decade or so.

Prof Alec Tzannes, Dean, took part as a discussant on one of the panels which looked at the White Bay area. Other senior staff from City Futures who attended the invitation-only event included Adjunct Prof Geoff Roberts, who hosted a panel discussion on governance structures, Prof Bill Randolph, Assoc Prof Simon Pinnegar and Adjunct Prof Jane Marceau (who also represented the local Rozelle community).

The three days provided a substantial opportunity to learn from leading urban renewal programs around the world on how these projects can be successfully implemented. The discussion ranged widely including financing mechanisms, community engagement, public investment, urban design and governance arrangements. The outcomes will no doubt influence ongoing discussions between City Futures and UrbanGrowth NSW on future research opportunities.

The Enabling Built Environments Program was awarded the best paper award at the closing ceremony of the International Association for Universal Design (IAUD) conference in Japan. The award was decided by the international judging committee on the basis of methodology and relevance to consumers and industry. The certificate was presided over by Her Imperial Highness Princess Yōko of Mikasa.

Pictured presenting the award to Associate Professor Catherine Bridge (centre) are Valerie Fletcher, the CEO of the Institute for Human-Centered Design (IHCD) and the Scientific Committee Chair, and Satoshi Kose, Professor of Architecture at the Graduate School of Design, Shizuoka University of Art and Culture.

The Healthy Built Environments Program (HBEP) has received a glowing report card from its major funder the NSW Ministry of Health. In highly commending HBEP’s advancement of understanding the importance of healthy built environments in Australia and internationally, the evaluation highlighted the impact of its work on planning legislation, policy and practice.

Read the full report, or read more in the City Futures Research Centre’s Newsletter.

Given this exemplary evaluation, HBEP will be in a strong positon to apply for further funding when it becomes available.
Upcoming BE Events

BE Discovery/DECRA Workshop
Thursday 11 December 2014, 10.00am – 1.00pm (lunch provided), Room 2046, Red Centre.

Join colleagues to hear project proposals from intending BE applicants in the next ARC Discovery and DECRA rounds. This workshop series provides an opportunity to hear about proposed research in the faculty, provide feedback on proposals and find out what is involved with putting together an ARC grant application.

RSVP

BE Research Seminar
Selling the Family Silver? Housing associations, institutional logics and the hidden privatisation of the social rented sector in England.
Dr Nicky Morrison, University of Cambridge, UK
Thursday 11 December 2014, 12.00pm (lunch provided), Room 151 Old Main Building

This presentation sheds light on the contesting commercial and social motivations underlying London housing associations’ strategies to either sell or retain valuable property assets.  More …

RSVP

Reminders

HERDC Return – Time to Record and Check Your 2014 Publications

The annual checking process of publications for the Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC) return has begun. The return includes research income and publications information and impacts the annual funding we receive for research activities.

If you haven’t already done so, now is the time to log into ROS and check your 2014 publications. There are four important tasks to cover off:

- Check for any “Pending” publications and claim or reject them as appropriate.
- Look at your 2014 publications list and make sure it’s complete. If it isn’t, add any relevant publications and nominate them for HERDC consideration.
- Go to “HERDC” >> “My Nominations” and check if any of your nominated publications require further information.
- Also in “HERDC” >> “My Nominations”, check for any publications that say not nominated and nominate them if they are eligible for HERDC.

More information on the HERDC return, including the criteria for nominating a publication for the HERDC collection, can be found on the faculty’s research intranet.

If you have any questions regarding ROS contact Amy Barker, our outreach librarian, or faculty research manager, Toni Hodge.
Did You Know…

…Google Scholar has changed its referencing of UNSW holdings
The way Google Scholar references UNSW holdings has changed and you will need to reset your Google Scholar settings in order to continue to have ‘Find it @UNSW’ appear on results pages. To do this go to the front page of Google Scholar, click on ‘settings’ at the top of the screen then click ‘library links’ on the left and side of that screen. Finally, enter University of New South Wales in the search box and save it to your list of libraries.

…You can Update Your Own Profile on the Faculty Website?
If you’ve noticed that your staff profile on the faculty website is missing information or is out of date you can easily go in and update it. Instructions are available on the IT Information page on the faculty intranet.

Other University Events

Early Career Academic Network (ECAN) – New Executive Committee Member and Christmas Party
ECAN have recently announced Ilan Vizel as one of its two new Executive Committee members for 2015. Please contact Ilan if you would like more information about the network and its planned activities in 2015.

ECAN are having a Christmas party to celebrate 2014. It is a chance to meet colleagues, enjoy a bit of music and start the festive season off in good company. Please come and join in the celebration!

The invitation will be directed to your staff email and is sent to all academic staff early in their academic career and/or within seven years post PhD. If you have not received an invitation and you are an ECA please provide your email to ecrboard@unsw.edu.au to be included in the ECAN mailing list and an invitation to the event will be directed to you.

HDR News

News and Announcements
PhD candidate, Marini Samaratunga, won the Student Poster Prize in the CRC for Low Carbon Living Forum 2014 for her poster presentation “Validating and Improving the BASIX Energy Assessment Tool for Low-Carbon Dwellings”.

Graduating Students
Congratulations to the following HDR candidates who have recently completed their degrees. These students all graduated PhD in the November Ceremony (supervisors in brackets):

- Mohammad Kotbi (Steve King and Deo Prasad)
- Sandra Loschke (Harry Margalit and Catherine De Lorenzo)
- Yuning Ou (Deo Prasad and Steve King)
- Syafiq Salehudin (Deo Prasad and Paul Osmond)
- Jiawen Han (Harry Margalit and Xing Ruan)
- Matthias Irger (Alan Peters and Paul Osmond)
- John Gamble (Peter Kohane, James Weirick and Harry Margalit)
Pictured attending graduation (from L to R) are: Judith O’Callaghan and Suzie Scandurra with graduates Jiawen Han, Sandra Loschke, Yuning Ou and Matthias Irger.

We wish them well in their future research endeavours.

**Events - PGRS 2014 Conference**

We held our End of Year Conference on Thursday 6th November, with a two part format.

The first part of the day was a morning workshop run by Sue Starfield from the Learning Centre (9:30am-12:30pm). Topics that were covered:-

- Writing for publication – getting feedback before submitting, the review process, responding to reviewers
- Barriers to writing/writer’s block and how to overcome

In the afternoon session students presented a Poster or Paper to other members of the cohort.

The day was a great success.

**The BE HDR Cohort Cultural Event! Everything food, fashion & culture!**

On Friday 21st November students held a party to celebrate the multicultural diversity of our HDR cohort. It was the very first cultural day event and it was a brilliant success. Students volunteered to present interesting facts and customs from their home countries. Others chose to cook and bring a dish in for everyone to try and some students came in national dress.

A big thank you to chief guests: Professor Alan Peters and Associate Professor Linda Corkery who spoke to the cohort about their own experiences travelling and studying abroad. Thank you also to our other special guests for taking time off their very busy schedules: Bruce Judd, Oya Demirbilek, Rodina Atme, Claudia Maroun, Toni Hodge, Kathy Argyropoulos and Simon Pinnegar who made an appearance with his beautiful son Patrick. Patrick had lots of fun stamping his fingerprints and toes on the cohort art work. Oya Demirbilek brought in some beautiful authentic Turkish Delight and coffee.

We will certainly be seeing more of these events popping up in the near future, stay tuned.

A big thank you to Anjalika Wijesurendra who co-ordinated this fabulous event.
HDRS End of Year Dinner

This year we were all off to Govinda's Restaurant in Darlinghurst on Friday evening 28 November for an authentic Hare Krishna Vegetarian Feast and then sat back to enjoy a private screening of “The 100 Foot Journey” and “The Lunch Box”. What a delightful surprise this place was, from the fantastic vegetarian buffet to the comfy bean bag lounges that we sat on to watch the movie. A great night was had by all, below are some photos from our “Great Night Out”.

Cohort Meeting

The last monthly cohort meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd December, 11:30am in 2046. We will start off the morning with a discussion and tie up any loose ends before we all break for the new year. After our meeting a lunch will be held for all HDR Students.

Research Training – Upcoming UNSW Events

ARC Discovery 2016 Information Session
Monday 8 December 2014; 10.00am – 12.00pm
This session will detail information on the ARC Discovery Grants 2016 round. Changes to the scheme and the culture of the scheme will be explained along with information on what presently applicants should concentrate on within applications. Tips will also be provided on the assessment process and how you can prepare for this in advance of submitting your application. This seminar is suitable for applicants that are new to ARC Discovery or potential applicants that want to understand what makes a successful contemporary ARC Discovery application.

More information and registration link.
ARC DECRA (Early Career Award) 2016 Information Session
Monday 8 December 2014; 1.00pm – 3.00pm
This session will detail information on the ARC DECRA Grants 2016 round. Changes to the scheme and the culture of the scheme will be explained along with information on what presently applicants should concentrate on within applications. Tips will also be provided on the assessment process and how you can prepare for this in advance of submitting your application. Any applicant that is considering submitting an ARC DECRA application for the 2016 round is encouraged to attend. A more detailed seminar on strategy within the actual application will be held late January early February.

More information and registration link.

New External Grants

Congratulations to the following faculty members who have recently been awarded research grants:

Hal Pawson
Sponsor/Grant: ARC Discovery Project
Value: $280,275
*The role of investor landlords in restructuring Australia’s major cities*

Robert Freestone
Sponsor/Grant: ARC Discovery Project
Value: $184,582
*Designing Global Sydney: The negotiation of public and private interests*

Bill Randolph
Sponsor/Grant: NSW Family and Community Services – Housing NSW/State Government Contract
Value: $16,000
*Rent and Sales Report – Supporting the production of the Sep 2014 issue*

Paul Osmond
Sponsor/Grant: UNSW Major research Equipment and Infrastructure Initiative (MREII)
Value: $109,942
*Items to support field research in high performance architecture and informatics at building, landscape/site and precinct scale*

Publications

The following 2014 research activities have been entered into ROS and published since the release of the last newsletter.

Books


Book Chapters


Journal Articles


Conference Papers


Other


Current Funding Opportunities

BUPA Health Foundation- Grants Program (EOI)
The Foundation is interested in funding innovative replicable interventions and projects that:

- Empower people to either prevent or better manage health conditions
- Empower people to use health education and engagement to tackle health risk factors and promote healthy lifestyle habits.

Grants range from $100,000 to $500,000 for up to three years. ...more

External Deadline: 15 December 2014

Ian Potter Foundation | 2015 Project Grants Round 1
Expressions of interest in Arts, Community Wellbeing, Education, Environment & Conservation, Health & Disability / Full Applications for Medical Research …more

External Deadline: 12 January 2015 (EOIs)

Society in Science (CH) | The Branco Weiss Fellowship
For candidates with unusual research project and a remarkable track record to secure financial support for up to five years, working at an academic institution of choice anywhere in the world …more

External Deadline: 15 January 2015
Related Links

BE Research Resources
UNSW Research