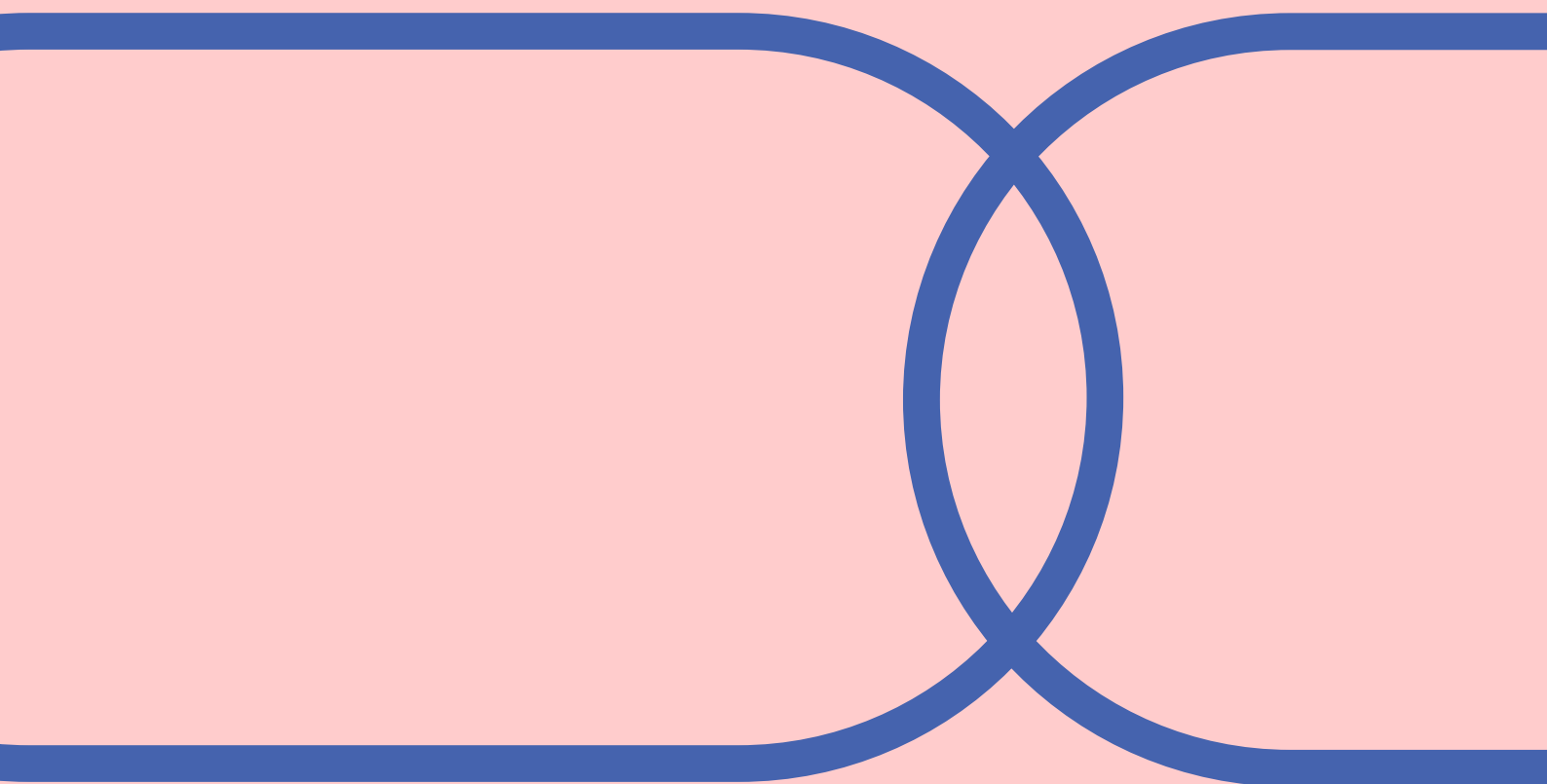


Design & Creative Practice

*Annual
Report 2018*



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Director's Report

2018 has been a busy and exciting year for building externally facing partnerships and collaboration — especially around digital health, technology and the community sector.

It began with the Engaging For Impact (EFI) 2018 conference in which we co-designed various workshops — including one with Telstra on the role of technology and Future of Care, another workshop on the social and creative dimensions of VR and AR with Oculus and yet another on One Good Death.

We have further fostered partnerships with key industry such as Telstra through a series of initiatives.

For example, we began what will be an annual initiative, a Design and Creative Practice Design Challenge. This year we collaborated with Telstra and RMIT Industry Engagement around the designing Digital Health solutions for Ageing Well.

We also launched the Impact Observatory — an online repository for all our CDF projects. The portal has two roles — one outward-facing to showcase all the fantastic research to industry, the other private-facing around collecting, curating and supporting research on its translational journey to impact. As we move towards the Engagement and Impact Agenda it is key for us to develop the support mechanisms for translational research.

We have begun development around designing for social futures through a series of initiatives internationally (in Japan and Spain). We collaborated with RMIT Europe around their Digital Health priority areas through a symposium and co-creative workshop. This collaboration fostered our new cross-platform (DCP, Social Change, and Biomedical and Health Innovation) partnership with the Melbourne Ageing Research Collaboration (MARC). In November we host a workshop with MARC on End of Life Care.

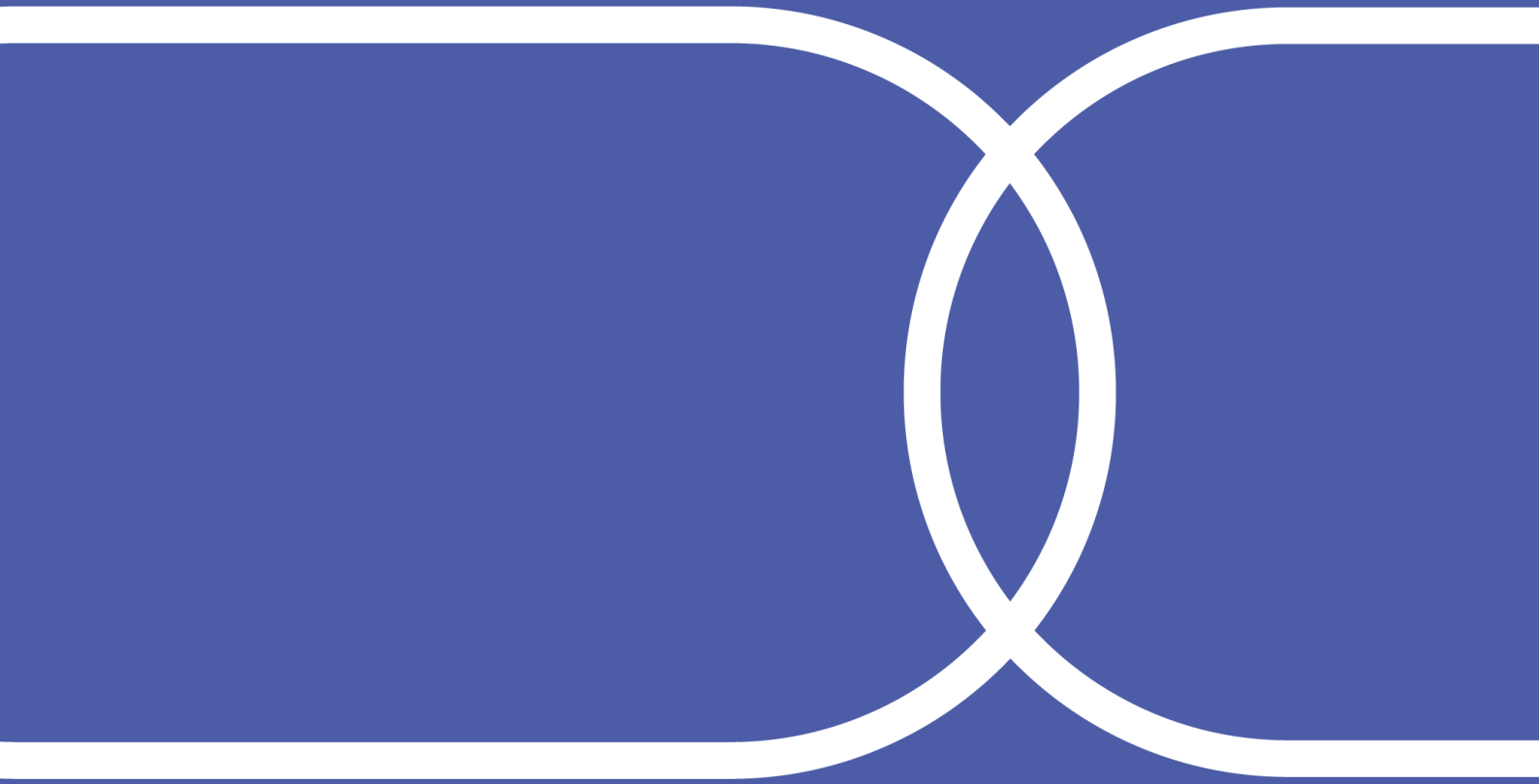
We also piloted a Distributed Leaders Group (DLG) as part of the collaborative ethos of the platform to ensure representation and agency across schools and disciplines. Our DLG consists of Dr Julienne van Loon, Prof Daniel Palmer, Dr Jaz Choi, Prof Esther Charlesworth and Prof Renata Kokanovic.

We thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration.

Larissa Hjorth
DCP director



Events





EVENTS

ENGAGING FOR IMPACT (EFI) 2018 13 – 15 FEBRUARY RMIT CITY CAMPUS



The over-arching objective of Engaging for Impact 2018 was 'Industry and Academia Co-Creating our Future'. EFI presentations provoked thinking amongst participants about both the 'future' as well as 'co-creation' pathways.

Along with Social Change and Biomedical and Health Innovation ECPs, the DCP curated *The Future of Care* stream on Wednesday 14 February. We began the day with keynote experts in the field talking about challenges for *The Future of Care*.

The keynote was followed by a number of events with industry partners. These included:

1. Care-at-a-distance workshop with Telstra;
2. One Good Death workshop;
3. Systems and disruptive work panel;
4. Launch of the HEALTH Network;
5. Performance of Jonathan Duckworth's work *Select Naturalis: A sound art performance by The Amplified Elephants*; and
6. Hybrid realities workshop with Oculus and Ericsson.

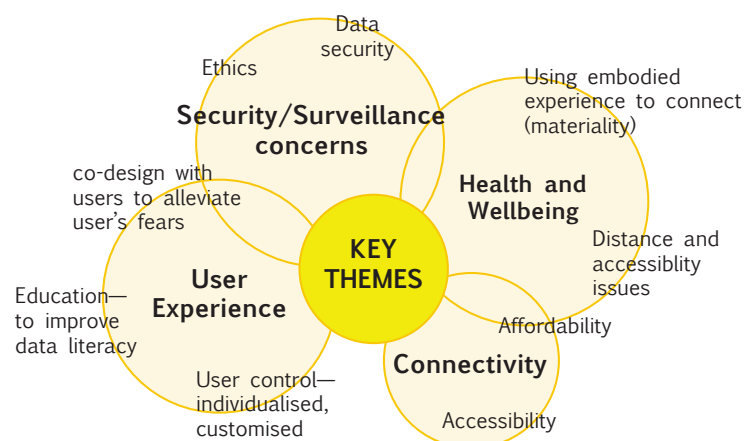
EFI 2018

CARE-AT-A-DISTANCE WITH TELSTRA WORKSHOP 15 February 2018



This concept-generation workshop aimed to connect multidisciplinary insights around digital care, particularly in domestic contexts. In particular, the workshop sought to consider some of the challenges and opportunities in the emergent fields of locative media, intergenerational care-at-a-distance, friendly surveillance and assisted living.

Much of the thematic discussion on the day encircled key paradoxes around datafication—for example, what the user gives away to corporations for the convenience of personalisation.



**HYBRID REALITIES
WORKSHOP WITH
OCULUS AND
ERICSSON**
Thursday 15 February



This workshop focussed on the importance of ethnography, education and creative practice interventions needed to inform technological innovation around hybrid realities. We began with a series of short presentations from three key speakers all coming to the social-spatial dimensions of hybrid realities in different ways. The speakers—Raz Schwartz (Oculus), Michael Björn (Ericsson), and Roland Snooks (RMIT)—presented some key challenges which were then taken up by small interdisciplinary groups to explore and provide some potential opportunities or ways to move forward.

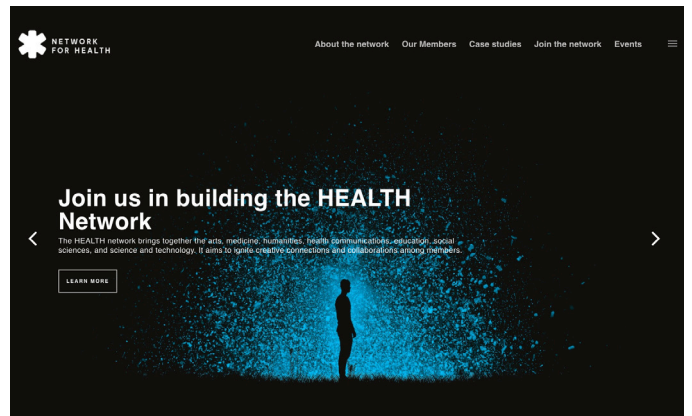
The DCP workshop brought a range of approaches together to explore complex social interaction in VR—particularly in the contexts of educational curriculum, creative intervention and social outreach.

The event connected a range of people and their unique, interdisciplinary insights on the topic, who, in turn, explored what opportunities could emerge in terms of key themes. These themes (“how might we” propositions) sought to get groups to devise a series of living lab topics.



**ONE
GOOD
DEATH
WORKSHOP**
Wednesday
14 February

Participants experienced first-hand a co-design road-mapping approach using custom-designed acrylic templates on which they collaboratively defined goals, roadblocks, work-arounds and moments of insight. Small teams worked together to define an important goal and ‘build’ their way towards it, collaboratively problem solving their way around institutional, structural or social roadblocks that emerge. Within this session teams worked towards the goal of providing a ‘good death’ to individuals from a range of cultural, social and geographical backgrounds.



**HEALTH
NETWORK
LAUNCH**
Thursday 15
February

The health sector in the 21st Century faces new challenges and provides many opportunities for the future of society where the ageing and dying industries are increasingly being reshaped by digital transformations, questions of sustainable development, shifting demographics and concerns around healthy and secure food systems and lifestyles. This event launched the HEALTH (Health, Education, Arts, Learning, Technology, Humanities) Network, a platform aimed at bringing together interdisciplinary research to further strengthen our opportunities for a health-focused future.

EVENTS

ARC LINKAGE WORKSHOP Friday 11 May RMIT City campus



The Linkage Grant workshop brought together Design and Creative Practice ECP affiliates to discuss their Linkage applications and receive peer feedback.

The Workshop included academics who had been successful in receiving grants, who in turn provided essential strategies and advice on how to develop grants as well as partnership selection.

The workshop focussed on framing creative practice (and its value) for ongoing industry engagements.

Key considerations included:

1. How your research question and methods connect to doing impactful research and to the industry partner's problem;
2. How knowledge transmission will work between partners;
3. Pathways for translating research. Industry can often be important in implementation of research to ensure it has meaningful engagement and impact;
4. Collaborative work is hard. It involves constant tinkering and translation. But it is crucial in solving real-world problems.

EVENTS

DOING DIGITAL METHODS: INTERDISCIPLINARY INTERVENTIONS 9–10 June 2018 Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto



The DCP ECP and Ritsumeikan University (RU) jointly hosted a workshop at Ritsumeikan University in Japan. Key interdisciplinary experts across media, information studies, psychology, anthropology, design and arts explored interdisciplinary and critical creative methods within mixed reality contexts, including VR, AR, and AI, to consider socially innovative and sustainable futures.

Participants engaged in collaborative discussions and co-design activities via a series of 'thought experiments'. Experiments included: 'Hybrid Play', 'Designing for Health Solutions', 'Games & Playful

Interventions', 'Curating in the age of Automation', 'Designing for, and with, Digital and Multisensorial Ethnographic Methods', 'Designing Social Futures', and 'Digital Storytelling'.

The workshop concluded that interdisciplinary methods and models are needed as a way to creatively and critically engage, understand and respond to real-world complexities.

This workshop was supported by the ARC Linkage Locating the Mobile (with Intel).

RMIT EUROPE: RETHINKING HEALTH
RETHINKING HEALTHCARE FOR THE FUTURE
Thursday 5 July
RMIT Europe, Barcelona



This workshop was part of the *Rethinking Healthcare for the Future* symposium, hosted by RMIT Europe, Telefónica Innovación Alpha and ECHAlliance. Key experts across the public, private, not-for-profit, and academic sectors collectively explored how we might understand and apply various types of data—big, open, and thick—to re-think, re-imagine, and re-frame ageing well futures.

Key concepts, experiences, and best (and worst and in-between) practice cases around the world were discussed, as well as co-creative activities to

speculate artefacts from the future, challenging our own assumptions about what the future may look and importantly feel like for different people.

The three overarching spheres of concern across data, design, and technologies were: social well-being, human-centred approach, and mechanisms. It pointed to the need to consider and identify existing complex pathways and intersections of people, practices, places, and technologies and create new pathways based on care for inclusive value negotiation and to engender hope.

RMIT EUROPE: RETHINKING HEALTH
CREATIVE METHODS FOR SOCIAL MAPPING
9–10 July 2018
RMIT Europe, Barcelona



The *Creative Methods for Social Mapping* workshop discussed best practices for creative, impactful research methods; with a primary theme around failure. Through a series of provocations about the limits of contexts, disciplines, content, ethics and situations, we explored various tropes around failure – failure not just as a creative opportunity for re-calibrating methods, research questions and external expectations, but also as a way of knowing the world, and most importantly, failure as a vehicle for critiquing larger issues around the challenges of the academic landscape.

The workshop concluded by mapping ideas for the future of creative methods through a series of iterative collaborative projects under the #FAILURISTS Collective. Four initial projects will be shaped for different audiences – students, researchers and broader publics. The projects will foster research development, impact, publication, and funding.

EVENTS

DECRA WORKSHOP

11 September 2018

RMIT City campus



The Social Change and Design & Creative Practice ECPs co-hosted a DECRA workshop to provide support and assistance to affiliates interested in applying for a DECRA.

The workshop included presentations from two DECRA recipients who shared their experiences and advice with participants.

Two participants interested in applying for a DECRA shared their proposals, addressing the set of questions:

1. Title of Project
2. Rationale: What is the problem? Why is it a problem?
3. Methodology: What method will you use to solve this problem?
4. Impact Statement: Why should we fund this project?

EVENTS

VICTORIAN TRADES HALL COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

10 & 13 December

RMIT City Campus



The larger project these workshops are a part of builds upon the Victorian Trades Hall Council's (VTHC) gendered violence as a workplace issue training package, designed to advance the rights of people working across Victoria through cultural change towards inclusion, equality, and diversity.

This pilot study will apply different research and engagement methods. The project will consist of three sequential phases from Nov– Dec 2018, each critically informing the next phase.

The two workshops will take place with participants from the pilot study to reflect, evaluate and co-design. The workshops hope to produce potential tools for different workplace cultures.

EVENTS

MARC 2ND END OF LIFE CARE FORUM 9 November 2018 RMIT City campus



In 2018 RMIT became a member partner of Melbourne Ageing Research Collaboration (MARC), which is the research collaboration platform for the National Ageing Research Institute (NARI). Led by the Design & Creative Practice ECP, this is a joint initiative between three ECPs, also including Biomedical & Health Innovation and Social Change.

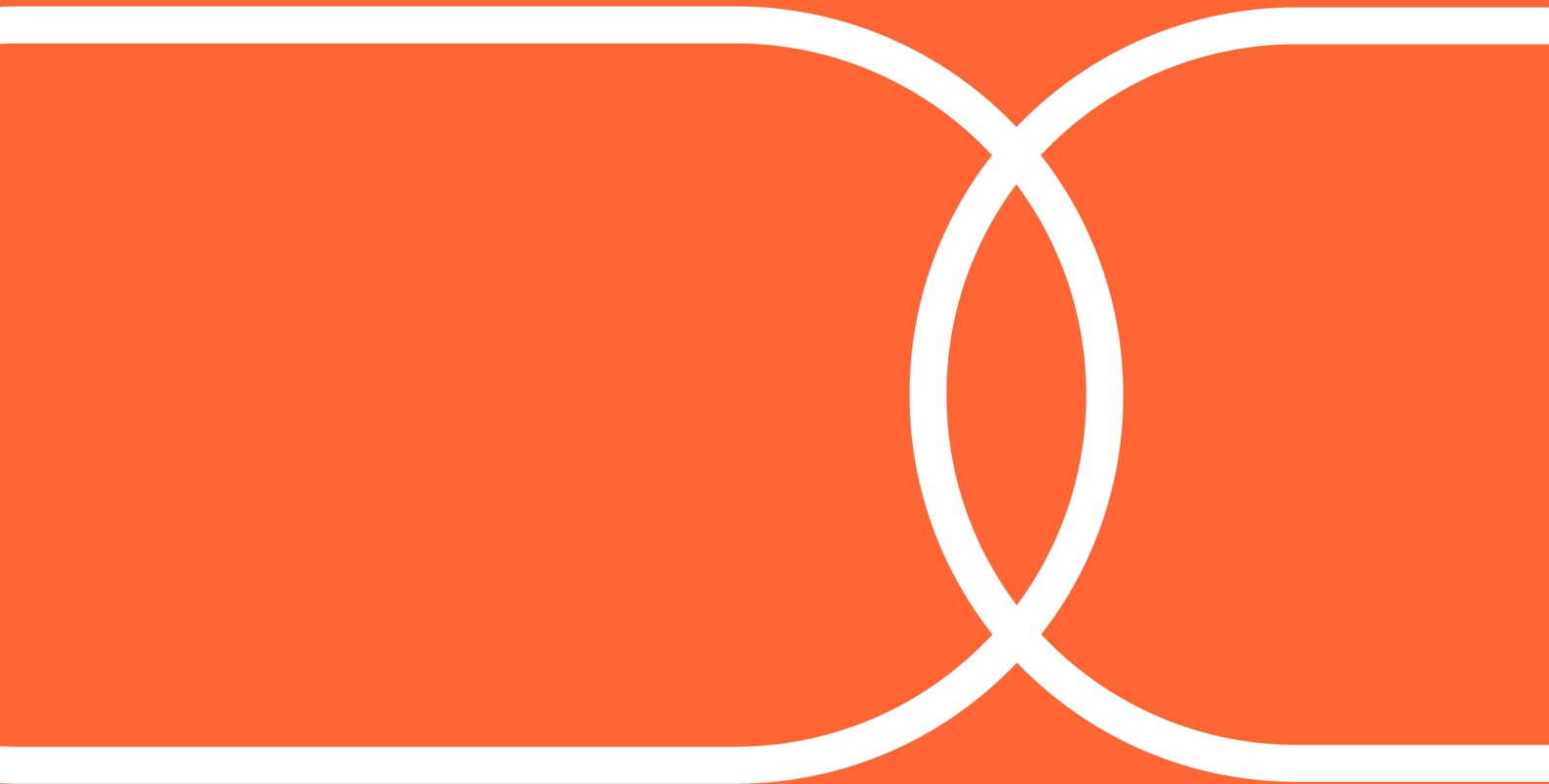
MARC was formed on the basis of an identified gap in knowledge sharing among key stakeholders in the field of ageing and ageing research. The goal is to combine resources and expertise to influence

policy and practice and to be the leader in the field of ageing research.

On November 9th RMIT will host the *MARC 2nd End of Life Care Forum* at the City campus. The forum will include presentations and a RMIT facilitated session aimed at identifying new potential projects that MARC can develop in the end of life care space.



Projects





This year, the Impact Observatory (IO) was officially launched. The IO represents the Design and Creative Practice ECP's unique culture of innovation, exploration, and collaboration. It showcases our research more thoroughly and encourages ongoing industry engagement. It is an important part of the DCP vision in helping us coalesce, collate and curate the excellent collaborative and interdisciplinary work done by this ECP.

Established to ensure that design and creative practice research is captured as it emerges, the IO supports research through relevant translational

pathways and through collaboration with industry partners. The IO provides evidence of activities and approaches to research that are outstanding in their engagement with external organisations, industry partners and end-users. In doing so it houses all the DCP's CDF projects (2017-8) as well as a Translation Repository for collecting engagement and impact stories.

The Translation Repository collects research in different stages of the impact journey to ensure key projects are supported as part of our impact agenda.





Enabling
Capability
Platforms

Welcome to the future of industry engagement!

We at RMIT are committed to interdisciplinary collaboration for real-world solutions. The Design & Creative Practice ECP welcomes industry partnership around key priority areas:

- Designing for the Future of Health
- Playful Technologies for social solutions
- Social enterprise and sustainability
- Transforming creative industry practices

Here's a selection of our innovative and impactful research.

PROJECTS

2018 ↑

DESIGNING FOR SOCIAL FUTURES How might we live and die well?
CREATIVE AGENCY Networking creative change-makers
CANADIAN & AUSTRALIAN BOOK INDUSTRIES CONVERSATION Exploring new collaborative opportunities in publishing
THE HEALTH NETWORK Interdisciplinary health research
WRITERS IMMERSION AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE Changing the stories we tell and listen to
FIRELENS Using mobile phone image-making to improve the safety of planned burning
#FAILURISTS Creative Interdisciplinary Methods

2017 ↓

PROJECTS

DISTRIBUTED LEADERS GROUP

Pilot Project

In 2018 the Design & Creative Practice established a strategic Distributed Leaders Group (DLG) as part of a pipeline to support the development of greater leadership depth at RMIT and to enable leaders of the future.

The group has two functions: to provide a leadership development opportunity for emerging/ established leaders while also addressing the need for additional “collaborative” leadership support for ECP Directors. By identifying key people in the relevant fields aligned to the eight Enabling Capability Platforms, this group are intended to pioneer a distributed, collaborative leadership model for the platforms and to ensure diverse voices of advocacy are heard and that leaders for the future are mentored in collegial, best practice ways.

The project ran as a pilot through the DCP platform for a number of months in 2018. Six staff identified as key experts aligned with the DCP priority areas undertook DCP platform representation on various committees and at leadership management activities including the monthly ECP Management meetings and the 2018 Vice Chancellor’s Fellowship recruitment.

In their assessment of the pilot, group members appreciated the opportunity to gain insight into the management of the ECPs and to have their voices heard in these forums. Their involvement has provided them with experience that may provide them with access to more leadership roles and contribute toward the required suite of metrics for promotion.



PROJECTS

COHEALTH@365

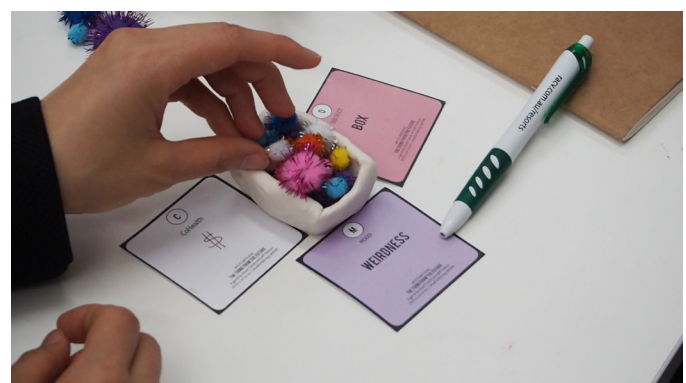
Pasts, Presents and Co-Futures

This project brings together interdisciplinary methods and expertise to collect the diverse stories of the community. This pilot seeks to empower the community by having their vision as part of the redevelopment of cohealth. Through this process, it provides a vehicle for community advocacy across a variety of key stakeholders and sectors (such as government).

We are working with the cohealth community to collect stories from them about the past, present and future. We are running a series of different research activities which will take place on site, to understand and identify different practices, opportunities, and challenges for the future of 365 Hoddle Street (location of cohealth Collingwood centre) as a space and place with complex and intersecting histories, present and futures.

The project will consist of two sequential stages. **Stage one** will involve a series of techniques to capture multimedia community stories for the cohealth website as part of the government campaign. **Stage two** will involve deeper, more ethnographic dimensions and techniques for working with communities to capture their voices in co-health's future. In this stage we will think about alternative modes of knowledge transmission and public translation including billboards and art exhibitions through key partners.

A report will be produced to showcase community-centred approaches as best practice for community health and allow cohealth to not only onboard the community but also use the report to lobby the government for best practice etc.



ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Co-creative workshops: These workshops enabled nuanced insight into participant/ client experiences, perceptions and aspirations related to cohealth. The sharing of the participants individual stories also enabled possibilities for cohealth to be explored as a place that takes account of its communities wants, needs, and values to ensure that its future co-evolves with them.

Visiting the archive: Enabled multiple strands of assets such as postcards, images from workshops held at cohealth throughout time and scans of archived materials to build a history of cohealth over time, including the in depth knowledge of long time community member and archivist Anne Holmes, who was consulted with over time and whose voice was captured on film.

Digital storytelling: This process cultivated a sense of agency for each of the storytellers whilst also helping to cohere community values. In Phase One key experts in the cohealth community were interviewed.

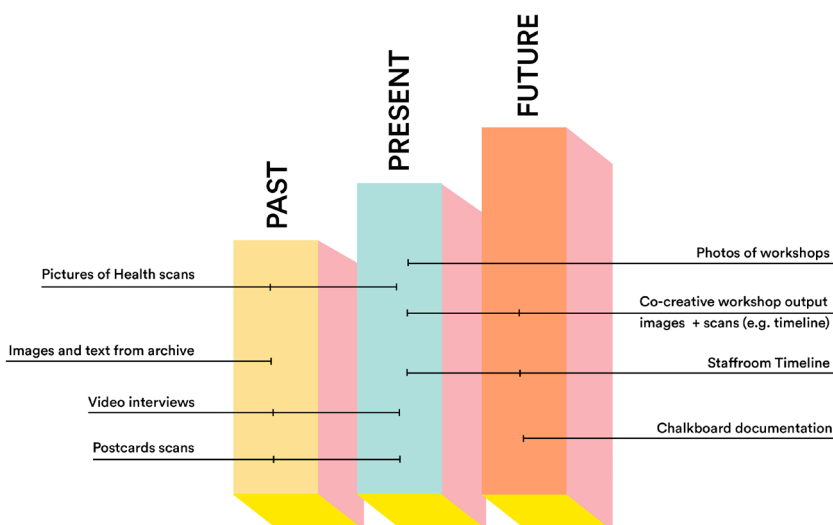
Ethnography: This method of engagement enabled analysis of the practices in and around the waiting room space practices. This involved investigation of

the practices in and around the material cultures and clients. In Phase Two, interviews were conducted with end users such as staff, to further expand insights into the newly renovated space in the context of designing for wellbeing. This also provided another way to 'story' cohealth based on archive and ethnographic data. We deployed multisensorial methods to capture different practices including tacit and embodied knowledge.

Community Chalkboard: This civic engagement activity involved painting a large chalkboard onto the exterior wall facing toward Sackville Street. This space invited Collingwood locals, cohealth visitors and other passersby to contribute their thoughts, ideas, feelings and hopes for the future of cohealth and the greater community it services. Such an activity is unique for enabling community to provide input on site, enabling those who wouldn't otherwise participate to share just as much with their community.

Cards for conversation prompts: this took the form of cards in the waiting room and also a card-for-conversation deck for the transition of cohealth@365 to keep continuing the conversations post this pilot.

Timelines as prompts: to reimagine the past, present and co-futuring.



Asset mapping of content collected



cohealth@365: past, present and co-futures report.

PROJECTS

VICTORIAN TRADES HALL GBV TRAINING PACKAGE PROJECT

How might we co-design for cultural change for workplaces of the future?

How can we co-design with inclusivity at the core?

How can we co-create opportunities for social change in workplaces?

This collaboration built on the Victorian Trades Hall Council's (VTHC) gender-based violence in the workplace training package, designed to advance the rights of people working across Victoria through cultural change towards inclusion, equality, and diversity.

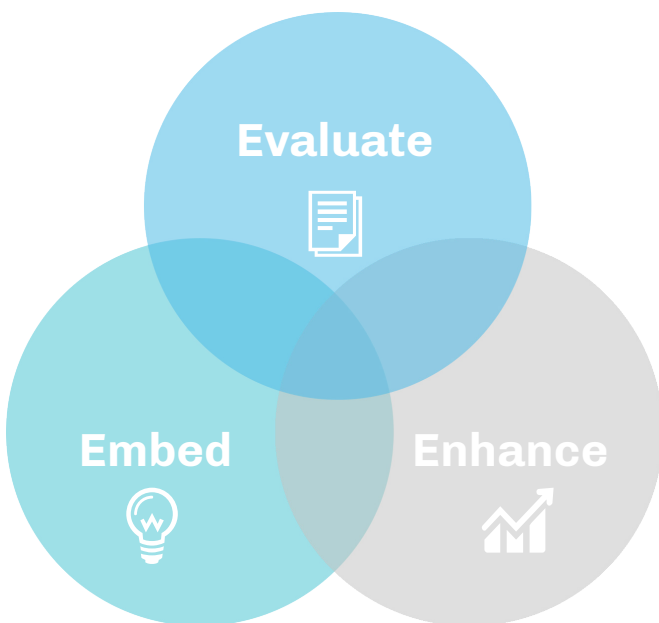
The project aim was to have the package evaluated, enhanced and for measurements to be embedded to ensure the aim of the package to change workplace cultures is able to be rolled-out.

To address this aim, the project utilised a series of mixed methods deploying ethnography (interviews and role play scenario case studies), SWOC analysis, multi-sensorial mapping and cultural probes to evaluate, enhance and reflect upon measuring social change.

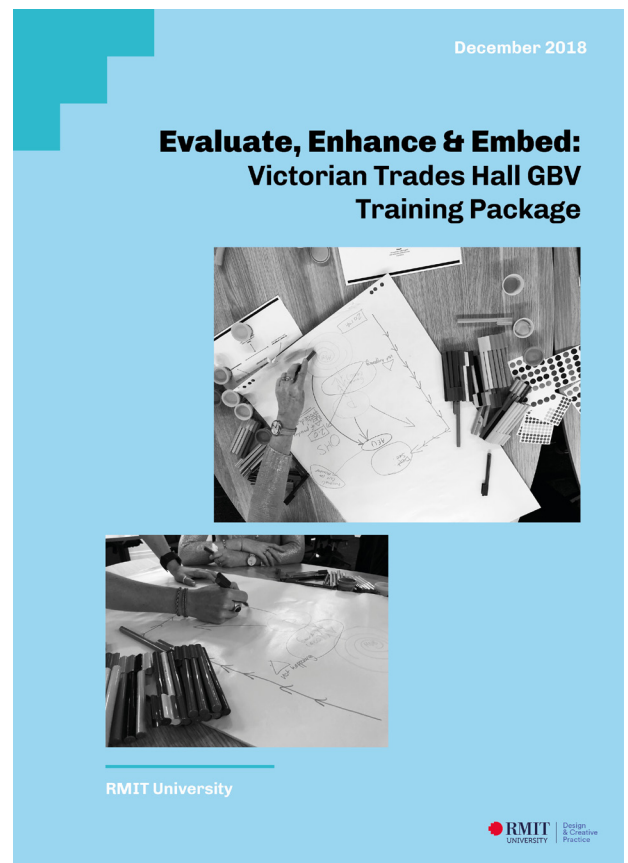
The project has consisted of three sequential phases over three months (Oct – Dec 2018), each critically informing the next phase.

1. **Identify:** existing behaviours and key motivators for inclusivity;
2. **Co-design:** with key stakeholders, including end-users, to develop potential tools for different workplace cultures;
3. **Evaluate and recommend:** from the pilot co-design workshop, we will develop recommendations for future packages and their implication/ pathways for translation.

A final report was developed — *Evaluate, Enhance & Embed: Victorian Trades Hall GBV Training Package*.



Key components of the *Evaluate, Enhance & Embed: Victorian Trades Hall GBV Training Package* project.



PROJECTS

ECP CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT FUND OUTCOMES

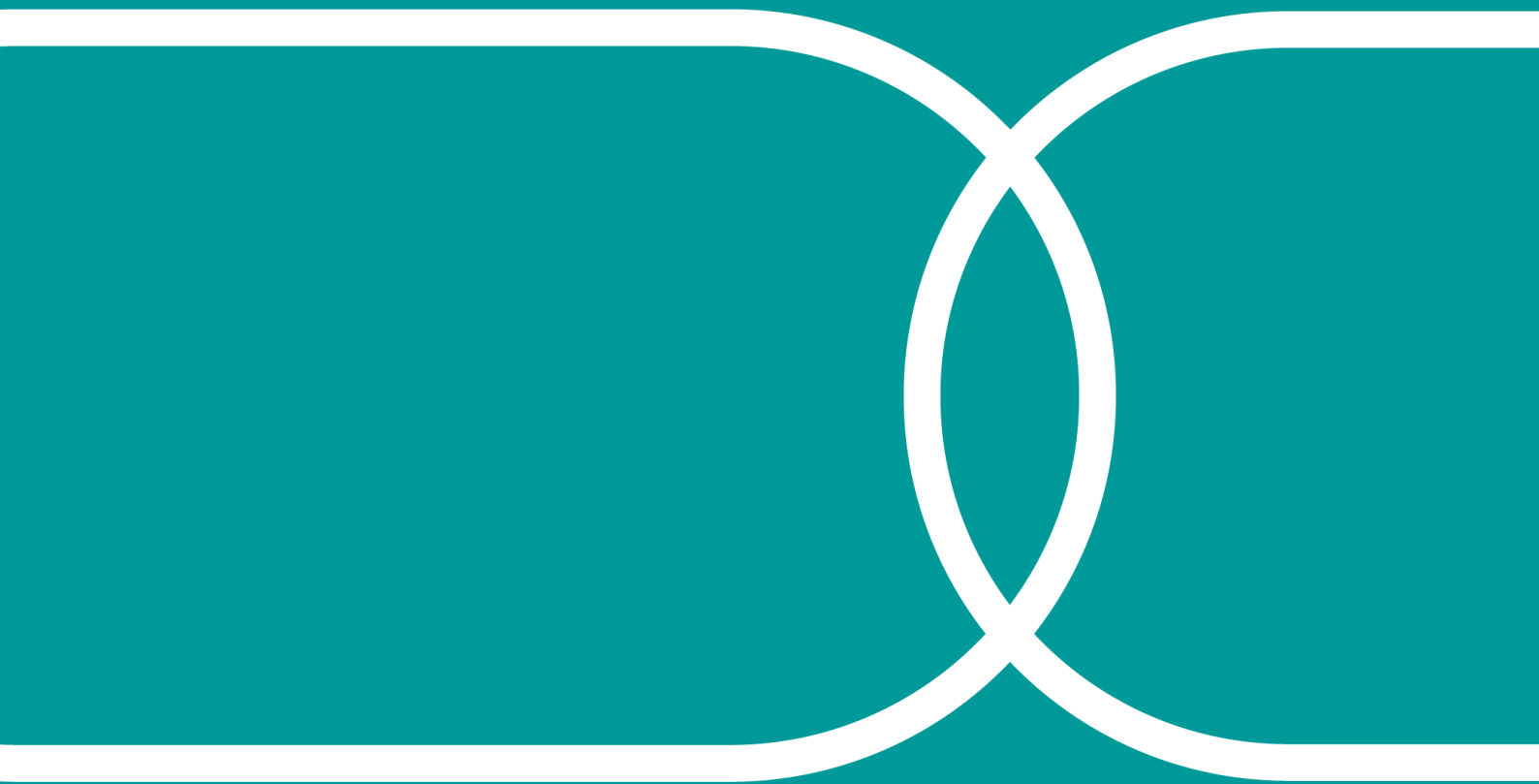
In the 2018 round of the Capability Development Funding scheme of small grants, the Design and Creative Practice ECP funded 16 projects (\$37,500) aligned to the DCP platform priority areas.

The range of projects funded highlights the interdisciplinary and innovative work being undertaken by DCP researchers. Many CDF recipients will facilitate sessions around their projects at *Engaging for Impact 2019*.



Project leader	Project Title
Matt Dukham	The Spatial Capability Cluster at RMIT (SCCAR) phase 2
D Palmer	Support for offsite keynote event at Melbourne Museum as part of the AAANZ conference 'Aesthetics, Politics and Histories: The Social Context of Art', December 2018
E Charlesworth	Design, Disaster and Development Research Forums Addressing the design, pedagogic and planning challenges of global mobility, migration and social inequality
J Van Schaik	Creative Ecologies
R Lang & G McQuilten	Practice-led Creative Arts Research Network
D Carlin	WrICE: from curated program to distributed network (building capacity towards an ARC Linkage)
G McQuilten	Her Place Women's Museum Research Project
Y Akama	DESIAP Learning Network: Design and Social Innovation for Sustainable Learning and Knowledge Exchange
G Coombes	Duty of Care workshops
S Vivienne	Code-switching Identities: curating networked presence
S Hulbert	Photography & Justice
Olga Troynikov	Pilot Study into the Design of Toileting Device for Women Wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Improvement of Health and Wellbeing
Linda Williams	VUE: Visualising Urban Ecologies Project Workshop
Seth Keen	FireLens app media platform image management system
Jordan Lacey	Urban place-making as interactive, kinaesthetic and auditory experience

Opportunities



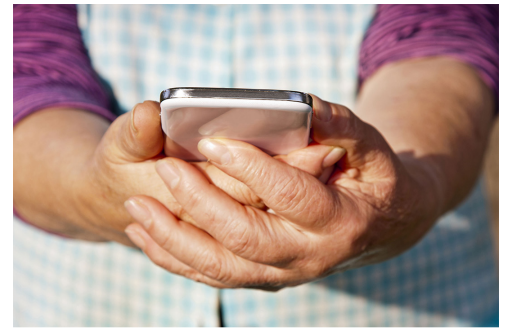
OPPORTUNITIES

DESIGNING FOR AGEING WELL CHALLENGE

Entries closed:
10 September 2018

In collaboration with Telstra and RMIT Industry Engagement, the DCP sought to tackle this real-world issue: *How do we design for Ageing Well Futures?*

As Australia's ageing population is increasing, and we are living longer. Issues around how to age well are more important than ever before. Solutions to this challenge require understanding the need for human-centred and interdisciplinary approaches to designing of technology.



Designing for Ageing Well Challenge

Entries
now open
dcp-ecp.com

With this design challenge, we asked interdisciplinary teams to address specific problems at the intersection of Digital Health and Ageing Well, and to design transformative solutions.

Four teams were shortlisted, each with at least one member of each team a student, alumni or staff member of RMIT (see following page for shortlist).

Final presentations of proposed ideas will be presented at *Engaging for Impact 2019*.

WINNING ENTRY

THE CAT PIN

Leah Heiss
Paul Beckett
Emma Luke
Dr Glenn Mathews
Matiu Bush

This project aims to address the issue of loneliness due to a lack of social interaction by developing a discreet, low-cost wearable which detects the presence or absence of conversation.

The CaT Pin is a discreet, low-cost wearable to detect loneliness. In the form of a lapel pin or brooch, the CaT pin detects the presence or absence of conversation. It is founded on the premise that loneliness is manifest in a poverty of conversation, hence using the number of words spoken a day as a surrogate marker for social isolation and loneliness.

The CaT pin records the number of words spoken per minute by the wearer and correlates this with a



baseline figure for healthy interaction rates. When the wearer drops below a certain number of words per hour, or words per day, a text message will be sent to a loved one, volunteer phone service or health care worker. This provides a nudge for that person to make a phone call or drop around for a conversation, helping to ameliorate the experience of loneliness.

The form of the CaT Pin can be customised to the style and aesthetics of the wearer by imprinting its surface with cherished jewellery, medals or textiles. Thus the CaT Pin becomes a treasured possession that is also a mnemonic device, reflecting the wearer's personal identity.

SCHOLARSHIP

DCP ECP PHD SCHOLARSHIP IN DESIGNING FOR AGEING WELL

Aged societies are the future.

To design for these complex futures, we need interdisciplinary approaches that coalesce creatives, social scientists and biomed. RMIT offers unique social and creative solutions to ageing well with its expertise in ethnographic and thick data approaches, human-centred design; design for care and social impact; sociology of health; public health; action research and playful technology.

This is a new PhD Scholarship supporting innovation and excellence in critical design and creative practice in the field of Ageing Well.

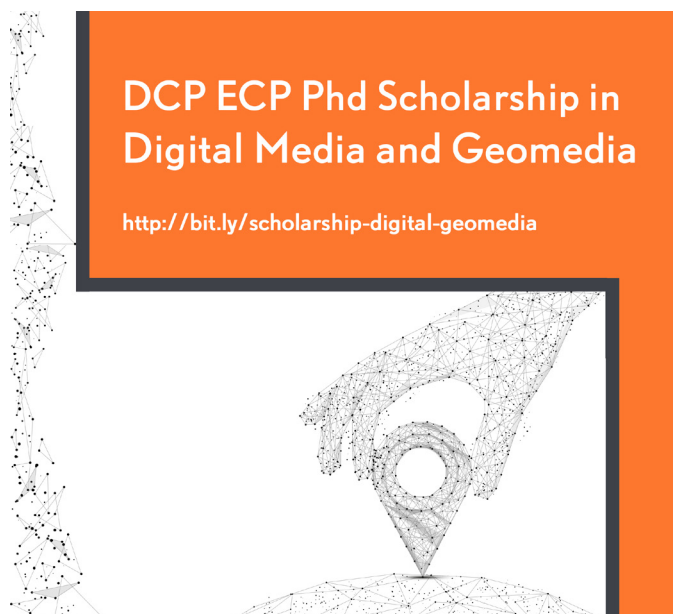


SCHOLARSHIP

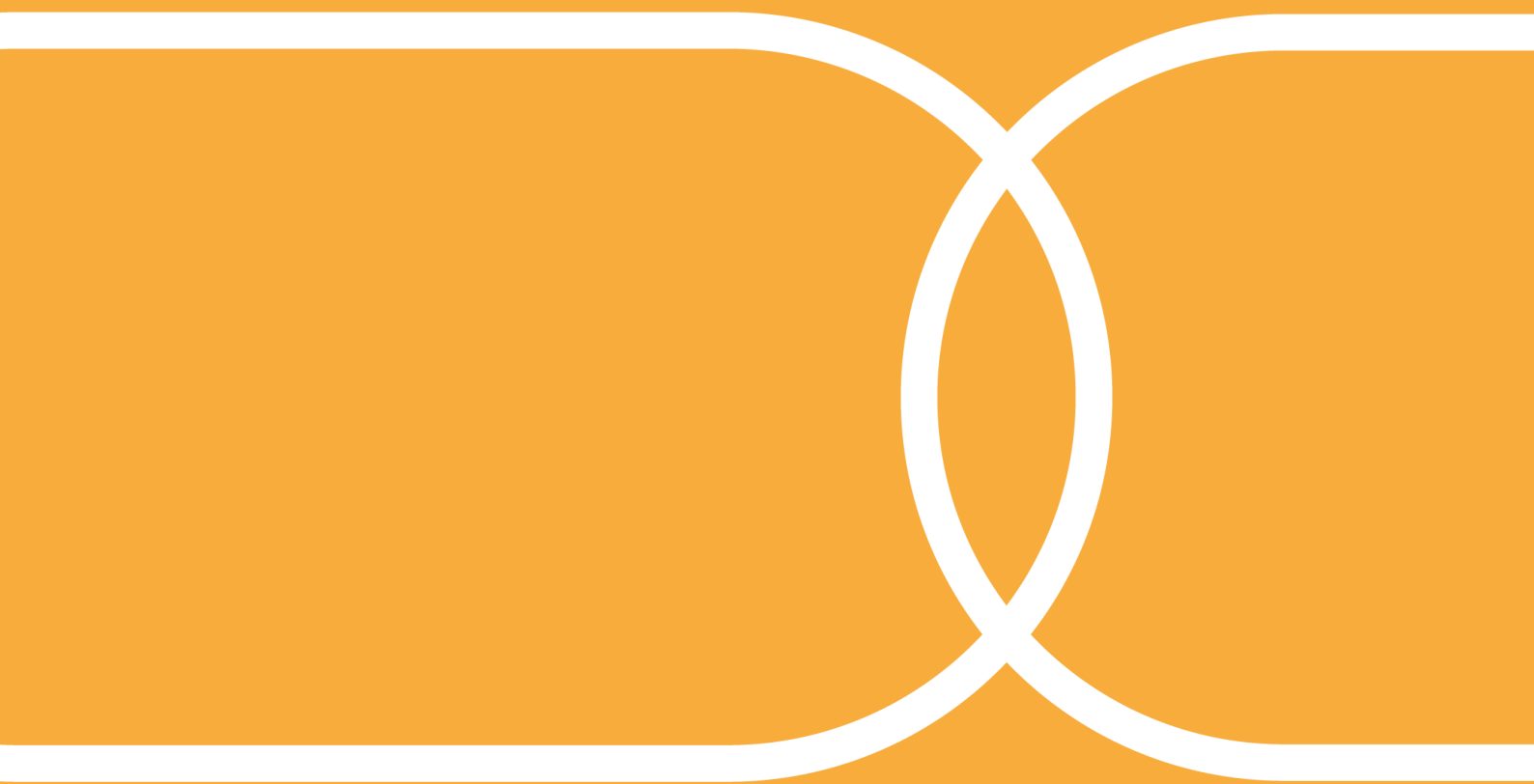
DCP ECP PHD SCHOLARSHIP IN MEDIA AND GEOMEDIA

This PhD Scholarship supports critical examinations of the increasingly pervasive role of location metadata (or geodata) in Australian smartphone practices and cultures and the implications this has for users, industry, and public administration.

The Scholarship will be offered to an outstanding emerging researcher to support the ARC Discovery Grant project Digital Media, location awareness, and the politics of geodata.



Future



FUTURE

ENGAGING FOR IMPACT 2019 18 - 20 February 2019 RMIT City campus



Academia and industry co-creating our future.

In 2019 RMIT will once again present *Engaging for Impact*. Over three days there will be a host of interactive sessions with local and international leaders across industry, research and innovation as we identify collaborative opportunities that will help shape our future.

ECP Directors have had input into shaping the themes of the conference and identifying keynote

speakers. The Design & Creative Practice ECP are involved in a number of events being developed around DCP platform priority areas and involving collaboration with industry and researchers.

Find out more at: www.rmitefi.com.au

FUTURE

CREATIVE ARTS AND DESIGN FOR IMPACT NETWORK



The network aims to investigate and articulate the ways in which design and creative practice contributes meaningfully to the sociocultural dimensions of engagement and impact. Specifically, the work in socially engaged (socially-situated), embodied practices within the Creative Arts provides the most compelling model for understanding how we visualize, map, implement and measure engagement and impact.

The network will take the form of 3 working groups that each focus on one of three key

areas for understanding impact: Emergence and Engagement, Methods for Measuring and Designed Dissemination. It is expected the network will produce a series of conceptual provocations and interventions in the field through exhibitions and workshops.

Network activities begin in February 2019 when a workshop will be held at RMIT, titled *Experiments in Visibility*, investigating the power of creative practice to transform how we understand, value, articulate and design impactful research.