

# Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre (SSSHARC)

Activities Summary 2023



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# 2023 Summary

# Research & Translation Success

In 2021, the DVC-R committed funding to the Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre (SSSHARC) on the basis of an agreed three-year strategic plan. In 2023, with additional support from the Faculty, SSSHARC sought to consolidate its collaborative activities based on learnings from 2022 and to develop a clear mission and strategy going forward. Activities in 2023 focussed on the incubation, engagement, and translation of research at Sydney. This year, the Centre has achieved success via

- a \$1.1 million research grant from the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)
   Sexual Violence Prevention Fund for the development of innovative educational programs and resources, including workshops and games, that can be implemented at scale
- a Research & Impact Proof-of-Concept grant through the DVCR Strategic Commercialisation Fund, to develop research-informed and game-based educational and training solutions
- developing the SSSHARC Impact Accelerator, a series of structured workshops, seminars, and activities designed for capacity-building, that will launch in 2024
- contributing to Category One funding success, specifically an ARC Laureate (Flew), a DECRA (Boichak), and 2 DPs (Gulson; Boichak)
- a James Martin Institute for Public Policy award (Gulson)
- hosting 16 internationally recognised Fellows in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Sexuality Studies to engage in collaboration with FASS academics
- hosting 4 research Huddles (Simpson, Potter, Goodwin, Evans)
- delivering the Hunt-Simes Institute in Sexuality Studies (HISS), the first of its kind in the Asia-Pacific region
- submitting 8 external Category 2 and 3 funding applications
- facilitating collaborations with 12 internal and external organisations and departments to strengthen research networks
- continuing to build a strong social media presence for the Centre. In 2023, social media milestones included:
  - SSSHARC website the most visited research page on the Faculty website. It is also the highest performing Centre homepage
  - X (formerly Twitter) Metrics: 209% increase in profile visits; 3,813% increase in impressions; 260% increase in mentions; 395 new followers; average engagement is at 3.5% (surpassing Faculty benchmark of 2.1%).

The SSSHARC core team comprises the Director (0.6 FTE), the Executive Officer (1 FTE), and one Finance and Operations Officer (1 FTE from July 2023).

# **Strategic Mission**

Following 18 months of experimentation across 2022 and 2023, SSSHARC can now state that its mission is guided by three pillars: incubation, engagement, and translation. Each pillar has been refined through proof-of-concept (POC) activities with demonstrated success.

**Incubation.** Leverage the high reputation of HASS related research at the University to capitalise on external funding opportunities.

- Create/promote incubation opportunities to enable competitive funding applications.
- Build capacity and transparency around the funding journey.
- Develop opportunities for diversified funding.
- Provide a mechanism to help researchers access Cat 2 and 3 funding.

POC: DCJ funding grant, DVCR strategic commercialisation fund, ARC success.

**Engagement.** Deepen relationships and foster research innovation and excellence through non-hierarchical collaborative ecology.

- Encourage meaningful collaboration and mutual respect in an open and playful environment.
- Develop an internal and external network of support and shared language around research collaboration.
- Develop faculty specific engagement programs.
- Leverage internationally competitive fellowship schemes for collaboration.

POC: Refinement and extension of Fellowship schemes, Influence in QS Rankings exercise, HISS engagement metrics.

**Translation.** Celebrate research findings, insights, methodologies with diverse audiences and communities of practice.

- Spotlight research excellence.
- Connect members to University resources (media, marcoms, engagement, social enterprise, commercialisation).
- Create opportunities for knowledge transfer between academics and HDRs/ECRs.

POC: Social media, events, partnerships; Social Impact Awards (Ho, Fahd)

All three pillars are grounded in three key assumptions that we refer to regularly:



Process improvement in communications, guidelines, reporting, and expectations will lead to meaningful collaboration.



More engagement activities will lead to stronger evidence of track-record and external funding.



Integrating research translation from project inception will generate impact.

# **Engagement**

# Partnerships and Engagement

To make SSSHARC a place for authentic collaboration between University of Sydney researchers and other exceptional scholars, our 2023 efforts focused on internationalising FASS research through existing competitive Fellowship schemes (all funded via existing bequests), cultivating relationships with stakeholders across the University, including professional units, working with external partners to capitalise on opportunities, and providing mentorship to project leaders and emerging researchers alike.

# **Highlight: Hunt-Simes Institute in Sexuality Studies (HISS)**

The <u>Hunt-Simes Institute in Sexuality Studies</u> (HISS) brings emerging and established researchers together to connect and collaborate on topics within queer theory, LGBTQIA+ studies, and their cognate fields. HISS centres around a queer-led classroom model of embodied learning and knowledge building. Nominally drawing upon traditional subjects from the generalist classroom, participants engage in an experimental series of workshops led by

internationally successful queer professionals. The Institute builds on the observation that all of us, young or old, established or emerging, have been school students at some time and might usefully revisit that experience in a queer-led context.

The inaugural Institute was timed to coincide with <u>Sydney Mardi Gras</u> and the <u>Sydney WorldPride Festival</u>, which saw thousands of LGBTQI+ folk of all ages descend on Sydney. Focused on the theme of 'Queer Age / Queer Youth', the Institute invited emerging researchers to think in two temporalities at once: retrospectively, with a deep understanding of past wrongs, and proleptically, in anticipation of a more just future. In 2023, the Institute welcomed 23 advanced PhD students and post-doctoral researchers, representing 16 different universities.

The Institute's teaching faculty was drawn from a range of higher education institutions includina:

- Colgate University
- King's College London
- National University of Singapore
- School of the Art Institute Chicago
- State University of New York, Albany
- University of Southern California
- Yale University
- York University, Toronto.

In addition to the workshops and seminars organised as part of the Institute, a series of public-facing events was curated and liked to the Mardi Gras Amplified program in association with Sydney WorldPride to build the reputation of the University of Sydney in this space.

## **CLOAK: Queer Science, Fashion & Photography**

CLOAK brought together a USyd- and UTS-based team of theorists (Wallace), educationalists (Rawlings), ethnographers (Panchyshyn), photographers (Fahd), fashion designers (Robinson) and science communicators (Motion), who recruited 12 LGBTQIA+ scientists from the community to share their stories with 10 emerging fashion designers (undergraduates and HDRs) from UTS Fashion & Textiles, who turned their stories into bespoke lab coats. In February 2023, the CLOAK exhibition launched as part of Pride Amplified and Sydney WorldPride at UTS Gallery, where photomedia artist Cherine Fahd's 11-minute, 3-channel video work premiered on the super-sized Broadway Screen as a backdrop to a jubilant fashion show. The CLOAK exhibition was listed in the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras program and the film played on loop 24/7, visible to the passing public on Broadway, as were the 12 lab coats displayed on dressmaker's mannequins and illuminated at night.

## Impact Metrics:

- ABC Weekend Breakfast (potential reach: 477K); Triple J's Science Hour (potential reach: 297K); and Chemistry World magazine (monthly global readership: 300K).
- The CLOAK lab coats have since been re-exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Art as part of the Westpac Fellows Summit.

## Rainbow City Light Mural Launch

In February 2023, the Dash Wall adjacent to the Footbridge Gallery featured a light installation animating the number "45" to mark the 45th anniversary of the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Festival. Designed by award-winning interactive designer and diversity advocate, Dr Xavier Ho (Hunt-Simes Visiting Junior Chair), the light installation was inspired by the rainbow font "Gilbert," originally designed by Hayato Yamasaki after the late Gilbert Baker (1951-2017), the gay right's activist and creator of the rainbow flag.

Impact Metrics:

- The mural at the University of Sydney was one of the first three public artworks unveiled by the City of Sydney to mark 45 years of Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, alongside a botanical mural at the Royal Botanic Gardens and another at the Scenic Skyway in the Blue Mountains.
- The mural was included in the official Sydney World Pride Catalogue of events and included on a printed map to allow Sydneysiders and visitors alike to travel the city to view tall 45 rainbow murals, which also included murals at UTS, UNSW, UWS and Macquarie University.

#### **Pride at Play Exhibition**

An exhibition of games designed by queer designers from the Asia-Pacific region was curated by Dr Xavier Ho and installed at the Sydney College of the Arts Project Space in the Quadrangle across Mardi Gras. This represented a collaboration between SSSHARC, the Sydney Games and Play Lab, and Monash University. The <u>exhibition</u> brought together game developers and players and outcomes included an exhibition catalogue and media coverage on Triple J's Hack. Pride at Play went on to win the <u>Good Designs Australia Social Impact Award</u> for 2023.

## **Fellowships**

The various SSSHARC Fellowship schemes allow researchers of international standing to visit the University to work closely with academic hosts in FASS on a program of shared research. SSSHARC requests an initial report on activities a month after the fellowship ends, and then a report on outcomes a year later. Advertising the Fellowship opportunities is also a key mechanism for engaging our wider research community.

In March 2023, SSSHARC launched the call for applications for the 2024 Fellowships in Humanities, Sexuality Studies and Social Sciences. Applications closed at the end of May. SSSHARC received 38 applications (81% increase on 2023) and appointed 15 Fellows (39% success rate). Applications were received from 15 institutions around the globe: UK (35%); North America (22%); Europe (22%); Australia (11%); Asia (8%); and South Africa (2%).

Applications represented a wide range of disciplines (see

image).

Across 2023, SSSHARC welcomed 16 internationally recognized HASS scholars. Fellows visited SSSHARC for up to six weeks and worked with their Sydney counterparts on developing funding proposals and journal articles, and delivering HDR workshops, seminars, and public events. Research translation exercises included writing for The Conversation and the SSSHARC blog, as well as videos and digital media for SSSHARC's Twitter account.



2023 Fellow	Academic Host(s)	Activities	Outputs
Anita Benoit	Alex Broom (SSPS),	Seminar (SCHS), WIP	Presentation at the
(University of	Lee Wallace	Workshop (SCHS),	3rd International
Toronto)	(SSSHARC)	Networking Meetings	Indigenous Health
			and Wellbeing
			Conference, Cairns
Clara Bradbury-	Lee Wallace	HISS Masterclass,	
Rance (King's	(SSSHARC)	Film Screening	
College London)			
Jen Gilbert (York	Lee Wallace	HISS Masterclass	Spencer Vision Grant
University)	(SSSHARC)		Application
Adam Greteman	Victoria Rawlings	HISS Masterclass,	American Embassy
(School of Art	(SSESW)	Networking	grant applications,
Institute Chicago)		Meetings,	Spencer Vision Grant
			application
Hannah Hamad	Anthea Taylor (SOH)	Research	
(Cardiff University)		Presentation (GCS)	
		(Report not received)	
Scott Herring (Yale)	Melissa Jane Hardie	Research	
	(SACE)	Presentation	
		(English), Book Talk,	
		HDR Publication	
		Workshop, HISS	
		Masterclass	
Xavier Ho (Monash)	Mark Johnston	HISS Masterclass,	<u>Public Mural</u> ,
	(SACE)	Research	Exhibition,
		Presentation	<u>Catalogue,</u> Sole-
		(MECO),	authored book
		Games Industry	chapter (x2)
		Network Events	
Jean McNeil	Beth Yahp (SACE)	Seminar (Creative	
(University of East		Writing), Public	
Anglia)		Lecture (University of	
		Canberra), Artists on	
		the Ice Earth Day	
		Event (Women's	
		College), Networking	
	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	Meetings	
Angus Nicholls	Yixu Lu (SLC)	Archival fieldwork	
(Queen Mary		Canberra, Research	
College, University		Fieldwork in	
of London)		Northern	
		Queensland,	
		Research	
C C	AA . J. D (C.) CE)	Presentation (SLC)	Destroy MAZ 1. 45
Craig Santos Perez	Mark Byron (SACE),	Ultimate Peer	Podcast, Website
(University of	Sophie Chao	Review, Podcast,	Development, Poem
Hawai'i, Mānoa)	(Anthropology)	Masterclass,	in WIP volume
		Mentoring Drop-in	
		clinic, Consultation	
		Meetings, Poetry	
Causa Cata allau	Vistoria Danultur	Reading	
Sam Stiegler	Victoria Rawlings	HISS Masterclass	
(Colgate University)	(SSESW)		

Denise Tse-Shang Tang (Lingnan University, Hong Kong)	Shawna Tang (SOH)	Research Presentation (GCS)	
Karen Tongson	Lee Wallace	Podcast, Roundtable,	Podcast,
(University of	(SSSHARC)	Conversation Article	Conversation Article
Southern California)			
Nasir Uddin	Susan Banki (SSPS)	Networking	Op-Ed, Co-authored
(University of		Meetings, HDR	article
Chittagong)		Mentoring	
Siva Vaidhyanathan	Olga Boichak (SACE)	Research	
(University of		Presentation	
Virginia)		Co-Authored Article,	
		(Report not received)	
Shane Vogel (Yale)	Mark Byron (SACE)	Seminar (English),	
		HDR Publication	
		Workshop, HISS	
		Masterclass	



My SSSHARC Gilbert Fellowship provided me with some valuable scholarly opportunities to better understand manuscript studies in a global context and to make connections with some key repositories, archivists and curators in Australia. I was made to feel very welcome at the University of Sydney and could not have asked for a better reception at the public lecture in the Chau Chak Wing Museum auditorium. (Professor Mariken Teeuwen, 2022 Gilbert Fellow)

2022 Fellow	Academic Host(s)	Activities	Outputs
Sven Beckert (Harvard)	Sophie Loy-Wilson (SOH)	Workshop (History), Masterclass (History)	(Final report not received)
Michael Finneran (Limerick)	Michael Anderson (SSESW), Kelly Freebody (SSESW)	CREATE Seminar	HDR Seminar (Final report not received)
Ros Gill (City University of London)	Lisa Adkins (SSPS)	Fellowship relinquished in November	
Jen Gilbert (York, CA)	Vic Rawlings (SSESW), Kellie Burns (SSESW)	HDR Workshop, Public Event, Huddle	Conversation Article, SSSHARC Profile (Final report not received)

Greg Kaplan (Chicago)	Aarti Singh (Economics)	Plenary (Canberra), Structural Modelling	SSSHARC Explainer, ARC DP24
(Cilicago)	(Leonomics)	on ocioral Modelling	resubmission
Mark Levine (UoC, Irvine)	Lucia Sorbera (SLC)	Workshop, Seminar, Guest Lecture	SSSHARC Profile, Journal Article, Book Manuscript
Tanya Lokot (Dublin City)	Olga Boichak (SACE)	HDR Masterclass, Keynote, Journal Article	Journal Article (x 2)
Susanna Paasonen (Turku University)	Kane Race (SOH)	HDR Workshop (GCS), Public Panel "Why is Sex Objectionable?", CS Seminar, MECO Seminar, Networking Meetings, Roundtable,	SSSHARC Profile, Book, Journal Article, Book Chapter, ARC Centre of Excellence Bid (unsuccessful)
Tim Parkin (UoM)	Eleanor Cowan (SOH)	Lecture, Workshop (x3), Huddle, Public event, Loeb Foundation Fellowship Application, Journal Special Issue	Conversation article, Co-authored introduction
Daniel Peltz (University of the Arts Helsinki)	Robyn Backen (SCA)	Seminar (SCA), Lecture (SCA and SEI), Masterclass (SCA)	Lecture (on Zoom) (Final report not received)
David Rafferty (Adelaide)	James Tan (SOH)	Research Workshop (CLAH), Seminar (CLAH)	Book chapter (x 2)
Paul Richardson (Monash)	Helen Watt (SSESW)	DP24 application, Briefing paper	Journal Article (x4), Book Chapter (x3), NSW Dept of Education Grant Application, <u>Podcast</u>
Srila Roy (Witts)	Adam Morton (SSPS), Shawna Tang (SOH), Elizabeth Hill (SSPS)	Fellowship heldover from 2020 due to COVID (no report required) Research Presentation (PE)	Meet the Fellow interview
Jason Schultz (NYU)	Kalervo Gulson (SSESW)	Journal Article, Prototyping, Website Redesign	(Final report not received)
Zac Seidler (UMelb)	Catherine Driscoll (SOH)	Workshop (GCS)	(Final report not received)
Mariken Teeuwen (Huygens Institute)	Mark Byron (SACE)	Huddle, Public Lecture (CCW), National Library of Australia and NSW State Library meetings re Linkage project	Lecture recording, Virtual Manuscript Reading Room,
Greg Thompson (QUT)	Kalervo Gulson (SSESW)	Huddle, Seminar, Workshop, White	Journal Article, White Paper,

		Paper, Website Redesign	(Final report not received)
Meredith Weiss (Albany)	Aim Sinpeng (SSPS)	Podcasts, HISS Masterclass, Seminar, Webinar	Podcast, Webinar, Journal Article, Henry Luce Foundation Application (Successful)

## First Nations Fellowships

In 2023, SSSHARC welcomed its inaugural First Nations Fellows, one from the Humanities and one from the Social Sciences:

Professor Craig Santos Perez, University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa | Take Me To Manoa

- Academic Hosts: Mark Byron (English), Sophie Chao (Anthropology)
- Indigenous Mentor: Professor Jakelin Troy (Research Portfolio)

Associate Professor Benoit, University of Toronto

- Academic Hosts: Alex Broom (SCHS)
- Indigenous Mentor: Professor Jioji Ravulo (SSESW)

These fellowships are designed to enable mentoring conversations between Indigenous writers and scholars, as well as seeding ground for future research collaborations.

A/Professor Benoit met with Professor Ravulo, colleagues from the Sydney Centre for Healthy Societies and the Matilda Centre to discuss research synergies in Indigenous Health. Professor Perez, Dr Chao, and Professor Van Dooren concretised their



collaboration as Co-Directors of the Oceania Observatory. This included revamping the Observatory website, recruiting new affiliates, and organizing a webinar on Decolonizing Conservation to be co-hosted by the Sydney Environment Institute and the University of Hawai'i at Manoa in July 2025.

#### Fellows-in-Residence

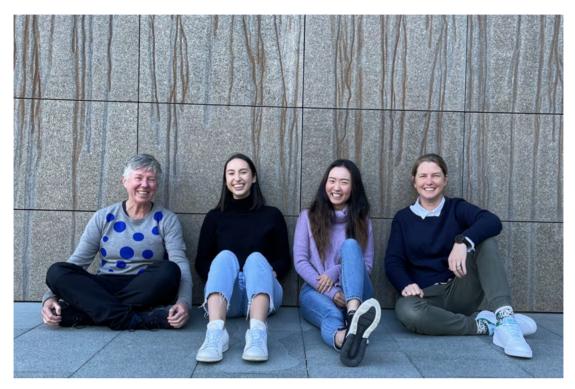
In 2023, we initiated a new category of fellowship to enable key local collaborators to spend intensive time at SSSHARC to accelerate key projects and amplify research impact. In second semester 2024, Associate Professor Cherine Fahd (Visual Communication, UTS) took up the role of Photographer-in-Residence while she worked on a book manuscript, contributed to HISS and CLOAK, wrote pieces for The Conversation, and presented on her family's presence on reality TV.

#### **Partnerships & Collaborators**

A key mandate for SSSHARC is to reinvigorate existing partnerships and build new ones around jointly pursued research projects. Many of these partnerships have been facilitated by the affordances of RD Watt, including its flexible open-plan spaces. This year, SSSHARC has formalized three collaborations to foster future engagement work in addition to those partnerships established in 2022.

#### **Consent Labs**

<u>Consent Labs</u> is a not-for-profit enterprise empowering the community with consent and respectful relationships education. SSSHARC is partnering with Consent Labs on a two-year project, funded by the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ), to prevent gendered violence in schools through innovative educational programs and resources, including workshops and games, that can be implemented at scale.



### **Cruxes Innovation**

<u>Cruxes Innovation</u> works alongside researchers, innovators, and ecosystem leaders to help research organisations unlock the impact potential of Australian research. In 2023, SSSHARC collaborated with Cruxes Innovation as part of the DVCR Proof-of-Impact funded SQUIGGLE project. This partnership has been extended into the SSSHARC Research Impact Accelerator which Cruxes will assist in delivering in 2024.

# **Social Impact Hub**

Social Impact Hub is a purpose-driven intermediary that collaborates with a broad range of changemakers to build capacity to amplify impact in the social enterprise ecosystem. In 2023-24, SSSHARC is collaborating with Cynthia Dai, a mentor from the Hub's Professional Impact Network (PIN), also as part of the SQUIGGLE project. This is enabling SSSHARC to explore potential business models and other opportunities to connect University researchers with the social enterprise sector.

#### **Existing Partnerships**

- Humanities Research Centre ANU (2023 2025)
- The Australian Consortium of Humanities Research Centres (ACHRC)
- The Consortium of Humanities Centres and Institutes (CHCI) (2024 2026)

#### **Emerging Partnerships**

- Northwestern University (HDR exchange, UG exchange via Sydney Conservatorium)
- UTS (Visual Communication internship program)
- Art, Design and Architecture, Monash University

## **Collaborations**

As part of SSSHARC's reputation building objective, the Centre has instigated and facilitated collaborations and activities with organisations beyond the University of Sydney. This is the first step in developing a network of stakeholders as potential co-design partners for future research projects.

Organisation	SSSHARC Lead	Activities
ACON	Denise Tse-Tang	Community Event
Amble Studio	Lee Wallace	SQUIGGLE
Australian Institute for Teaching and School	Alyson Simpson	Huddle
Leadership (AITSL)		
BLAQ	Kelly	HISS
	Panchyshyn	
CHCI	Lee Wallace	Conference
City of Sydney	Lee Wallace	Rainbow Mural
Cranbrook Boys School	Victoria	DCJ Project
	Rawlings	SQUIGGLE
Cruxes Innovation	Nanda Jarosz	SQUIGGLE
Department of Communities and Justice	Victoria	DCJ Project
	Rawlings	
ICOMOS	Nanda Jarosz	CHCI Membership Fund
Social Enterprise Australia	Lee Wallace	Access All Areas
The Conversation	I:- Vanna	Calaartian
The Conversation	Liz Kenna	Co-Location
Tribal Warrior	Kelly	HISS
	Panchyshyn	
The Social Impact Hub	Nanda Jarosz	SQUIGGLE
The Women's College	Lee Wallace	HISS, SQUIGGLE
UTS Design	Lee Wallace	CLOAK

SSSHARC has also focused on expanding opportunities for collaboration beyond disciplinary and departmental boundaries within the University.

Department	SSSHARC Lead	Activities
Brain & Mind Centre	Lee Wallace	B&M Open Day
CCANESA	Eleanor Cowan	Workshop
Charles Perkins Institute	Nanda Jarosz	Fellowships
Chau Chak Wing Museum	Mark Byron	Targeted Event
Conservatorium of Music	Lucia Sorbera	Seminar
Fisher Library (Rare Books)	Lee Wallace	Collection Activation
Sydney Business School	Nanda Jarosz	Impact Accelerator
Sydney College of the Arts	Lee Wallace	Pride at Play
Sydney Environment Institute	Robyn Backen	Targeted Event
Sydney Knowledge Hub	Nanda Jarosz	Impact Accelerator
Sydney Policy Lab	Lee Wallace	Collaboration Charter
		Policy Impact Award
Sydney Southeast Asia Centre	Aim Sinpeng	SSEAC Stories
United States Studies Centre	Alex Lefebvre	Targeted Event

# Research

# Incubation, Engagement, Translation

SSSHARC aims to be a world leader in collaboration, knowledge translation, and social impact activities for researchers in HASS related disciplines. SSSHARC is distinct from Schools in that it does not simply administer research funding but shapes research projects from initial conception through collaboration and the development of external grant applications with an emphasis on research leadership and capacity building throughout. This approach assists researchers develop their partnerships, pilot key protocols, and leverage research accomplishments (track record) to maximise competitive potential when seeking external funding. SSSHARC supports a community of highly productive researchers to achieve their research and engagement ambitions through the development of streamlined research programs, the provision of expert research support, and the provision of expert mentoring to the academic and professional staff involved in these collective activities.

# **SQUIGGLE - Sydney Queer Games for Learning and Education**

SQUIGGLE brings together queer theorists, educationalists and designers interested in using games methodology in support of gender inclusivity. We are particularly focussed on tabletop games where the emphasis is on transformative interpersonal exchange.

Funded by the DVCR Strategic Research Impact Fund, the SQUIGGLE will develop research-informed and game-based gender, sexuality, relationship and consent learning tools for use in New South Wales secondary schools and other educational settings.

#### Team

- Emily Herdman (Project Officer)
- Dr Xavier Ho (Monash University)
- Dr Nanda Jarosz (SSSHARC Executive Officer)
- Dr Victoria Rawlings (School of Education and Social Work, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)
- Premeet Sidhu (HDR, School of Education and Social Work, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)
- Logan Timmins (Amble Studio)
- Professor Lee Wallace (SSSHARC Director)

## **Partners**

- Amble Studio
- Cruxes Innovation
- Social Impact Hub
- <u>The Women's College</u>, University of Sydney

#### Milestones

- Co-design workshop 14 November 2023
- Playtesting workshops SSSHARC February 2024
- External playtesting workshops Semester One 2024
- Business Plan April 2024

#### **Research Programs**

The SSSHARC Research Programs have been curated as interdisciplinary and collaborative research nodes. These nodes have been streamlined down from the period of experimentation in 2022 to foreground SSSHARC's incubation, translation, and engagement pillars. Each

program advances a series of activities designed to produce tangible research outcomes with an emphasis on social impact.

Research Program	Research Program Lead	Activities
Art, Play, Risk	Sanné Mestrom	Symposium, Public Talk
Computational Social Science Lab	Olga Boichak	Eurovision Hackathon, Public Talk
Corridor Cultures	Vic Rawlings	Girls and Women in Australian
		Football Umpiring (Report)
ICOMOS	Nanda Jarosz	International Delegation to
		ICOMOS GA23, Conversation
		Article, Information Session, CHCI
		Ideas Platform, Collaboration
		Meetings in WA
Reproductive Freedom	Anna Noonan	Huddle, DVCR Funding Application
Sexual Education	Lee Wallace	Education Program (DCJ), Games
		Program (DVCR), Workshops,
		Huddles, Teaching Materials,
		Game Design, Summer Institute
Superannuation in Australia	Aarti Singh	DP24 Application

## **Funding Applications**

Advancing competitive high-level grant applications is the cornerstone of SSSHARC's long term strategy. SSSHARC is prioritising investment into seeding and developing Category 2 and 3 funding applications.

The team also identified external funding opportunities unique to SSSHARC, such as the Consortium of Humanities Centres and Institutes (CHCI) Membership Activity Fund.

This year, SSSHARC applied for six internal grants and achieved a 100% success rate. This is indicative of broad support for the Centre's activities across the University. Notable success came in the form of two DVCR Strategic Research Fund commercialisation grants for social enterprise endeavours based on social sciences methodologies and approaches.

# **Highlight - Sexual Consent Education Program**

In partnership with <u>Consent Labs</u>, a female-founded social enterprise that provides youth-facilitated, evidence-based consent and respectful relationship workshops in over 150 NSW schools, Lee Wallace and Victoria Rawlings won a \$1.1 million grant. The <u>two-year research grant</u> was awarded by the Department of Communities and Justice to prevent gendered violence in schools through innovative educational programs and resources, including workshops and games, that can be implemented at scale.

Consent Labs' existing programs span modules on what consent looks like, how consent is influenced by factors such as technology, or alcohol and other drugs, and sexual violence. The programs developed with the University of Sydney will look at the wider landscape of consent, including gender and sexuality norms.

#### Team

- Christina Chun (Chair of Consent Labs)
- Emily Herdman (Project Officer)
- Dr Xavier Ho (Monash University)
- Dr Victoria Rawlings (School of Education and Social Work, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)
- Premeet Sidhu (HDR, Educational Games Research Assistant)

- Professor Lee Wallace (SSSHARC Director)
- Angelique Wan (CEO and Co-Founder of Consent Labs)
- Gillian Wu (Project Manager, Consent Labs)

#### **Partners**

- Cranbrook School
- <u>The Women's College</u>, University of Sydney

External Scheme	SSSHARC Lead	Outcome
ARC DECRA24	Olga Boichak	Successful
ARC Discovery24 (non-USyd)	Olga Boichak	Successful
ARC Discovery24	Kalervo Gulson	Successful
ARC Laureate23	Terry Flew	Successful
CHCI Membership Activity Fund	Lee Wallace	Successful
DCJ NSW Sexual Violence Project Fund	Lee Wallace	Successful
	Victoria Rawlings	
2023 JMI Policy Challenge Grant	Kalervo Gulson	Successful
Perpetual Impact Philanthropy Funding	Lee Wallace	Pending
ARC Discovery24	Lee Wallace	Unsuccessful
ARC Laureate 23	Kalervo Gulson	Unsuccessful
CHCI Membership Activity Fund	Nanda Jarosz	Unsuccessful
CHCI Membership Activity Fund	Josh Stenberg	Unsuccessful
CHCI Global Humanities Institutes 2024	Lee Wallace	Unsuccessful
<u>Loeb Foundation Fellowship</u>	Eleanor Cowan	Unsuccessful
Meta - Foundational Integrity Grants	Olga Boichak	Unsuccessful
Mozilla Technology Fund: Auditing Tools for Al Systems	Kalervo Gulson	Unsuccessful
2023 NSW National Science Week Grant	Lee Wallace	Unsuccessful
Public Affairs, Embassy of the United States of America	Lee Wallace	Unsuccessful
<u>in Australia</u>		
Public Affairs, Embassy of the United States of America	Lee Wallace	Unsuccessful
<u>in Australia</u>		
Spencer Vision Grant	Lee Wallace	Unsuccessful
Internal Scheme	SSSHARC Lead	Outcome
DVCR Strategic Research Impact Fund	Lee Wallace	Successful
SQUIGGLE	Victoria Rawlings	
DVCR Strategic Research Impact Fund	Lee Wallace	Successful
Access All Areas	Sue Goodwin	
FASS External Engagement Fund	Lee Wallace	Successful
Norman Haire Fund for CLOAK (#2)	Lee Wallace	Successful
Sydney Nano Catalyst – Arthaus	Lee Wallace	Successful
	Julie Rrap	
	Alice Motion	
Sydney Policy Lab — Policy Impact Award	Lee Wallace	Successful

# **Publications**

In line with the Centre's strategy for generating social impact, in 2023 SSSHARC placed emphasis on collaborative and non-traditional research outputs over traditional research outputs. SSSHARC does not claim attribution for publication of works by researchers merely affiliated with the Centre. Below we showcase a particularly impactful research program incubated in SSSHARC.

# Highlight - Educational Al

Lead by Professor Kalervo Gulson, this project looks at current governance and regulation around the procurement and implementation of products that utilize Artificial Intelligence in Australian schools, where they are often represented as a labour-saving device in the context of automated marking. Engaging various stakeholder groups, this research investigates how schools can make informed decisions around when the adoption of "black box" technologies that may critically determine the education pathways available to students. The project is cofounded by <u>Dr Teresa Swist</u> and <u>Dr Kevin Witzenberger</u>. In 2023, Gulson and his team won a James Martin Institute Policy Grant to continue developing best practice and an ARC Discovery Grant to further investigate democratising policy around Al in Education.

### Reports, White Papers, Briefs

- Education, work and Australian society in Al world: A review of research literature and policy recommendations. Authors: Gulson, K.N., Murphie, A., Taylor, S., & Sellar, S. (2018, updated 2022). [More Information]
- Gulson, K., Thompson, G., Swist, T., Kitto, K., Rutkowski, L., Rutkowski, D., Hogan, A., Z hang, V., Knight, S. (2022). Automated Essay Scoring in Australian Schools: Key Issues and Recommendations (White Paper). Education Innovations White Paper Series ISSN 2653-6749. Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre (SSSHARC), University of Sydney, Australia.
- Gulson, K., Thompson, G., Swist, T., Kitto, K., Rutkowski, L., Rutkowski, D., Hogan, A., Zhang, V., Knight, S. (2022). Automated Essay Scoring in Australian Schools:
   Collaborative Policymaking (Policy Brief). Education Innovations Policy Brief Series ISSN 2653-6757. Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre (SSSHARC), University of Sydney, Australia.

#### **Academic Publications**

- Swist, T., Humphry, J., Gulson, K. (2023). Pedagogic encounters with algorithmic system controversies: a toolkit for democratising technology. Learning, Media & Technology, 48(2), 226-239. [More Information]
- Swist, T., Gulson, K. (2023). School Choice Algorithms: Data Infrastructures, Automation, and Inequality. Postdigital Science and Education, 5(1), 152-170. [More Information]
- Gulson, K., Sellar, S., Taylor Webb, P., Webb, P. (2022). Algorithms of education: How datafication and artificial intelligence shape policy. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Swist, T., Suwana, F., Gulson, K., Flew, T. (2022). As more biometric data is collected in schools, parents need to ask these 10 questions. The Conversation. [More Information]
- Howard, S., Swist, T., Gasevic, D., Bartimote, K., Knight, S., Gulson, K., Apps, T.,
   Peloche, J., Hutchinson, N., Selwyn, N. (2022). Educational data journeys: Where are we going, what are we taking and making for Al? Computers & Education. Artificial Intelligence, 3, 100073 1-8. [More Information]

## **Research Huddles**

A SSSHARC research huddle is a one-day collaboration intensive around an idea or question that is highly compelling but needs further articulation before it can be advanced as a funded research program or other landmark outcome. The aim of a huddle is not to present talks but to bring in an outside expert or experts who can critically guide the existing discussion towards a defined outcome, such as a joint grant application, a co-authored article, a book prospectus or a journal special issue proposal, a white paper or a high-profile opinion piece.

In 2023, SSSHARC hosted four research huddles that saw FASS academics collaborating with academics, experts and stakeholders from ten external institutions and organisations. Outcomes from these huddles are captured in the publications, research funding, and media sections of this summary.

Huddle Title	SSSHARC Lead	Collaborators
WtE Research Huddle 2 – ARC Linkage Project	Alyson Simpson	Wayne Cotton (USyd), Christine Preston (USyd), Louisa Peralta (USyd), Rachel White (USyd), Anne Lawson-Jones (USyd), Maria Karimullah (USyd), Christine Evans (USyd), Jim Tognolini (USyd), Christopher Day (Nottingham), Jennifer Rowley (Conservatorium), Damien Maher (UTS), George Harb (UTS), Janet Clinton (UoM), Daniel Pinchas (AITSL), Judith Page (AITSL), Mark Grant (AITSL), Sandra Robinson (AITSL)
Queer TV	Sarah Kessler (University of Southern California), Susan Potter (USyd)	Aymar Jean Christian (Northwestern), Cherine Fahd (UTS), Hannah Hamad (Cardiff), Melissa Hardie (USyd), E. Patrick Johnson (Northwestern), Kelly Panchyshyn (HDR, USyd), Karen Tongson (USC) Lee Wallace (USyd)
Abortion Pills and Reproductive Freedom: Grassroots Activism and New Business Models	Susan Goodwin (USyd), Anna Noonan (USyd)	Maddie Belfrage (UQ), Alice Motion (Chemistry, USyd), Lee Wallace (USyd), Nanda Jarosz (USyd), Cherine Fahd (UTS), Christina Chun (Social Enterprise Australia), Rae Cooper (Business, USyd), Rupal Ismin (SKH), Kirsten Black (Medicine, USyd), Domina Augustine (Hons, SSESW), Isobella Compton (Hons, SSESW), and other externals and activists
"Say Bananas" in Education and Health	David Evans (Education), Kirrie Ballard (Health Sciences)	Ammik Kisriyani (HDR, Education), Masniary Hapsari (HDR, Education), Sanaz Montazer (HDR, Education), Elga Andriana (Universitas Gadjah Mada), Tuende Szalay (Health Sciences), Marisha Speights (Northwestern), Joanne Arciuli (Flinders), Benna Ahmed (UNSW), Mostafa Shahin (UNSW), and representatives from Royal Far West and NSW Association of Independent Schools

# **Ultimate Peer Review (UPR)**

In line with 2023 being a year of consolidation, the SSSHARC team, in consultation with the Management Committee, decided to limit investment in the UPR space. While the quality of publications associated with UPRs was high, it was thought that this work would be better devolved to Schools. In 2024, SSSHARC will no longer be supporting UPRs.

In this context, we note that both manuscripts peer reviewed in SSSHARC in 2022 have progressed. Sophie Chau's <u>Hunger: An Indigenous Theory from West Papua</u> is now under contract with Duke University Press. Alex Lefebvre's <u>Liberalism as a Way of Life</u> will be published by Princeton University Press in June 2024.

# **Capacity Building**

# Social Impact

Research impact is now considered to be a core part of a University's research culture<sup>1</sup>. Some researchers are compelled towards work that readily branches into commercialisation or policy dimensions. For others, however, the pathways to socially impactful research are not always as clear. SSSHARC has been exploring ways to nurture a research impact culture across HASS disciplines through collaboration and knowledge translation activities.

## **Research Impact Accelerator**

In February 2024, SSSHARC will launch the Research Impact Accelerator, a novel program that provides researchers with tailored tools and support to plan and execute knowledge translation activities. Designed in line with the Faculty's Strategy (2024-2026), this comprehensive program will equip research teams with the skills, mentorship, and resources that they need to translate their research into impact that addresses pressing social challenges.

SSSHARC has designed the Accelerator to assist FASS researchers form diverse teams and collectively plan for the social impact of their research. Teams will be invited to link their aims and objectives to at least one of FASS's strategic research priorities (2024-2026):

- Inequality and Justice
- Environment and Climate
- Health and Society
- Al & Digital Societies
- Cultural and Knowledge Diversity

Acknowledging that the activities required to generate impact need institutional support, the program builds in translation activities from project inception not as an afterthought. Drawing on 18-months research experimentation at SSSHARC, the Accelerator explores proven research collaboration methodologies that are scalable and transferable.

#### **Key Points**

- The Accelerator is a research capacity-building program aimed at developing a repeatable process for planning collaboration, knowledge translation, and social impact activities for researchers in FASS.
- The Accelerator program provides a 9-month support scaffold for multidisciplinary and cross-functional research teams to articulate and achieve their social impact visions.
- The Accelerator requires each team to participate in a range of facilitated workshops and tailored coaching sessions to map a forward plan. If the plan meets threshold expectations, a dedicated Project Officer will be assigned to the team to help schedule and drive the delivery of the planned impact generating activities.

# Benefits for research teams engaging in the Accelerator Leadership Experience:

Project Leads will be responsible for preparing and submitting the program
application, identifying the project, nominating the team, role delegation, acquitting
funding, interim and final reporting, and ensuring the team's sustained commitment to
the program. Successful participation in the program will provide demonstrable
evidence of leadership.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Moran, H., Karlin, L., Lauchlan, E., Rappaport, S. J., Bleasdale, B., Wild, L., et al. (2020). Understanding research culture: What researchers think about the culture they work in. Wellcome Open Res. 5:201. doi: 10.12688/wellcomeopenres.15832.1

 Research teams will partake in a tailored 1:1 coaching session designed to build capacity around planning for research engagement. This session will help individual members of the team build leadership capabilities that they can then apply in this and other contexts.

### Collaboration Experience:

- Participation provides an opportunity to engage with colleagues, partners and organisations beyond individual Schools and Faculties.
- Cross-functional and multidisciplinary team dynamics challenges the idea of one-track,
   solo career models and provides an opportunity to innovate with others.
- Team contexts provide two-way mentoring opportunities between colleagues and across professional/academic functions and levels.
- Team approach to research impact activities dilutes individual contributor dynamics and allows for sharing of responsibilities.

## Capacity Building:

- The Accelerator takes a strategic approach to resourcing and conducting engagement activities.
- It provides resources and support to projects that would otherwise not happen.
- It allows teams to think about research impact activities at the front end of the research journey rather than at the end.
- Research teams will fine tune their skills and capabilities around engagement and will learn how to become more impactful in their research.
- It offers a well-supported space for teams to explore innovation.
- It trains researchers to identify opportunities, build track-record, and go after Category 2 and 3 funding.
- It dedicates focus to research activities for impact rather than concentrating on funding applications that may or may not succeed.
- Represents institutional training that applicants can demonstrate in subsequent funding applications.

The Impact Accelerator consists of a phased approach to developing opportunities and activities for impact.

- Phase Zero: Teams self-identify and prepare EOI for submission in Feb.
- Phase One: Identify opportunities and pool available funding to explore research collaboration projects with external stakeholders to demonstrate engagement track record. Initial collaborative workshop (SSSHARC).
- **Phase Two:** Research Impact Masterclass for all five project teams. Facilitated by Cruxes and held at Sydney Knowledge Hub (9/4/24).
- Phase Three: Coaching sessions for forward planning for research impact. 2-hour coaching session with each project team to develop road and budget for strategic research activities (Cruxes & SSSHARC).
- Phase Four: Plan and schedule of activities to be supported by SSSHARC Project Officer.

# SSSHARC Research Impact Accelerator



# Communications

# Reputation Building

One of SSSHARC's key goals is to build an international profile as a leading centre for HASS research. In 2023 emphasis was placed on curating strategic relationships with The Conversation and the Consortium for Humanities Centres and Institutes (CHCI). All communications and knowledge translation efforts are developed, managed, and implemented by the SSSHARC team.

#### Website

The SSSHARC website the most visited research page on the Faculty website. It is also the highest performing Centre homepage, with almost double the number of views of the next highest performing website (CSC).

#### Social Media

In July 2023, Twitter underwent a rebrand and became known as X, which had a significant flow on effect for SSSHARC's media engagement strategy. Which platform will now serve as the primary social media channel for academics and researchers is still unclear. Following University directives, SSSHARC has remained active on X where it continues to grow its audience and regularly outperforms other Faculty centres in terms of traffic.

In 2023, social media milestones include:

- 209% increase in profile visits
- 3,813% increase in impressions
- 260% increase in mentions
- 395 new followers
- average engagement is at 3.5% (surpassing Faculty benchmark of 2.1%).

#### **Research Communication**

As part of its reputation building mission, SSSHARC aims to lead Faculty efforts to translate HASS research to the wider public. SSSHARC has sought to maximise research engagement

through a series of articles published on the SSSHARC website and shared through social media. Our pieces consistently rate in the top 25 FASS news articles each quarter.

_ Title	Туре
How to get the most out of sculpting with sand?	News
Mardi Gras and WorldPride 2023	News
Gay bars in Sydney survive COVID-19 pandemic	News
8 must-play LGBTQIA+ video games	News
Sydney Spotlight with Professor Lee Wallace and Dr Victoria Rawlings	Intranet
Fellowship to support outstanding scholars in Creative Practice	SSSHARC News
Fellowships create research and mentoring opportunities for First Nations scholars	SSSHARC News
Eurovision 2023: What Australian viewers can expect	News
The many forms of research collaboration	SSSHARC News
Artists at the end of the world	SSSHARC News
University of Sydney to host international cultural heritage delegation	SSSHARC News
Sexual consent education program wins \$1.1 million research boost	News

SSSHARC also aims to share insights with wider publics for the benefit of FASS and the University more generally. SSSHARC works closely with visiting Fellows to publish and share their research through platforms such as The Conversation.

Title	SSSHARC Contributor	Publication	
How can the law account for the value of natural	Nanda	The Conversation	
places?	Jarosz		
How to get the most out of sand play: 4 tips from a	Sanne	The Conversation	
sculptor	Mestrom		
'Inaction supports Putin's escalation': World must keep	Olesya The Age		
standing up to Russia, historian says	Khromeychk	k Ille Age	
Queer video and tabletop games from Australia and			
New Zealand that celebrate LGBTQIA+ culture and	Xavier Ho	ABC News	
<u>resistance</u>			
Awe can alter our sense of self and open us to new	Nanda	The Conversation	
possibilities – could it help save the planet?	Jarosz	The Conversation	
Binding Ties explores celebrated artist Catherine	Cherine		
Opie's world of transitions	Fahd, Lee	The Conversation	
Opie 3 world of Iransmons	Wallace		
'Wouldn't want to be on any other team': the queer joy	Lee		
of watching the Matildas at the 'outest' World Cup ever	Wallace, Vic	The Conversation	
	Rawlings		
Morocco Earthquake: why traditional earthen	Louise		
architecture is not to blame for the destruction	Cooke	The Conversation	
communities have endured	COOKC		
Morocco earthquake: why traditional earthen	Louise	CHCI Ideas Platform	
architecture is not to blame for the destruction	Cooke		
communities have endured	COOKC		
At HOTA, sneakers find their well-deserved place in art	Indigo	The Conversation	
galleries at last	Welling	THE CONVENSATION	

# Other activities

In the spirit of consolidation of purpose, SSSHARC delivered a smaller number of events this year with an emphasis on strategic value and high engagement potential. We streamlined events into two categories, (1) large scale public facing events organised in partnership, and

(2) small scale internal events aimed at HDRs and the FASS research community. In the case of Sanné Mestrom's research symposium on child-friendly cities and playable art we combined both by inviting Sanne to install a pop-up playground on the University lawns for Alumni Day as part of our ongoing Arthaus project with the Sydney Nano Institute



Event Name	SSSHARC Contributor	Collaborators	Registrations
SSSHARC Writing Salon: Gender, Writing, Trauma	Olga Boichak, Lee Wallace	Olesya Khromeychuk (Ukrainian Institute London)	8 (in person)
CLOAK Exhibition Launch	Lee Wallace	Alice Motion, Cherine Fahd (UTS), Kelly Panchyshyn, Todd Robinson (UTS)	>300 registrations
Rainbow City Light Mural Launch	Lee Wallace	Xavier Ho (Monash)	30
Pride at Play Exhibition Launch	Xavier Ho	SCA, Sydney Games and Play Lab	75
"But I'm a Cheerleader," Introduced Screening	Lee Wallace	Clara Bradbury-Rance (King's College London)	25 (in person)
Artists on the Ice: Interpreting the Poetics of Antarctica	Lee Wallace	Jean McNeil, Diana Chester, Janet Laurence, Alice Giles, FASS Strategic Partnerships and Engagement. The Women's College	Registration: 189 Attendees: 120
Humanities ECR Publication Workshop	Lee Wallace	Scott Herring (Yale) Shane Vogel (Yale)	12 ECRs
English Research Workshop: Waiting for Godot and the Racial Theater of the Absurd	Mark Byron	Shane Vogel (Yale)	8
Eurovision Hackathon	Olga Boichak Anika Gauja	Chris Hay (University of Southern QLD), Jessica Carneil	12
Social Media for Humanities Social Justice	Nanda Jarosz	Sara Černe (UCI), Michael Pascual (Duke), Joseph Plaster (John Hopkins)	6 (in person)

Humanities and Heritage: Some Thoughts Post- ICOMOS 2023	Nanda Jarosz	Louise Cooke (York), Natali Pearson (SEAC), Tristen Jones (Archaeology)	6 (in person) Recorded event
Play Beyond Playgrounds	Sanne Mestrom	Mike Hewson, Natalia Krysiak (Cities for Play), Lousie Pearson (Aspect Studios), David Eager (UTS), Quentin Stevens (RMIT), Owen Cure (Blaklash), Abbie Galvin (NSW Government Architect), Agathe Gothe-Snape, Gregor Mews, Anne Loxley (Director, Arts and Cultural Change, City of Parramatta), Lleah Smith, Nadia Odlum (HDR, USyd)	120
Urban Robotics Workshop	Chris Cheshire	Simon Marvin (ADP & Sheffield) Academy of the Social Sciences	25
Contemplative Leadership	Remy Low	Sophie Gee (Princeton)	9

#### YouTube

In 2023, SSSHARC YouTube videos generated 1,195 views, 11,500 impressions, and 6 new subscribers, with an average view rate of 1.47minutes.

A highlight was the HISS Trailer which was developed in collaboration with FASS Media.



# **Looking Ahead**

SSSHARC will be formally reviewed in April 2024, at which point we will reflect on our post-COVID learnings and table a new three to five-year vision and associated business plan. Stay tuned.

## **Confirmed Headline Initiatives for 2024**

- Hunt-Simes Institute in Sexuality Studies (Rawlings and Wallace)
- SSSHARC Research Impact Accelerator (Jarosz and Wallace)

- Artist-in-Residence @ Sydney Nano Institute (Todd Robinson, UTS Fashion)
- Skate, Create, Regenerate: Pushing for Playful, Healthy and Inclusive Cities (Indigo Willing, Sanne Mestrom and Lian Loke) Co-sponsored by The Australian Sociological Association (TASA)
- SSSHARC / Humanities Research Centre (ANU) Creative Practice Fellow, Dr Visakesa Chandrasekaram (Film Director, Human Rights Activist and Legal Scholar, University of Colombo)