



The Geographical Society of New South Wales

# Honours/Masters Conference 2018

**Tuesday 6 November, 10am-4pm**

Showcasing Honours and Masters Research from across NSW universities.

**VENUE**

University of Sydney, Camperdown Main Campus  
Geosciences Conference Room  
Room 449, 4th Floor, Madsen Building (F09)

**ABSTRACTS**

200 words, due 26 October

**CONTACT**

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THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SYDNEY**



**The Geographical  
Society of New South Wales**

*Advancing geography in New South Wales and throughout Australia.*

## 2018 Honours/Masters Mini-Conference Program

**Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> November

**Venue:** Room 331, 3<sup>rd</sup> (ground) floor, Madsen Building (building F09 on university campus map: <https://sydney.edu.au/maps/campuses/?area=CAMDAR> )

### Schedule of Conference

**Registration:** 09.45 – 10.00

Welcome: 10.00 – 10.05am Welcome from Professor Phil McManus, Head, School of Geosciences  
 Welcome: 10.05 -10.10am Welcome from Rae/Bronwyn – general outline of day, reference to prizes etc.....

Student speakers commence their talks

### Student presentations

Time *	Speaker	Title
10.10 – 10.20am	Donna James, Master by Research candidate, Western Sydney University	Understanding Tinder's role in the making and remaking of social relations between women from Yogyakarta and tourist men from the Global North
10.20 – 10.40am	Elloise Ames, Honours candidate, University of Wollongong	The geographies of waste: how kitchen caddies construct (and are constructed by) meanings and practices of household food waste and consumption
10.40 – 11.00am	Jessica Lemire, Newcastle University	Dancing up Darug: Performing care as Country in semi-urban places
<b>11:00 – 11:30am – Tea break (panel of judges meets to discuss presentations)</b>		
11.00 – 11.20am	Ellen Burke, Honours candidate, The University of Sydney	Putting street art and graffiti on the map: 'Mapping' the contested place of street art and graffiti
11.20 – 11.40am	Jason Chan, Honours, UNSW	Do ploidy and rarity affect seed and seedling traits of <i>Pomaderris</i> species?
11.40 -12.00 noon	Bridget Mullany, Honours candidate, Uni of Wollongong	Uncovering knowledge conflicts surrounding Mulloway in NSW

- Each speaker to speak for 15 mins with 5 mins for Q&A after each talk

12.00 – 12.30pm: Group discussion and general Q&A and PRIZES awarded by GSNSW.....

12.30 – lunch provided

1.30 – end conference

### Full titles and Abstracts

#### Donna James

#### Understanding Tinder's role in the making and remaking of social relations between women from Yogyakarta and tourist men from the Global North

Tourism research to date has addressed the influence of transnational, geopolitical processes on the micro-social power relations that exist between tourist men from the Global North and 'local' women who live the Global South. The geosocial dating applications (apps) that are increasingly being used to mediate these relationships however, require investigation. This study aimed to explore the role that Tinder's materiality plays in the making and remaking of social relations between Yogyakarta women and tourists from the Global North. A bricolage research design was employed comprising an online questionnaire (n = 22), semi-structured one-to-one interviews with Yogyakarta women on text-

messaging app WhatsApp (n = 16) and a critical analysis of Tinder's user experience design (UXD). Grounded Theory Analysis revealed that Yogyakarta women are using Tinder to meet tourist men from the Global North to overcome their domestic gender-related oppressions. However, because Tinder's user-experience design amplifies the axes of racialized difference that sustain the uneven power relations between the Global North and the Global South, Yogyakarta women experience new transnational gender-related oppressions. Consequently, opportunities for women to escape domestic gender-related oppressions are only made available to them if they dislocate themselves from Yogyakarta and reconfigure their social identities through International travel.

**Elloise Ames**

### **The geographies of waste: how kitchen caddies construct (and are constructed by) meanings and practices of household food waste and consumption**

Confronted with the economic and environmental costs of food waste, municipal-composting programs have proliferated. Some programs, (like Kiama Municipal Council's 'Ok Organics'), provide households with a 'kitchen caddy' to separate food waste that is to be collected by the council and composted. Such strategies bring residents face-to-face with food becoming waste as they separate food from other waste streams. Embodied research methods suggest encounters with both bins and waste, although 'ordinary' objects, can move people to re-consider their relationship to waste (Hawkins, 2005). Despite this, we have little sense of how the caddy, and contact with food waste, shapes such reflection and/or triggers new environmental subjectivities. Drawing on the case of Kiama Council's waste program, this project addresses this gap. Through analysis of 15 semi-structured interviews, the research shows that the caddy's presence including its sight, smell and decay, disrupted households, causing participants to develop strategies to regain control over their home space. While the caddy triggered slight changes towards more sustainable behaviour and alleviated the widely-felt pressures to be 'environmental', there was no change to household consumption practices, including shopping and cooking. This study suggests future waste minimisation policies support households in managing the inevitable visceralities of food waste.

**Jessica Lemire**

### **Dancing up Darug: Performing care as Country in semi-urban places**

*Yenama budjari gumada* is a phrase in Darug language, meaning to walk with good spirit. This phrase encompasses the inextricable link between Indigenous cultural practices and the rejuvenation of Country. I would like to invite you all to walk with me through the sensuous, affective, more-than-human space of Yarramundi Regional Park in the exploration of dance as an Indigenous cultural practice. As we walk we feel the softness of the dirt on the bare soles of our feet; the wind caresses us, dulling the kiss of the sun; fire sings with us; and smoke dances with us. I share these textures of Country – it's silky dirt, dense dusty air, the mixture of water and ochre: a white film over my bare skin – to bring my experience of dancing to life. Through our walk together, I relive these moments. And with these textures I paint a picture of the ways in which Darug Country reveals itself to me, cares for me, guides me, and connects me with other parts of my home and myself.

**Ellen Burke**

### **Putting street art and graffiti on the map: 'Mapping' the contested place of street art and graffiti**

Our attitudes towards the 'normality' of street art and graffiti are influenced by the discourses which surround them. What are these discourses? Who defines them? Could they be contested? This thesis examines the role of maps and map-making in the control and contesting of the place of street art and graffiti in cities, specifically in inner city Sydney and Melbourne. Drawing from post-representational cartography, a 'mapping ethnography' is developed to examine map-making and map-use, using interviews as the primary method. Two careful place-making and 'policing' strategies are defined. Graffiti is consistently framed as *out-of-place*. Marking walls without permission is abnormal behaviour that does not belong in city streets. Street art, alternatively, is being portrayed as *in-place*. Usually more conventionally recognisable as 'art,' and often done with permission, street art is being given a commodifiable and valued place in cities. This is being done to tighten control on space, controlling

the definition of acceptable art, and controlling where that art goes. Defining what is acceptable then means the unacceptable is more clearly discernible, and removable. Theory and practice of counter-mapping are then drawn on to challenge these dominant discourses and suggest alternative ways to view and interact with city space.

**Jason Chan**

#### **Do ploidy and rarity affect seed and seedling traits of *Pomaderris* species?**

Understanding the potential mechanisms underlying rarity in plant species is essential for accurately predicting their extinction risk. Rarity has been linked to variation in numerous phenotypic and phenological seed and seedling traits, including smaller seed size, slower germination and smaller seedling stature. Ploidy can affect the same traits and may interact with rarity, however there is surprisingly little known about the ecological outcomes of relationships between ploidy and key traits. Here I determined whether ploidy and rarity in *Pomaderris* are associated with variation in seed and seedling traits that might limit their regeneration performance in fire-prone systems. I experimentally quantified seed dormancy and germination processes using fire-related heat treatments, and seedling performance under drought stress. I also examined the association of seed size with the other seed and seedling traits. Polyploids had bigger seeds, a faster germination rate, and larger and taller seedlings than diploids. There was a lack of any clear effect of rarity. My findings indicate that there is a higher potential competitive advantage in polyploid than diploid *Pomaderris* during regeneration, a critical stage in the post-fire environment, likely related to their bigger seeds. Land managers could take the diploidy disadvantage into consideration when prioritising conservation of threatened species.

**Key words:** conservation management, fire ecology, interspecific variation, limiting traits, polyploidy, regeneration niche, threatened species

**Bridget Mullany**

#### **Uncovering knowledge conflicts surrounding Mulloway in NSW**

Demands on fish stocks are generated by the millions of people who rely upon ocean and river systems for employment, food security and recreation. As such, sustainable fisheries management is an urgent global objective. A challenge to the sustainable management of fisheries lies in addressing and resolving conflicts over access to and use of fisheries resources. This thesis addresses environmental management conflict that often seen within fisheries management. This thesis contributes a political ecology perspective to those advocating for the importance of human dimensions to fisheries management. The thesis reports on a mixed-method qualitative research design employed to gather empirical materials surrounding the conflict over Mulloway in the New South Wales coast and estuary waters of the Hawkesbury River, adjacent to metropolitan Sydney. Fifteen participants consented to participate in the project, five each from three social groups often involved in such conflicts: fisheries management and scientists; recreational fishers and commercial fishers. Employing a political ecology framework the thesis extends its aim to provide insights to two questions about the conflict over Mulloway: 'is there a problem?' and 'Who is to blame?' In addressing these questions through a political ecology lens the thesis attends to how conflict is embedded in the different economic relationships of recreational and commercial fisheries, a hierarchy of environmental knowledge and fishers. The thesis underscores the importance of human dimensions to fisheries management to a collaborative more forward and points towards future research agendas.