

ACUR 2013

Abstracts of POSTER Presentations

(Alphabetical order of first name of students)

Alaa Ismail

Monash University

Characterisation of human fibroblastic reticular cells

Introduction: Fibroblastic reticular cells (FRCs) are the main component of the structural backbone of the T cell rich zones in secondary lymphoid organs. However FRCs are also involved in a number of activities and interactions that go beyond their role in architectural scaffolding. Recent studies have shown that FRCs are involved in a number of functions and roles, including the production of cytokines and the direction and sustenance of T cells and B cells during immune responses. Additionally, there is some preliminary evidence that FRCs may influence the innate immune response.

Hypothesis: We hypothesised that innate immune roles may exist for hFRCs.

Materials and Methods: 1) Human FRC cells were obtained from several unrelated donors. A microarray gene analysis was carried out to determine whether FRC gene expression included those for chemokines related to innate immunity.

2) FRC cell cultures were incubated with or without lipopolysaccharide (LPS) over a time course ranging from 0-48 hours. Samples were taken at pre-defined timepoints.

Results: A heatmap was obtained from the microarray analysis, indicating total expression of chemokines, interleukins, interleukin receptors, interferons and tumor necrosis factors in FRCs from the different donors. CXCL10, CCL2, CCL5, CCL22, CXCL1, CXCL2 and CXCL14 were identified as chemokines in addition to the cytokine interleukin 6 with key roles in innate immunity and selected for follow-up studies.

Conclusions: FRCs express interleukins and chemokines with key roles in innate immunity."

Alistair Sisson

University of Western Australia

What influences exchange destination choice? Evidence from students returned to an Australian university

Exchange students' motivations for studying abroad vary widely. Their choices can be informed by factors that range from specific qualities of the university to those that are beyond the university's control. As a result of globalisation and internationalisation in higher education, student mobility has increased dramatically over the past 20 years, raising important questions regarding the nature of the relationship between universities and international students. The study explores the various pull factors at different scales that influence study destination choice. A survey instrument, including Likert scale, ranking scale and open-ended questions was, employed (response rate 25.78%). Results point to opportunities for cultural immersion and social interaction rather than education factors as predominant influences on student's choice of destination. It was also apparent that students saw their choice of university as a means to experience a particular country or city. As such, the study supports the notion of the exchange student as an 'educational tourist'. The results have implications for how universities and students utilise the opportunities presented by overseas study. The necessity for universities to improve relationships with destination managers is also highlighted.

Avinash Babu Srinivasreddy

University of Wollongong

Characterization of Rice Husk Ash and Its Use in Concrete

Concrete is the most widely used construction material on earth with, around five billion cubic meters produced annually. The active ingredient in concrete is cement which typically makes about 10 to 15% of the concrete. The production of cement requires high energy, emits large amount of greenhouse gases, depletes natural resources and is very expensive. It has been reported that to produce 1 tonne of cement - consumes 4GJ of energy, emits 1tonne of CO₂ and requires about 1.7 tonnes of raw materials (limestone). Considerable efforts are being made to make use of the waste materials such as fly ash from coal combustion and Rice Husk Ash (RHA) as a partial replacement of cement. These can partially replace cement and also help to improve the concrete properties. Rice husk ash (RHA) is an agricultural waste, which is obtained by burning rice husk. The resulting ash is pozzolanic which means that it can react with water to form concrete.

The present study investigates the chemical and morphological nature of RHA and silica fume, which is an existing cement replacement used to improve strength and durability of concrete. Silica fume is obtained by refining of silicon metal and mining naturally occurring deposits of amorphous silica. Particle size distribution, Loss on Ignition, X-ray diffraction analysis, scanning electron microscopic and X-ray photo-electron spectroscopy experiments were carried.

Results show that the particle size of RHA and Silica fume in our samples were 9 μ m and 32 μ m. The particle of RHA were irregular in shape and silica fume was spherical. The RHA was

amorphous in nature with 65- 75% silicon by mass. It contains about 3.5% of unburnt carbon content.

These results allow us to predict how the materials will behave when mixed in concrete. The next phase of the research will test compressive strength and workability of the plastic concrete to allow compression between the materials. This work is part of a Master by coursework at the University of Wollongong.

Carolyn Woods

Macquarie University

Building, tearing down and memory: Approaches to the Berlin Wall as an example of communicative and cultural memory

This research project uses the Berlin Wall to engage with the concept of communicative and cultural memory. The Berlin Wall was and continues to be synonymous with the division of Germany. With initial construction beginning in 1961, the Berlin Wall remained both a physical representation of the division of East and West Berlin but also a symbolic representation of the division of the Eastern and Western Bloc. It remained until 1989 when the border between East and West was opened after nearly 30 years of division. Today, the Berlin Wall holds a special significance as a 'living' memory, reminding millions of the tragic past of Berlin. However after recent moves from property developers, this symbol and memory is under threat. Four sections of the East Side Gallery have been removed in order to make way for a luxury residential unit block. In opposition to this development, there have been protests by locals and tourists fighting to save the Wall. This action raises a number of issues regarding memory. The first issue is the fact that there is often a conflict between communicative and cultural memory. According to A Erll, that is a conflict between what we communicate to our contemporaries and what we would like to leave for future generations in the form of symbolic reminders and monuments of the past. Nowhere is this better seen than the Berlin Wall. Interviews from the time demonstrate that for some who lived through this time, it is a symbol of oppression and division. For others it is a symbol of better times under Soviet control. This leads to the second issue related to memory in that memory can also come down to personal experience while it is also clear that memory is not always voluntary.

Daniel Symington

Macquarie University

Asian ESP:Challenges Developing Asian Nations face in creating Environmental Sustainability Policies

In the current world, it is clear that globalisation and world polity theory are emerging as two, powerful, and sometimes conflicting, global expectations. Balancing a nation's economic needs with its global social responsibilities requires a considered approach by policy makers. This paper examines how environmental protection policies of developing Asian nations have not always struck this fine balance, and in some instances, have not actively pursued such a balance at all. The paper investigates, through various case studies, how contemporary economic, social and political issues pose a challenge to policy makers in the region. The challenges of changing demographics, the use of environmentally unsustainable production practices, and the rise in foreign tourism levels within Asian nations are examined as symptomatic of both domestic and global economic pressures. However, these economic pressures do not exist in isolation and their impact is worsened by socio-political problems that governments need to address. These include the challenges of institutionalised corruption and state sovereignty disputes. By contrasting varying academic viewpoints on each issue before presenting the case study examples, the discussion demonstrates how and why an issue that may seem to exist in isolation can affect how the governments of developing nations approach environmental sustainability policy development.

Gaelen Perrone

The University of Western Australia

Interpreting Strategic Litigation: Policy Entrepreneurship at The Court of Justice of the European Union

Policy entrepreneurs are political actors who seek to effect policy change within a given political arena. Though their *modus operandi* is traditionally limited to influencing the legislative policy agenda, this study hypothesises a different approach to policy promotion. In political systems which possess a codified set of laws with established legal supremacy over statutory law, the judiciary may present an alternative opportunity to initiate domestic policy change. The incorporation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union into the Treaty of Lisbon in 2009 precipitated a transformative shift in the available avenues of policy avocation in the European Union. As a result of specific interpretations by the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), the domestic legal sovereignty of European member states was significantly weakened. Individual activists and organised social movements were empowered to take advantage of this new avenue of policy avocation, preparing and promoting their causes to courts by supporting victims and litigating on their behalf. Examination of three instances of strategic legal action being brought before the CJEU, involving *Gabrielle Defrenne v. Société anonyme belge de navigation aérienne Sabena II* (1976), *Grant v. South-West Trains Ltd.* (1998) and *P. v. S. and Cornwall County Council* (1996), was conducted to address the study's central research question: to what extent does strategic litigation represent a new manifestation of policy entrepreneurship and what conclusions may be drawn from the European experience? It was ultimately found that strategic litigation shares several significant commonalities with the current academic conceptualisation of policy entrepreneurship. Differences between the legal outcomes of these cases further suggest that litigious success is subject to evolving

external and internal perceptions of the CJEU's institutional legitimacy. The implications of this finding emphasise the present limitations of supranational legal systems in effecting domestic policy change.

Georgia Alexander

Macquarie University

The Economisation of the Organ Trade

The advent of organ transplants from as early as the 1960s initially was one of the great medical discoveries of the 20th century. Since then, the process of globalisation has transformed the technology in parts of the world into a socially destructive and economically driven trade. This has produced international disparities between the rich and poor, through the existing international world order of developed and developing states. This paper aims to discuss why these processes are taking place and how they are being facilitated on an international scale. As well as discussing the trade, this paper will also investigate the 'flow of organs' from developing to developed countries and on what terms this flow operates. Traditional organ donation strategies increasingly are being replaced by a monetary incentive. This incentive operates as the desperately sick of developed states have the ability to finance the sourcing and transportation of organs from developing nations, exploiting the world's poorest. This paper will investigate what has facilitated the crucial shift from donation to purchase and how such transactions are continually growing despite a serious moral deficit. Background research has revealed the cooperation of some government structures that has enabled this trade to exist more freely. The organ trade highlights the 'commodification' of people within developing nations, especially within the Asian region. This commodification displays a capacity to lessen the value of life of people stricken by poverty. The focus will be on legislation as well as the black market that operates both beneath and in view of the law. Several journal articles, as well as newspaper articles will furnish some primary material for this investigation

Jack Muir

Australian National University

The Time Varying Rotation of the Inner Core Assessed by Bayesian Evidence

The inner core of the Earth consists of a solid metallic ball, extending to a radius of approximately 1220km from the Earth's centre. It has recently been suggested that coupling of the inner core to the Earth's magnetic field causes it to rotate at a rate different to that of the rest of the Earth. This has been confirmed via seismological studies in the last 15 years, however the exact nature of the differential rotation remains unconfirmed. It is commonly assumed that the inner core rotates at a faster than the rest of the Earth, at a constant 1-3 degrees per year. Researchers at the Australian National University (Hrovje et al 2013) have

found evidence that the rotation rate is in fact not constant. This study assessed the relative statistical significance of constant, and non-constant differential rotation models using Bayesian Marginal Evidence, which gives a quantitative measure of the relative probability of models.

Jacqueline Ruchpaul

Open University

The Correction of Public Opinion: the account of Kleomenes I by Herodotus

The reign of the Spartan King Kleomenes I was fundamental in Greek history as it was during this period that Sparta became a leader in the Greek world. Virtually the sole source for the reign of Kleomenes is The Histories written by the Greek historian Herodotus. Although dubbed 'the Father of History' Herodotus' account of Kleomenes (The Histories Books 5:41-75, 6:50-92) has been almost unanimously described as unfavourable to the King by modern historians. However, an analysis of his writing shows patterns in Herodotus' literary style that may put this supposedly 'hostile' reporting of Kleomenes into perspective in relation to the rest of The Histories, as well as bring to light some of the more positive angles, aspects and comments within the account which may challenge the opinion of modern historians. Admittedly the account has a slightly negative undertone in places but this is understandable when considering that the sources of Herodotus for Kleomenes may have been more negative than positive, given that Kleomenes' reign was not only turbulent but ended in his controversial death described as a madman. Furthermore, he left no male ancestors to redeem his name. No one has outlined the perceived faults of Herodotus in more detail than Plutarch in 'The Malice of Herodotus' however it is interesting to note that he does not chastise the account of Kleomenes. This may indicate that the account was originally considered just and unbiased, a consideration that somehow changed over the course of time. More detailed research in establishing that the account of Kleomenes in The Histories was not as hostile as previously declared will be a valuable contribution to modern scholarship in demonstrating that there is more than one way to appreciate the works of the ancient historians. Perhaps the 'Father of History' deserves a second glance.

Joshua Price

Macquarie University

The 2013 Ford factory closure: A management induced crisis

The question posed was to evaluate the management of a crisis by an organisation that had faced a crisis in the past 18 months. The organisation chosen for this essay was Ford, the crisis being the closure of its car factories in Geelong and Broadmeadow. The main theory used for this essay is the theory of Management Induced Crises (MIC) posed by Damian Gleeson. In the essay I proposed that the closures of the Ford Factories, without

immediately announcing a redundancy package, constituted a MIC. Ford's actions forced the Australian Government into providing a \$30 Million transition program for Ford workers, easing the economic impact to Ford. In this essay I show, using the events leading up to the closure, the conditions necessary for an organisation to implement a MIC. By comparing the 2013 Ford Factory closure to the 2011 Qantas Lockdown show that the crisis was in fact orchestrated by Ford management.

Lauren Brady

Charles Sturt University

Exploring Personal Development, Health and Physical Education, Higher School Certificate teachers' perceptions of the value of New South Wales Higher School Certificate Online website in preparing students for a high-stakes examination

This research provides an evaluation of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) node of the New South Wales (NSW) Higher School Certificate (HSC) Online website, from the perspectives of a sample of current NSW PDHPE HSC teachers. The NSW HSC Online website is a collaborative venture of Charles Sturt University (CSU) and the NSW Department of Education and Communities which was designed to provide online learning resources to support upper secondary students studying for the HSC, and their teachers. While there has been research previously conducted on the website, there has been no research-based evaluation of the PDHPE node of the website. Therefore, this research is significant as it aims to evaluate the ability of the resource to support teachers in assisting students to prepare for the high-stakes HSC examination.

This research adopted an interpretivist approach and theoretical framework in order to evaluate the NSW HSC Online website. Qualitative data collection in the form of individual semi-structured telephone interviews were conducted with a sample of NSW PDHPE HSC teachers who were selected using purposive and convenience sampling techniques. Participant interviews were recorded, transcribed and analysed using a thematic approach to data analysis which involved unearthing prominent themes from interview proceedings.

The findings of this study are significant as the sample of PDHPE teachers indicated that overall the NSW HSC Online website is perceived as a quality website that supports teachers to prepare students for their NSW HSC PDHPE examination. These findings however cannot be generalised to other subject nodes available on the NSW HSC Online website. The research participants believe that there is room for improvement in the design of the website. Recommendations that have arisen from the data include ensuring the website is current, aligns with syllabus documents, and incorporates a variety of content and supportive material to serve the multitude of ways teachers used the site.

Luisa Corsaro

Macquarie University

Migration and Today's German Society: Immigrant Influences on Culture

The rising immigrant population is continuing to have a significant impact on German society. This is a relatively new field of study and there is a limited amount of previous research. This paper therefore aims to discuss the positive and negative impacts of immigrants on mainstream German culture.

By conducting secondary research into German authors with migrant backgrounds and reviewing the issues that arise from their works, the immense influence that immigrants exert on German culture can be seen. Similarly, examining research on the German culture conducted by other academics contributes to the notion that migrant literature is a crucial part of German culture and is rapidly expanding. The increasing migrant literature phenomenon is reflective of the diverse multicultural backgrounds of the German population, including persons of Turkish, Syrian and Eastern European descent.

Within the last two decades, since the reunification of Germany, there has been positive progress made towards promoting a more multicultural society. This positive attitude of the German population contributes to the successful integration of migrants into German society. The revised 'Integration Courses' initiative shows that mainstream Germany is willing to foster 'multilingualism', - the ability to speak more than one language.

However, not all migrant influences can be deemed positive. One of the negative aspects of a multicultural society is the disintegration of traditional German language structures. Hybrid languages have become commonplace among youths. Not only does this impact migrants and their acquisition of the German language, but ultimately influences native speakers as they adopt this 'Mischsprache' (mixed language). The gap between written and spoken language widens and possibly disadvantages the social upward mobility of these immigrants.

Through contributing to this field of research, it is hoped that more migrant cultural influences on mainstream German society can be identified and discussed.

Mara Hammerle

Macquarie University

Immigrant Youth in Germany and German Language Acquisition: Opportunities and Challenges

Despite several international reports critiquing such practices, educational segregation at an early age continues in Germany, leading to inequalities in the opportunities faced by youth. The school attended by an individual significantly influences their career path, with only students who have attended the highest secondary school level being easily accepted into university (Powell, 2011). These trends are particularly problematic for children with

immigrant backgrounds. According to the Statistisches Bundesamt, 18.7% of children with such a background attended the lowest level of the school system (the Hauptschule) whereas only 4.3% attended the highest level (the Gymnasium) in 2012. In contrast to other ethnic groups, including those from Southern Europe, youth with Turkish heritage appear to be over-represented in the numbers that attend Hauptschule. They are also the most likely to have poor German language abilities (Informationsdienst Soziale Indikatoren, 2011). Individual language competencies can be viewed as a fundamental prerequisite for obtaining a higher level school degree and by extension are crucial for successful social integration (Shakib-Ekbatan, Hasselbach, Roos and Schöler, 2006). As such, this work will critically assess several methods that are either being currently implemented or are still being discussed with the aim of improving the German language abilities of immigrant children. By analysing data collected through the EVAS-study (Shakib-Ekbatan, Hasselbach, Roos and Schöler, 2006), the shortcomings of relying exclusively on intensive German language programs will be explored. Instead it will be argued that a more holistic approach is required, one that incorporates a stronger focus on German language acquisition into all school subjects. By examining German higher education websites and journal articles on the topic, the unpreparedness of educators to teach German as a second language and the importance of reversing this trend will also be addressed.

Marco Tulio Ramalho Zoratti

Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso

Analysis of the anti-inflammatory action of *Cariniana rubra* Gardner & Miers in air bubble model

Anti-inflammatory drugs make up about half of analgesics, remedying pain by reducing inflammation as opposed to opioids, which affect the central nervous system. In addition to medical drugs, some herbs, plants and health supplements have anti-inflammatory qualities and are very useful for popular health. The Brazilian Cerrado, a vast tropical savanna ecoregion, has a huge biodiversity of medicinal plants. Among these, highlights the *Cariniana rubra* Gardner & Miers. This tree belongs to the Lecythidaceae family, known under the common name of Red Jequitibá. Popularly, the bark of this plant is used in traditional medicine in the State of Mato Grosso as an anti-inflammatory for throat, ovary and uterus disorders, especially, being really useful for native people. Studies have shown that this action comes from the presence of pentacyclic triterpenes (b-sitosterol, stigmasterol, amirinas, lupeol and arjunolic acid). Thus, this study aimed to identify the mechanisms of the anti-inflammatory action of *Cariniana rubra*, through leukocytes antimigratory action.

The bark *Cariniana rubra* was collected in the city of Cuiabá, Mato Grosso. The material was ground and immersed in methanolic solvent for seven days with daily agitation. Then was submitted using a rotary evaporator and drying for the preparation of the methanol extract (EMCR). Later the phytochemical was performed to characterize the presence of secondary metabolites. Finally, to evaluate the anti-inflammatory mechanism of EMCR, we used the model of inflammation in air bubble induced by carrageenan. A group of Swiss albino mice

was treated with 500 mg / kg of the drug or EMCR standard dexamethasone (1 mg / kg) by gavage. After 4 and 24 h of induction of the inflammatory process, the animals were sacrificed and the cavity washed was collected for total and differential count of leukocytes [macrophages, lymphocytes and polymorphonuclear (PMN)] in a Neubauer chamber. The phytochemical evaluation confirmed the presence of tannins, xanthenes, flavonoids, flavones, leucoanthocyanidins, saponins and coumarins volatile. The analysis of the washed after inflammation induction, showed migration of leucocytes (macrophages 2.4 ± 0.9 , 64.7 ± 15.2 , 7.4 ± 1.6 , 2.4 ± 0.9 Lymphocytes, 12.9 ± 3.1 , 4.4 ± 0.5 , 2.2 ± 0.9 PMN, 64.0 ± 12.5 , 8.1 ± 0.9 , respectively sham, 4h and 24h) induced by the administration of carrageenin. Pretreatment with or EMCR standard drug, dexamethasone, significantly reduced leukocyte migration into the cavity of the air bubble (EMCR: macrophage 2.4 ± 0.9 , 13.3 ± 2.5 , 3.6 ± 0.9 ; Lymphocyte 2.4 ± 0.9 , 6.2 ± 1.0 , 2.3 ± 0.5 , 2.2 ± 0.9 PMN, 11 ± 4.3 , 1.4 ± 0.3 sham respectively, 4h and 24h). (Dexamethasone: macrophage 2.4 ± 0.9 , 6.2 ± 1.8 , 3.0 ± 0.7 ; Lymphocyte 2.4 ± 0.9 , 4.2 ± 1.0 , 0.8 ± 0.3 ; PMN 2.2 ± 0.9 , 9.2 ± 2.8 , 0.5 ± 0.2 , respectively sham, 4h and 24h).

In conclusion, we showed that the EMCR features compounds having antiinflammatory action and can inhibit leukocyte migration into the inflammatory site so as effective as standard drugs (dexamethasone). Future studies may determine which is the main component of this plant anti-inflammatory and may contribute to the development of new anti-inflammatory drugs, more effective and with fewer side effects.

Mirelle Barbosa Rocha

Monash University

Clinical Characteristics of Pneumonia in Children Admitted to the Materno Infantil Hospital in 2009, Cacoal - Ro – Brazil

Introduction: Acute respiratory infections are the leading cause of hospitalization and the second cause of death in children under 5 years in Brazil. In the Brazilian indigenous population respiratory diseases are the leading causes of death, affecting mainly the extremes age groups. Among the causes of hospitalization pneumonia have a high rate complications and death among patients under 5 years.

Objective: To describe the clinical features of pneumonia in children of different age groups and ethnic groups hospitalized at Maternal Infantil Hospital (MIH) at Cacoal/Brazil in 2009.

Methodology: Observational retrospective cutting / cross, executed in 2010, and conducted at MIH. We analyzed medical charts of 167 patients indigenous and non-indigenous, whose admission was motivated by clinical presentation of pneumonia. Results: 79% were non-indigenous and 21% indigenous. 56% of the total were male and hospitalizations were concentrated in the age group under three years. 17% of non-indigenous and 11% of indigenous had complications of bacterial pneumonia.

Conclusion: There is a precarious living conditions of infants in all ethnic groups, requiring knowledge of possible risk factors predispose to respiratory infections and nutritional status, living conditions and exposure to causative agents. Given this it is recommended to prepare a study that seeks to explore these relevant factors.

Phoebe Haywood

The University of Queensland

The Journey to Work: A Study on the Impacts on Workers of Changed Commuting Patterns

The daily journey to work (JTW) is undertaken by the majority of the Australian population on a daily basis. Research has shown that the characteristics of an individual's JTW have the capacity to significantly influence their daily activities and structure, relationships and interpersonal interactions, and their overall lifestyle. An appreciation of this influence the JTW can have in the lives of workers is therefore critical in determining consequences of change such as workplace relocations. While the impacts of different aspects of the journey to work (such as transport modal choice) are widely discussed in the academic literature, the impacts of changed JTW patterns following workplace relocations remain somewhat neglected, especially in the Australian context.

This study involved a short anonymous voluntary survey of a group of 100 professional employees (aged 30-50) of two divisions of CSIRO working in the newly constructed Dutton Park Eco Sciences Precinct. The sample group recently experienced workplace relocation from the outer suburb of Cleveland to the inner city suburb of Dutton Park. It was found that factors related to their changed journey had various impacts for workers in terms of; stress levels, flexibility or daily routines and overall opinion or perception of their JTW. For a number of workers, relocation and altered JTW patterns corresponded with a decline in their overall quality of life. This was elucidated by the significant declines in overall work satisfaction, quality and quantity of personal relationships and daily activities. The severity of these outcomes correlated directly with the degree to which JTW patterns and behaviours had become habitual.

Rainer Zeller

Macquarie University

Angle Estimation and Face Recognition in 2D/ 3D

Our ability to recognise unfamiliar faces is worse if our second exposure to the face is from a different viewpoint angle than the first; the greater the difference in angle, the worse our face recognition ability becomes. This phenomenon is known as •viewpoint costê. Differential effects have been found for stereoscopic (3D) and synoptic (2D) stimulus presentation, such that stereoscopic stimuli result in reduced viewpoint costs. If a face is seen at an angle, it may require mental rotation to zero degrees (looking straight ahead) to

facilitate comparison. If so, correctly estimating the angle of face presentation may be critical for appropriate mental rotation and comparison. Stereopsis may reduce viewpoint costs by facilitating improved judgment of angular offset via added depth cues. This experiment investigated the effect of stereopsis on the accuracy and precision of face angle estimation. Participants were presented with a stereoscopic or synoptic face rotated either up/down or left/right, to one of seven predetermined angles, and were asked to verbally estimate the angle of rotation in degrees. It was hypothesised that faces rotated left/right would produce better angle estimates than faces rotated up/down; that stereoscopic presentation would produce better angle estimates than synoptic presentation; and that stereopsis would improve angle estimates in pitch more than in yaw. Preliminary results indicate that yaw estimates are superior only at small and medium rotations, and that stereopsis improves angle estimates for yaw rotations only. Although the hypotheses received only limited support, results nevertheless indicate that stereopsis can improve angle estimation ability, providing a partial account for the viewpoint cost phenomenon.

Rebecka O'Malley

Macquarie University

Magical Girls With Magical Identities

Popular culture, such as manga (Japanese comic books) and anime (Japanese cartoons) provide an excellent way to analyse reality through a fictional medium. By examining Magical Girls (girls with varying magical powers) in manga and anime the reader can clearly see the parallels between the magical growth of the characters, and the physical, mental and emotional growth of real girls. Examining these fictional works allows for a non-controversial and comfortingly distant analysis of society and a woman's role within it.

Another common aspect of the Magical Girl genre is the Magical Mascot (small, cute, often animal like companions to the Magical Girls), who are possibly representative of society itself. These Magical Mascots however have not been properly analysed, despite their importance within the series, and what they represent.

I have thoroughly read/watched and analysed several Magical Girl series, and I have researched papers previously published on the subject, as well as several papers written about identity and society, to complete my research. My poster will present my research, and demonstrate that manga and anime are perfect tools to use in the analysis of reality.

Sandra Raub

University of Western Australia

Hello Globalisation: adapting the Australian law degree to the international playing field, is it a possibility?

Globalization (Clifford 2011) is a widely recognized phenomenon, requiring locals to internationalize (Clifford 2011) more and more in order to remain globally competitive. Due to the rise of international cooperation since the second world war and the success of multinational political and legal institutions like the European Union and the United Nations, legal professionals are increasingly required to not only be locally (state), but also internationally, competent. In recognition of this, the Australian government set up an International Legal Education and Training Committee in 2004 to aid the process. In this Committee's 2004 report, the need for Australian universities to internationalize was highlighted and the different strategies used by law schools were described and compared. In this paper, an online interview was sent out to 129 of legal academics at two Australasian universities regarding the increasing demand of internationalization within the legal profession. Then a follow-up interview was conducted with one legal academic at UWA. The results from both sources showed that internationalization is seen as highly desirable within the legal industry, yet academics are still challenged by the lack of pressure towards internationalisation within the education context and often struggle to come up with solutions that would enable them to successfully cover local, as well as international content within the standing teaching constraints. In order for law schools to remain internationally competitive, the gap will need to be bridged by introducing more internationalization strategy, which may include but is not limited to: more internationally applicable units or international components into units, encouraging international student exchange or introducing a compulsory cultural component and language studies into the standard law degree.