



## Director's Report

This final edition of the TILES Newsletter for 2007 showcases the range of research projects being undertaken by our staff and postgraduate students. It demonstrates the vitality of the research culture at the Institute and our strengthening involvement in the national and international context.

We are particularly excited by our success in the recent ARC Linkage grants. We have been awarded a large grant in the area of forensic science and the criminal justice system and look forward to working with colleagues at Victoria Police, the Australian Federal Police, National Institute of Forensic Science, University of Technology, Sydney and the University of Lausanne, Switzerland.

It is only with the support of industry partners that such ground breaking research can take place. I would particularly like to thank Victoria Police and the Australian Federal Police for their financial contributions, and Dr David Bradley for his commitment to the sponsorship of academic-practitioner research partnerships in the field of policing. This will be a flagship project for TILES over the next 5 years, which we hope will lead to further collaborative research that crosses the boundary between the natural and social sciences.

The highlight of our 2007 program of events was a successful two-day workshop on police professionalism held at the end of September at UTAS. Participants included senior police officers from most jurisdictions in Australia and New Zealand, police union representatives and academics from national and international universities. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive which will encourage us to undertake a similar workshop in the future. I would like to thank Professor Jenny Fleming for organising and facilitating this event.

Our staff and postgraduate students have been presenting their work at an impressive range of national and international forums. This newsletter highlights some of their most recent conference and seminar presentations. The dissemination of research is an important part of the Institute's mission and provides a significant professional development opportunity for our students. Feedback from these presentations confirms the high quality and relevance of the Institute's current program of research.

I would like to thank the members of the Management Committee for their hard work and support throughout the year and the members of the Board of



Directors for their support and advice. I would also like to thank the Institute staff for their efficient and enthusiastic assistance throughout 2007. They make working at the Institute a pleasure!

Finally on behalf of the Management Committee and the staff of TILES, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We will continue to keep in touch through our regular Newsletters next year.

**Roberta Julian** (PhD)

*Associate Professor and Director  
Tasmanian Institute of Law  
Enforcement Studies*

## TILES funded for groundbreaking research into effectiveness of forensic science

TILES has received \$670,000 in Federal funding from the Australian Research Council (ARC) to assess, for the first time, the effectiveness of forensic science in the criminal justice system. This is groundbreaking research and a national first. Collaborating partners are contributing an additional \$220,000 in cash bringing the total value of this project to \$900,000.

The project has been selected by the ARC because of its global significance.

Police jurisdictions in Victoria and the ACT, and the National Institute of Forensic Science have provided funding and resources for the project while a range of American organisations have offered support. The project will also involve collaborations with researchers at the University of Technology, Sydney and the University of Lausanne, Switzerland.

The research will focus for the first time on developing a system to assess the value of forensic science - such as DNA, fingerprinting and drug analysis - on police investigations,

court proceedings and community wellbeing.

Forensic science has increasingly been relied on by law enforcement, to solve crime, and by the judicial system to prosecute offenders. To a large extent the policing and forensic community has been 'flying blind' in terms of the actual impact of its work, and under the current system, there was no method to determine:

- what cases to prioritise based on potential outcomes;
- what are the most effective forensic tools to use; and
- the cost effectiveness of different techniques and the expense and backlog of DNA testing which could impact on an investigation and evidence presented to the court.

The Director of TILES and Chief Investigator, Associate Professor Roberta Julian, believes that this research will enable the better targeting of volume crime through the efficient and effective use of forensic services and there will be significant benefits to the Australian community through a reduction in the economic and social costs of crime.

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# TILES First Public Lecture

## Cyber-victimisation: Extent, impact on individuals and responses to cyber-crimes

Dr Lynne Roberts, a Research Fellow at the Crime Research Centre at the University of Western Australia presented a public lecture at the Centenary Lecture Theatre at the University of Tasmania on 31 October 2007. The Seminar was extremely well received by an enthusiastic cross disciplinary audience.



Dr Lynne Roberts (UWA)

Lynne has a background in psychology and began research into how people interact socially on-line, over a decade ago. The main points raised in the lecture included:

- Information and communication technologies (ICTs); while providing a range of benefits to individuals, organisations and governments; also provide new opportunities for criminal activities to emerge.
- The form of cyber-crimes will continue to change as new ICTs and applications emerge.

- As with off-line crimes, individuals will vary in their responses to cyber-criminal acts. Not all will view themselves as victims or necessarily experience distress as a result. Only some will require victims' services.
- Services need to be available to support those cyber-victims requiring help through crisis intervention, counselling, advocacy and support.
- There will be an ongoing need for training of allied professionals, for public education programs and for prevention strategies to be developed and implemented.
- Continued research into the prevalence, types and impacts of cyber-victimisation is required in order to inform victim service provision and effectively address the needs of current and future cyber-victims.

Funding for this public lecture was provided by the UTAS Community Place and Change theme area through its *Kickstart* Program.

## Workshop on Research Directions in Computer Forensics

TILES called together experts in computer forensics and policing to discuss potential for collaborative research projects. The workshop was made possible through UTAS Community Place and Change *Kickstart* funding. Participants were Associate Professor Julian and Professor Jenny Fleming from TILES, Associate Professor Paul Turner and Vlasti Broucek from the School of Information Systems and Dr Lynne Roberts from the Crime Research Centre at the University of Western Australia.

The potential for multi-disciplinary research projects were identified in the areas of:

- effectiveness of digital evidence
- policing and cyber crime
- the nexus between online and offline criminal behaviour
- responses to cyber crime; and
- the psychological effects on victims of cyber crime.

Participants will develop these ideas into research proposals to be submitted in 2008.



Associate Professor Roberta Julian, Professor Jenny Fleming, Professor Paul Turner, Vlasti Broucek and Dr Lynne Roberts

# Conferences

Throughout the third quarter of 2007, TILES staff and postgraduate students have been proactive in preparing and presenting TILES related research at a broad and impressive range of interdisciplinary conferences.

## JUNE 2007



### Conference: Colonialism and Its Aftermath (CAIA) Conference

Title *Imperial Curiosity: Objects, Representations, Knowledges*  
University of Tasmania, Hobart 27 - 29 June 2007

TILES PhD candidate, **Mary Eckhardt**, presented a paper entitled: *"Imperial Influences on 'fear of crime' in Tasmania"*.

This paper presented an exploration of the role that Imperial Britain's agents played in amplifying or attenuating the phenomenon we now term, fear of crime, in early Tasmanian history. The aim will be to test the degree to which actions and reactions to current events, where fear of crime is evidenced, have vestiges of Imperial Influence.

## JULY 2007

### Conference: National Conference on the Social Norms Approach

Title *Science Based Prevention*

Cambridge, Massachusetts USA 15 - 17 July 2007



Dr Clarissa Hughes and Associate Professor Roberta Julian

SNAP Project Director, **Dr Clarissa Hughes**, attended this annual conference in Massachusetts, USA. She presented a paper entitled *"Perceptions, Peer Groups and Partnerships: insights and preliminary results from the first Australian 'trial' of Social Norms"*, which she co-authored with Associate Professor Roberta Julian and Inspector Matthew Richman of Tasmania Police.

This 90 minute presentation, covered background information relating to the project (including information about the four rural Tasmanian communities in which SNAP is being trialled), project detail, and photo slides of the posters, signs and promotional items which have been used in the school-based campaigns to emphasise that 'most students make healthy choices about alcohol'.

#### Further Note:

A paper co-authored by Hughes, C., Julian, R. and Richman, M., entitled *"Understanding adolescent drinking cultures: peer group pressure and the power of perception"*, has been accepted for presentation at the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs and Cutting Edge Addiction Conference (APSAD) (see <http://www.twonationstencultures.co.nz/>) in November.

## AUGUST 2007



### Conference: The Australasian Council of Women and Policing Fifth Australasian Women and Policing Conference

Title: *2007- Women Leading Change*

Melbourne - Carlton Crest, 26 - 30 August 2007

TILES PhD candidate, **Barbara Stewart**, presented a paper entitled: *"Pathways into Policing-A gendered experience?"* (Stewart, B and Julian, R).

This paper examines the motivations and contextual influences of constables' choice of policing as a career, with an emphasis on female constables. The study, in particular, investigates whether there is a relationship between perceptions of policing as a suitable career option and individual socialization.

#### Further Note:

A full page article about Barbara's research project was printed in the Journal for Women and Policing (Winter edition). <http://www.auspol-women.asn.au/Issue20.pdf>

## SEPTEMBER 2007



### Conference: National Family Therapies Conference

Title: *Strategies, Secrets and Safety*

Elizabeth Pier, Hobart, 5 - 7 September 2007

TILES PhD candidate, **Romy Winter**, presented a paper entitled: *"Safety or Surveillance? The Challenges of Assessing Risk in Intimate Partner Violence"*.

This paper examines the recent criminalisation of family violence which has provided greater degrees of protection for victims including a range of new powers enabling police to intervene in domestic matters where the safety of an affected adult and/or child is threatened by their current or former intimate partner.

#### Further Note:

Romy would like to acknowledge the assistance provided to her by Mr Terry Martin Tasmanian MLC to attend this conference.

# Police Professionalism Workshop attracts

***During the past 12 months the Tasmanian Institute of Law Enforcement Studies (TILES) has been committed to presenting a series of seminars by academics and police practitioners that demonstrates the Institute's focus on researcher-practitioner collaboration and partnerships.***



*Workshop Participants – Day 2*

The highlight of the 2007 program of events was a successful two-day workshop on Police Professionalism held at the University Club 20 - 21 September and organised and chaired by Professor Jenny Fleming. The workshop was supported with funding from the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia and attended by senior police officers from most Australian jurisdictions and New Zealand, as well as academics from Australia and the United Kingdom.

## ***Participants***

Participants included senior officers such as Commissioner Mal Hyde (South Australia Police), Assistant Commissioner Alan Davey and Superintendent Clem O'Regan (Queensland Police), Assistant Commissioner Leigh Gassner (Victoria Police), Superintendent Hamish McCardle (New Zealand Police), Inspector Matthew Richman (Tasmania Police); senior managers and researchers such as :

Dr Chris Devery (New South Wales Police), Dr David Bradley (Victoria Police), Mr Ian Lanyon (Australasian Police Professional Standards Council), Mr Luke McMahon (New Zealand Police) and Dr Michael Ryan (Tasmania Police); and union representatives Mr Mark Burgess (Police Federation of Australia), Mr Greg O'Connor (New Zealand Police Association) and Mr Peter Alexander (South Australian Police Association).



*Mr Mark Burgess (CEO, Police Federation of Australia), Mr Peter Alexander (President of the Police Federation of Australia) and Mr Ian Lanyon (Executive Director, Australasian Police Professional Standards Council)*

Also participating were academic researchers from the UK and Australia: Dr Alison Wakefield (City University, London), Professor Rick Sarre (University of South Australia), Associate Professor Colleen Lewis (Monash University), Dr Susan Harwood (Australian Technology Network), Ms Delaine Trofymowych (Charles Sturt University) and Dr Max Travers, Associate Professor Roberta Julian and Dr Rob Hall (University of Tasmania).

Mr John Valentin, APM performed the important role of rapporteur and discussant.

The workshop was structured around a number of discussion papers presented by the participants. However, the highlight of the two days was the generous time allowed for discussion that led to highly stimulating dialogue between academics and police practitioners on a number of contentious issues relevant to the police professionalism debate. Key questions addressed included:

- What is professionalism and to what extent is it relevant to policing in Australia?
- To what extent does the notion of police professionalism change the way we might think about education and training?
- Will research play a larger part in policing practice than it has in the past?
- What are the accountability issues posed by such a move?
- How does the concept of police professionalism 'fit' with current policing trends such as for example, the increase in private security services?

The workshop brought together the analytical skills of academics with the extensive experience and knowledge of practitioners. Its primary aim was to literally 'workshop' some of these questions, highlight some of the challenges and provide an opportunity for academics and practitioners to interact with each other with a view to considering alternative perspectives.

While the discussion was broad-ranging, a number of key points were identified during the workshop such as:

# ffects national and international interest



Dr Chris Devery (NSW Police and Superintendent Hamish McCardle (New Zealand Police)

- the limited employee base across all jurisdictions for the recruitment and retention of police;
- the balance that needs to be maintained between attracting higher educated recruits with the realities of policing, for example, in remote communities;
- the view that the benefits of higher education are only likely to be evident where police have also gained relevant practical experience; and
- the need for policing to 'lay claim' to the domain of policing practice, noting the emerging proliferation of agencies, individuals and areas of civilianisation within the 'law enforcement' sector.

It was concluded that policing today has many of the characteristics of a profession (service orientation, the exercise of judgement and discretion and are subject to after-the-fact accountability), and that the emerging professionalisation of policing will require clarification of the relationships



Dr Alison Wakefield (City University, London) and Professor Rick Sarre (University of South Australia)

between governments and police. Additionally, the expanded roles for private security will necessitate hybrid models of public and private policing services to determine professional issues.

All participants declared the two-day workshop a significant contribution to the professionalism debate. The friendly atmosphere and open environment was noted by all participants as the key to a thought-provoking and stimulating two days – together with the private dinner at the Cornelian Bay Boat House which was superb!

This successful workshop was a major event on the TILES calendar for 2007 and the papers presented are being considered for publication. The overwhelming success of the workshop has done much to enhance the Institute's burgeoning reputation for excellence and distinctiveness among police practitioners and academics throughout Australia and New Zealand. If you would like more information on the Institute's research, seminar programs and publications, or you would like your name to be added to the TILES mailing list, you are encouraged to visit the website: <http://www.utas.edu.au/tiles>



Dr David Bradley (Victoria Police)



Dr Mike Ryan (Tasmania Police)

# Conferences

**SEPTEMBER 2007**



## **Conference: Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology Inc 20th Annual ANZSOC Conference**

**Title: Criminology - Building Bridges**

**Adelaide Convention Centre, 23 - 26 September 2007**

TILES PhD candidates, **Danielle Campbell** and **Romy Winter**, jointly presented a paper entitled: *"Assessing risk within intimate partner violence through a refugee lens: implications for policing and refugee communities"*.

This paper presented a discussion of the current police practice of risk assessment at domestic violence incidents in the context of a refugee intimate relationship. The analysis is based on interviews and focus groups with individuals and bicultural workers in the African community in Tasmania.

Director of TILES, Associate Professor **Roberta Julian**, presented a paper entitled: *"Forensic policing in a cross cultural context – the case of Australian Police in Bali and Thailand"*.

This paper presented the results of research that aimed to identify key social, cultural and organisational factors that affected the work of Australian forensic police and scientists who were deployed in Bali as part of the Disaster Victim Identification team in the aftermath of the October 2002 bombing.

TILES Professor (Research) **Jenny Fleming** presented a paper entitled: *"Performance Management in Australian Police Services"*.

This paper considers the issues that increasingly; police services are introducing individual and organisational performance measures that will demonstrate to governments and communities that police activity has a demonstrable impact on criminal activity and public perceptions of safety and security. This paper considers the issue of police performance in this latter context and highlights the potential problems of measuring the complex and multidimensional nature of police work in an ever-changing environment.

**Further Note:**

In addition, a Police Professionalism panel was held that included participants from the Police Professionalism workshop held at UTAS in September. The panel was chaired by Professor Jenny Fleming.



## **Conference: The Research into Practice, Evidence into Policy Conference**

**Christchurch, New Zealand, 24 - 26 September 2007**

SNAP Project Officer, **Gillian Long**, presented a paper entitled: *"Social Norms: A positive approach to reducing alcohol-related harm amongst Australian students"* (G. Long, C. Hughes, R. Julian, R. Mason & M. Richman).

This paper presented the Social Norms Analysis Project (SNAP) as the first Australian trial of the 'Social Norms' approach aimed at reducing alcohol-related harm amongst young people. Unlike traditional harm-prevention strategies, which focus on raising awareness of the risks associated with alcohol use, Social Norms campaigns emphasise positive aspects of behaviour, positive peer influences and accurate knowledge of drinking norms. Initial results based on four rural Tasmanian schools indicate significant declines have occurred in frequency of alcohol consumption, perceived consumption by peers and perceived peer acceptance of drunkenness.



*Plenary Session- Sharing Excellence*



## **Conference: UTAS Postgraduate Research Conference**

**Title: Sharing Excellence in Research**

**Sir Stanley Burbury Centre University of Tasmania  
Hobart, 21 September 2007**

The first annual UTAS Postgraduate Research Conference 'Sharing Excellence in Research' was presented by the Tasmanian University Postgraduate Association (TUPA) as part of Graduate Research Week. The conference brought together 48 postgraduates from across the diverse faculties and campuses at UTAS. The conference highlighted outstanding research in the six University theme areas and featured presentations and performances by exceptional UTAS postgraduate candidates, and posters showcasing the diversity of research at the University.

Three TILES PhD candidates presented papers at this conference - Danielle Campbell, Romy Winter and Mary Eckhardt.

**Romy Winter** presented a paper entitled: *"Policing the Criminalisation of Intimate Partner Violence"*.

This paper contends that in spite of the significant resources allocated to the criminal justice system, the complex and dynamic nature of violence within intimate relationships can be resistant to a criminal justice response.

*Conferences continued next page*

**Daniel Campbell** presented a paper entitled: *"Police-Refugee Relations: The Significance of the Refugee Voice"*.

This paper presented the findings of an Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage project exploring particular challenges for regional Australia in the settlement of new and emerging refugee communities.

**Mary Eckhardt** presented a paper entitled: *"Fear of Crime as Moral Panic"*.

This paper elucidates the manner in which the subject personified, of the moral panic, is disenfranchised – silenced.



Mary Eckhardt Session 1

## UPDATE FROM SNAP - Contributing to community safety

This project led by TILES and the University Department of Rural Health (involving Tasmania Police, and the Departments of Education and Health, and Human Services) is helping to reduce alcohol-related harm among teenagers in four rural Tasmanian towns. Known as the 'Social Norms Analysis Project' (SNAP), the project looks at how young people are influenced by their ideas about 'what everyone else is doing' and seeks to make social environments more supportive of non-consumption and safe consumption of alcohol. The project is supported by a multi-disciplinary Expert Advisory Panel and receives guidance from international Social Norms Consultant, Professor Alan Berkowitz.

Baseline (T1) data was collected from students (Grades 7-10) attending Rosebery District High, Mountain Heights School, Geeveston District High and Huonville High in October 2006. Following the entry and analysis of the data, the SNAP Management Committee worked with Professor Berkowitz to produce a set of 'key messages' based on the survey results. According to the established principles of Social Norms interventions, the messages needed to be both positive and affirming (with no 'scare tactics' or negativity) and based on the data from each school. For example, the T1 message for Geeveston District High school was that *Most GDH students make healthy choices. Most (83%) choose non-alcoholic drinks when hanging out with friends.*

The key messages for each school were incorporated into brightly coloured posters (see photo) and badges which presented accurate, positive messages about students' alcohol use (or non-use) and their attitudes towards it.

The second round of data collection was conducted in April 2007. Changes after the first media campaign include statistically significant declines in the mean frequency of alcohol consumption and attendance at parties where alcohol was consumed by high-school students, as well as declines in the mean perceived frequency of friends consuming alcohol and getting drunk.

These early results are exciting because they are indicative of a cultural shift in these communities – since the 'pressure' for young people to conform to a false image of frequent, heavy drinking by their schoolmates is likely to be lessened.

Early in the third term this year, SNAP Project Officers, Louise Hart (on the West Coast) and Gillian Long (in the Huon Valley), will continue to roll out the second media campaign in the trial

**Fact #1**  
79% of Mountain Heights students are very happy people\*

**Fact #2**  
78% choose non-alcoholic drinks when hanging out with friends\*\*

**4 REAL!**

\*Data: On a scale of 1 to 10 (where 10 is extremely happy), 84.3% of MH students answered 9/10, 14.2% answered 8/10, and 20.4% answered 0/10 = total 75% (Survey question 50)  
\*\*Data: 77.2% of MH students (grades 7-10) mostly choose drinks other than alcohol when hanging out with friends on the weekend (Survey question 1)  
Source: Social Norms Analysis Project (SNAP) Survey of Mountain Heights School students (Grades 7-10, October 2006).  
SNAP is an initiative of the University of Tasmania  
Funded by the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation

schools. Students will receive a variety of items including water bottles, flyers, mouse mats and posters. Other items including fridge magnets and calendars will be provided to parents and teachers as well as students. The third and final round of data collection (to be undertaken in November) will indicate whether the positive and encouraging trends observed so far have continued.

*Most GDH students make healthy choices. Most (83%) choose non-alcoholic drinks when hanging out with friends.*

### Plaudits

Cecile McKeown, B. Soc Sci (Hon) Health Science, and TILES PhD Candidate, UTas has been recently elected as the Tasmanian representative for The Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs (APSAD) Council. Cecile has a long and successful career in the alcohol and drug related sector in two states, Queensland and Tasmania. She presently works for the Department of Health and Human Services as a Senior Consultant for population approaches to substance use and is currently undertaking PhD candidature in public alcohol policy within TILES.



Cecile McKeown

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