

Society & Space

The central theme of Society and Space is that the physical and built environments interact with society in complex ways. Sometimes it is necessary to examine issues at various scales of analysis to understand this interaction. PEMS supports one of the few combined physical and human geography groups in the country. This places the School of PEMS in a unique position to continue a close dialogue between physical and human elements of the environment in order to address important social and environmental problems.

These problems include:

- Urban design and transport efficiency and sustainability
- Effective speeds of different transport modes
- The links between sport and health
- The links between transport and health
- The importance of 'region' to the wine industry
- Globalisation and its effects on local communities
- Strategies of resistance to globalization
- The geographies of children's play in school grounds
- Urban and peri-urban agriculture for food security, job creation and post-conflict reconstruction (South Africa, Zambia, Sierra Leone)
- The threat of squatter resettlement on informal sector livelihoods (Fiji)
- Land tenure insecurity and community-based agriculture (South Africa)
- Economic openness, cultural obligations and the emerging landless (Samoa)
- 'Liveable' cities and child-friendly environments
- Implications of peak oil for liveable cities and child-friendly environments
- Mapping and understanding the drivers of human health and disease
- The geography and cultures of institutions (including the military and the academy)

Members

Academic Staff:

Dr Amy Griffin (a.griffin@adfa.edu.au) MSc, PhD *Pens*

Dr Scott Sharpe (s.sharpe@adfa.edu.au) BSc (Hons), PhD *Macq.*

Dr Alec Thornton (a.thornton@adfa.edu.au) MA, PhD *Sussex UK*

Dr Paul Tranter (p.tranter@adfa.edu.au) BA (Hons), PhD *Ncle (NSW)*

Visiting Fellows:

Mr Jack Doyle BSc *McG.*, MA *ANU*

Mr Terry Birtles BA Dip Ed *UQ.*, MA *Syd.*, Dip Crim Camb, Dip Internat. Law *ANU*

Dr Murray May BSc (Hons) *UQ.*, Dip Ed *Tas.*, M Ed *CCA*, PhD *UWS*

Research Students:

Annabel Beckenham - Research Topic - Cultural geography of cyberspace.

Hao Duan - Research Topic - Peak oil and temporary migration.

Justin McEvoy - Research Topic - Geographical factors affecting the successful development of rezoned urban land.

Daminda Solangaarachchi - Research Topic - Bushfire risk assessment at the urban-bush interface in metropolitan Australia: An integrated modelling approach.

Stephen Smith - Research Topic - A dynamic electorate? Analysing the geography of minor parties at Australian state and federal elections 1997-2006.

Current Honours Students:

Benson Chian - Research Topic - Letting their feet do the talking: Geographies of youth in the Kanga Cup.

Luke Powter - Research Topic - Community orientated transport innovation for healthy cities.

Research Collaborators:

Dr A. Banos (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Laboratoire Image et Ville, Université Louis-Pasteur)

Assoc. Prof. Glenn Banks (Massey University, New Zealand)

Dr C. Banwell (National Centre for Epidemiology and Public Health, Australian National University)

Prof. Tony Binns (Ron Lister Chair of Geography, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand)

Prof. D. Broom (National Centre for Epidemiology and Public Health, Australian National University)

Prof. A. Bundy (University of Sydney)

Dr J. Connor (School of Business, UNSW@ADFA)

Mr M. Doherty (CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems)

Dr J. Dixon (National Centre for Epidemiology and Public Health, Australian National University)

Dr M. Duffy (University of Melbourne)

Ms M. Esler (Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, The Australian Government)

Prof. B. Fagan (Macquarie University, Sydney)

Assoc. Prof. John Glover (University of Adelaide)

Dr Bob Hall (School of Humanities and Social Sciences, UNSW@ADFA)

Assoc. Prof. Alastair Greig (School of Social Sciences, Australian National University)

Dr Godfrey Hampwaye (Lecturer Geography, University of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia)

Dr M. Hendityo (Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Jakarta, Indonesia)

Dr Gijsbert Hoogendoorn (Lecturer Geography, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa)

Dr M. Hynes (School of Social Sciences, Australian National University)

Prof. N. Ilmi Idrus (University of Hasanudin, Makassar, Indonesia)

Dr Maria Kerlake (Dean of Faculty of Arts, National University of Samoa, Apia, Samoa)

Dr R. Korda (Australian Centre for Economic Research on Health, Australian National University)

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Dr M. Lowes (Department of Communication, University of Ottawa)

Dr Kenny Lynch (Senior Lecturer, Department of Natural and Social Sciences, University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham, United Kingdom)

Assoc. Prof. Etienne Nel (Economic Geographer, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand)

Dr Roy Maconachie (Lecturer, University of Bath, United Kingdom)

Prof. Lochner Marais (Centre for Development Support, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa)

Dr M. May (Visiting Fellow, UNSW@ADFA)

Assoc. Prof. G. Naughton (Australian Catholic University)

Dr F. Paoloucci, (Australian Centre for Economic Research on Health, Australian National University)

Dr A. Ross (School of Humanities and Social Sciences, UNSW@ADFA)

Ms M. Shipley (Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, The Australian Government)

Dr L. Strazdins (National Centre for Epidemiology and Public Health, Australian National University)

Dr Paul Tengbe (Head of Geography, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone, Freetown, Sierra Leone)

Dr J. Warn (School of Business, UNSW@ADFA)

Dr S. Wyver (Macquarie University, Sydney)



Child collecting water, Freetown (2008), Sierra Leone (Photo credit: A. Thornton).

Current Research

Dr Amy Griffin

While the majority of Amy's research interests fall under the purview of the Geographic Information Science research group, she also actively undertakes research related to sport and space, the health implications of humans' interactions with the natural, built and social environments, and a spatiotemporal analysis of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War.

Her current research projects include the following:

The muscle trade

Dr Amy Griffin (with Dr James Connor)

This project is examining transfers of allegiance (i.e., nationality change) of international track and field athletes competing at IAAF-sanctioned events, such as the World Championships, the Olympics and World Cup events. While international athlete migration has been studied extensively for sports such as association football, relatively little is known about either migration patterns or the drivers of migration for other sports.

Time scarcity: Another health inequity?

Dr Amy Griffin (with Dr Lyndall Strazdins, Professor Dorothy Broom, Dr Cathy Banwell, Dr Jane Dixon, Dr Rosemary Korda, Dr Francesco Paoloucci, Australian National University; Associate Professor John Glover, University of Adelaide; and Ms Megan Shipley, Ms Marian Esler, FAHCSIA)

This project seeks to develop a measure of time scarcity that can be used along with other measures of disadvantage, such as income scarcity, to examine the potential effects of policy decisions and their impacts on human health. We seek to describe time (and space-time) as a health resource that can have substantial impacts on individuals' and families' abilities to undertake healthy behaviours (as well as avoid unhealthy behaviours).

Understanding low intensity conflict

Dr Amy Griffin (with Dr Bob Hall and Dr Andrew Ross)

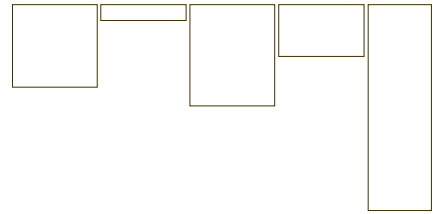
This project is undertaking a fine-grained spatial and temporal analysis of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam war. In it, we seek to provide a clear understanding of low-intensity conflict (e.g., guerilla wars), using the Vietnam war as a model. We are trying to answer questions such as the extent to which interactions between Australian and Vietnamese troops clustered along rivers, tracks, at certain times of the day, and the extent to which the war unfolded in a series of temporal phases that are commonly used to organize discussions of the war.

Dr Scott Sharpe

The geography of humour and the role of humour in social change

Dr Scott Sharpe

Humour can serve the function as a sort of breaching experiment, showing cultural and societal norms in the very act of transgressing them. This project explores the potential of humour for producing, maintaining and transgressing social norms. Looking at humour from a spatial perspective offers insight into the way



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humour functions from its challenge to reason and rationality to its use of displacement and incongruity. In conjunction with Dr Maria Hynes (ANU), this project re-theorizes humour to emphasize its affective and ethical dimensions, rather than its ideological and moral ones.

The relationship between space, thought, perception

Dr Scott Sharpe

This project examines the relationship of space, thought and perception. Centering on presumptions concerning the academy's relation to the 'world', this project theorises space as an enfolding of thought and matter. Such a theorization allows a rethinking of the relationship of micro- to macro-perceptions, the relationship of the unconscious to consciousness, and the relationship of surface to depth. The project examines issues such as the new possibilities for fieldwork in light of critiques of representation, and the relationship of thought to social action.

The geography of sport

Dr Scott Sharpe

This project examines the role of economy, affect and sport and the extension of traditional landscapes of sport by multi-national sportswear corporations. Conducting a semiotic analysis of sportswear advertisements and examining brand positioning in major sporting tournaments and events, the project explores the role that affective drivers have on fans, sub-cultures and wider society.

Dr Paul Tranter

Many of Paul's research interests have had an important element of social relevance. He has applied geographical concepts and methodologies to the study of such topics as: pathological events (e.g. accidents, depression); residential privacy; tenant participation in public housing; transport provision in disadvantaged areas; children's road safety and independent mobility; local authority attitudes and policies towards sustainable transport; the health implications and messages associated with motorsport; possible links between motorsport and illegal street racing; and children's use of school grounds for environmental learning.

Paul's current research projects include the following:

Peak oil and children

Dr Paul Tranter (with Dr Scott Sharpe)

This project investigates how the challenge of peak oil might provide opportunities for making cities more child friendly. Currently children's access to many spaces in cities is premised upon and restricted by the availability of cheap oil. From being restricted to designated play spaces to being transported to activities in private motor vehicles, cheap oil features prominently in the lives and opportunities of children. However, what the likely changes to children's lives and opportunities when the global production of oil reaches a peak, and then declines?

Popping the bubble-wrap: unleashing the power of play

Dr Paul Tranter (with Professor Anita Bundy, Dr Shirley Wyver and Assoc. Professor Geraldine Naughton).

This project aims to promote active, social and creative play amongst children in a primary school, by introducing a range of

loose materials into the school ground. This research has important implications for childhood obesity, bullying and mental ill health, all of which are serious childhood problems that are notoriously difficult to treat. Our research is developing and testing the effectiveness of a pilot intervention to promote active outdoor play.

Slowing down in the community: Reducing the speeding behaviour of motorists through cultural change

Dr Paul Tranter (with Dr James Warn and Dr Murray May)

This project, funded by an NRMA ACT Road Safety Trust grant, seeks to develop a holistic model in order to reframe the way in which the wider community and policymakers perceive road safety. Our research is developing holistic, social-ecological model of reconnecting road safety with communities that value quality of life and slower ways of being. For example, improving road safety through reduction in the volume and speed of motorized traffic is integrally related to enhancing health and fitness, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and improving neighbourhood planning and community cohesion. In this regard, community-based travel behaviour change initiatives are reserving much greater attention in the road safety area. As well as these changes at the personal and community scale, there is a need for policy changes to urban and transport planning that address the broader issues of sustainability in an era of climate change and peak oil.

Dr Alec Thornton

Dr Alec Thornton is a Lecturer in Geography in the School of Physical, Environmental and Mathematical Sciences (PEMS). Alec was previously a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Poverty, Inequality and Development (PID) Research Cluster in the Division of Humanities, University of Otago, NZ. He has a PhD in Development Studies (2006) from the University of Sussex, UK, and a MA in Rural Development (2002 Sussex, UK).

Institutional capacity building in Africa

Dr Alec Thornton

This research intends to improve the capability of research institutes in Zambia and South Africa to inform public policy for poverty alleviation. The wide spread and informal practice of urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) among the urban poor will be explored through key informant interview and household questionnaire surveys in selected sites in South Africa and Zambia. Through collaboration with colleagues at the University of the Free State (SA) and the University of Zambia (UNZA), the main outcome of this research is:

- To develop the capacity of these research institutions to carry out base-line research at the community level and
- To specifically enable them to work in the area of UPA and advise local and national governments about the potential of UPA to address poverty, unemployment and food insecurity issues.

The role of the church in development in Samoa

Dr Alec Thornton

This research seeks to explore relationships between social change and social patterns in Samoa. This research is premised on the idea that increasing economic hardships in Samoa are challenging traditional practices, such as financial and material reciprocity

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amongst the aiga (extended family) and the Church. People are opting out of these customary practices and, as a result, find themselves alienated from the familial benefits of these practices, such as the distribution of land resources and remittance income. This research will conduct key informant interviews with spiritual leaders from various religious denominations and household questionnaire surveys in known low-income areas in and around Apia, the Samoan capital city. In doing so, this research seeks to reveal the extent of which relationships and attitudes in Samoan society are changing, with regards to the needs of the church and the needs of the people.

The impact of economic openness on small-scale industries in Samoa.

Dr Alec Thornton

Increasing vulnerabilities due to natural disasters and reliance on remittance income in Samoa have inspired grassroots movements to form associations of food and cash crop producers, using locally-sourced raw materials and labour, as a means to offset environmental and economic uncertainty. In parallel, these uncertainties underpin the Samoan government's plans to expand into global trade. However, the potential impact of economic openness on the sustainability of small-scale agricultural initiatives has not been investigated. This research will explore how systemic changes in the local economy affect the economic viability and sustainable management of the 'commons' by small-scale, community-based industries (CBIs) in Samoa. These issues will be pursued through a combination of theoretical exploration and data collection of the causal linkages between systematic macro-economic reform and micro-level responses and the effects of trade liberalization on strategic decision making of CBIs.

Urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Dr Alec Thornton

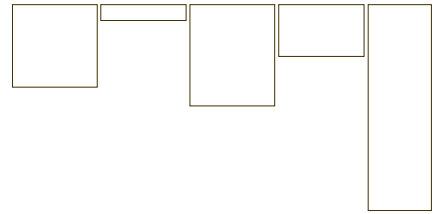
This research, in collaboration with Fourah Bay College (FBC, University of Sierra Leone), explores the role of urban agriculture as a post-conflict reconstruction strategy among the urban poor in Freetown, Sierra Leone's capital city. During the decade-long civil war (1991-2001), rural inhabitants fled their burning villages for refuge in Freetown. For many rural-urban migrants, food production in the city was a necessary survival strategy. However, the role of urban food production also provided a vital lifeline for city dwellers, in terms of food supply, particularly during the rebel embargo. This research collaboration seeks to build the capacity of the Geography Department at FBC to carry out baseline research in the area of UPA. Through a combination of UA-producer questionnaires and key informant interviews, this research seeks to facilitate the establishment of a formal UPA policy for post-conflict reconstruction and ensure the availability of a fresh and affordable local food supply.



Squatter resident (2006), Suva, Fiji (Photo credit: A. Thornton).



Children showing Alec Thornton their home garden (2005), Lusaka, Zambia.



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Recent Achievements

Dr Alec Thornton has been offered a fully-funded 3-year Honorary Research Fellowship at the University of Witwatersrand at Johannesburg, South Africa. From 2010, Alec will carry out research with colleagues in the School of Geography, Archaeology and Environmental Studies, as well as contribute lectures on topics in development geography.

Student Research

A dynamic electorate? Analysing the geography of minor parties at Australian state and federal elections, 1997-2006

Stephen Smith (sj.smith@student.adfa.edu.au) PhD

Field of Study: Electoral Geography

My doctoral research aims to investigate and explain the electoral geography of minor parties through assessing their changing electoral performances, presence and participation in Australian electoral settings at state and federal elections held between 1997 and 2006. To achieve this aim, six minor parties have been investigated: Australians Against Further Immigration, Australian Democrats, Family First, the Greens, One Nation and Unity. Exploring spatial and temporal variations in minor party electoral performances and their implications for the continued participation and presence of minor parties have also been of interest for this research. This has been exemplified through candidate standings, constituency formation and political engagements undertaken by these parties across electoral settings. This thesis is intended on highlighting challenges that are faced by minor parties as political participants in regards to their respective electoral prospects in a contemporary electoral setting.

Bushfire risk assessment at the urban-bush interface in metropolitan Australia: An integrated modelling approach

Daminda Solangaarachchi (d.solangaarachchi@student.adfa.edu.au) PhD

Field of Study: Geography

In many parts of Australia there has been growth in the population at the urban-rural interface. This population growth is a result of people choosing an idyllic lifestyle to live at the rural-urban interface, or un-affordability of housing within urban areas for those who earn a low income. The environment which draws people to these locations is fire prone and there is a potential threat to lives and property. Although there have been many unforgettable bushfire events with significant impacts, the lack of a risk assessment framework has been the primary limitation to quantitative risk assessment. It is clear that a systematic approach to assess bushfire risk while combining hazard occurrence, social/physical vulnerability and community resilience is required to determine activities of the disaster managers at all phases of the disaster management cycle i.e. pre-event, during the event, post-event. This will help to determine how scarce resources should be utilized in a more effective manner to minimize the impact of the event. Furthermore, it will help to identify the locations of the communities which need assistance in advance. This will also help to make a proper evacuation plan by prioritizing areas when a mass evacuation is required. This research will develop a

conceptual model of risk that provides a holistic perspective on natural hazards risk assessment with reference to bushfires. It will incorporate hazard, social vulnerability, physical vulnerability, and the resilience of the urban bush interface.

Cyberspaces: A cultural geography of online communication

Annabel Beckenham (Annabel.Beckenham@canberra.edu.au) PhD

Field of Study: Cyberspace

Research Topic: Cultural geography of cyberspace

Cyberspace is a field which belies traditional notions of space bound communities, but which enables the development of social groupings which have, among other things, distinctive territories and citizenries, recognisable pasts, variegated futures and complex interrelationships with space bound groups. The thesis examines the development of social navigation points in three major social network sites; *Facebook*, *Second Life* and *Myspace*.

Geographical factors affecting the successful development of rezoned urban land

Justin McEvoy (j.mcevoy@student.adfa.edu.au) MPhil (started 03/2009)

Field of Study: Geography

Peak oil and temporary migration

Hao Duan (h.duan@student.adfa.edu.au) PhD

Field of Study: Human Geography

This project explores the relationship between travel costs and lives of temporary migrant workers, in light of higher travel cost associated with peak oil. Peak oil describes the possible future of oil scarcity, where demand for oil outstrips our capacity to produce it. Peak oil may have a significant influence on fuel prices and directly affects the migrant workers' travelling costs. Temporary migrants are likely to change their behaviours in the context of peak oil. Long-distance commuters, who are regarded as an important group of temporary migrants, are studied on their adaptive behaviours, their relationships with family members, communities, businesses, and governments. The study expects to help authorities cope with likely impacts of peak oil on long-distance commuters.

PhD Opportunities and Scholarships

If you are interested in postgraduate studies within the Space and Society Group

Contact:

Dr Paul Tranter (p.tranter@adfa.edu.au)

Dr Amy Griffin (a.griffin@adfa.edu.au)

Dr Scott Sharpe (s.sharpe@adfa.edu.au)

Dr Alec Thornton (a.thornton@adfa.edu.au)

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Publications

In Press

Book

Thornton, A., *Beyond the Metropolis: Urban Agriculture in South Africa*, Edwin Mellen Press (under contract with Edwin Mellen Press, UK).

Book - Chapter

Whitzman, C., Romero, V., **Tranter, P.**, Curtis, C., Duncan, M. & Burke, M., in press, From battery-reared to free range children: The links between children's independent mobility, active transport, physical activity and obesity, in *Preventing Childhood Obesity: Evidence, Policy, and Practice*, E. Waters, Boyd Swinburn, Ricardo Uauy, Jaap Seidell (eds), Wiley Blackwell.

Journal - Refereed

Hynes, M. & **Sharpe, S.**, forthcoming, Affected with joy: Evaluating the mass actions of the anti-globalisation movement, *Borderlands*.

Thornton, A., Kerslake, M. & Binns, T., 2010, Alienation and obligation: The role of kinship and religion on the emergence of landlessness in Samoa, *Asia-Pacific Viewpoint*, in press.

Journal - Letter or Note

Thornton, A., in press, Book Review: Sustainable Land Management in the Tropics: Explaining the Miracle, Kees Burger and Fred Zaai (eds), Surrey, Ashgate, Singapore, *Journal of Tropical Geography*, submitted 2009.

2009 publications

Book - Chapter

Bundy, A., **Tranter, P.J.**, Naughton, G., Wyver, S. & Luckett, T., 2009, Playfulness: Interactions between play contexts and child development, *Children Families & Communities: Contexts and consequences (3rd edition)*, J. Bowes, R. Grace (eds), Oxford University Press, Melbourne, Australia, pp. 76-87.

Journal - Refereed

Bundy, A., Luckett, T., **Tranter, P.J.**, Naughton, G., Wyver, S., Ragen, J.A. & Spies, G., 2009, The risk that there is 'no risk': A simple, innovative intervention to increase children's activity levels, *International Journal of Early Years Education*, 17(1), 33-45, doi: 10.1080/09669760802699878.

Thornton, A.C., 2009, Garden of Eden?: The impact of resettlement on squatters' 'agri-hoods' in Fiji, *Development in Practice*, 19(7), 884-894, doi: 10.1080/09614520903122311.

Thornton, A.C., 2009, Pastures of plenty?: Land rights and community-based agriculture in Peddie, a former homeland town in South Africa, *Applied Geography*, 29(1), 12-20, doi:10.1016/j.apgeog.2008.06.001.

Tranter, P.J. & Lowes, M., 2009, Life in the fast lane: Environmental, economic and public health outcomes of motorsport spectacles in Australia, *Journal of Sport and Social Issues*, 33(2), 150-168, doi: 10.1177/0193723509334171.

Conference - Full paper refereed

Connor, J.M. & **Griffin, A.L.**, 2009, The muscle trade: International track and field athlete mobility, colonialism and development, *Proceedings of The Australian Sociological Association Conference*, The Australian National University, December 2009.

Hynes, M., **Sharpe, S.** & Greig, A., 2009, Seeming true in the social sciences: Reflections on an academic hoax, *Proceedings of The Australian Sociological Association Conference*, The Australian National University, December 2009.

Conference - Abstract

Beckenham, A. & Schaap, R. 2009, The network fetish: Commodifying the user, *Communication, Creativity and Global Citizenship, ANZCA 2009 Conference*, 8-10 July 2009, Queensland University of Technology, Creative Industries Precinct.

2008 publications

Book - Edited

Thornton, A.C. & McGregor, A. (eds) 2008, *Southern Perspectives: Proceedings of the 5th Biennial Conference of the Aotearoa New Zealand International Development Studies Network (DevNet)*, Dunedin, 3-5 November 2006, University of Otago, Dunedin, ISBN: 978-0-473-13832-5.

Book - Chapter

Thornton, A., 2008, Mixing methods and methodologies in urban agriculture research: A case study of South Africa, in Thornton, A.C. and McGregor, A. (eds), *Southern Perspectives: Proceedings of the 5th Biennial Conference of the Aotearoa New Zealand International Development Studies Network (DevNet)*, Dunedin, 3-5 November 2006, University of Otago, Dunedin.

Journal - Refereed

Bundy, A., Luckett, T., Naughton, G., **Tranter, P.J.**, Wyver, S., Ragen, J., Singleton, E. & Spies, G., 2008, Playful interaction: Occupational therapy for all children on the school playground, *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 62(5), 522-527.

Hynes, M.H., **Sharpe, S.Q.** & Greg, A., 2008, Chasing democracy: Dissent, humour and APEC, *Social Alternatives*, 27(1), 34-38.

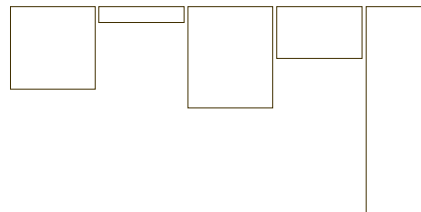
May, M., **Tranter, P.J.** & Warn, J.R., 2008, Towards a holistic framework for road safety in Australia, *Journal of Transport Geography*, 16(6), 395-405, doi:10.1016/j.jtrangeo.2008.04.004.

Thornton, A.C., 2008, Beyond the metropolis: Small town case studies of urban and peri-urban agriculture in South Africa, *Urban Forum*, 19(3), 243-262, doi: 10.1007/s12132-008-9036-7.

Tranter, P.J. & **Sharpe, S.**, 2008, Escaping monstropolis: Child-friendly cities, peak oil and Monsters, Inc., *Children's Geographies*, 6(3), 295-308, doi: 10.1080/14733280802184021.

Tranter, P.J. & Malone, K., 2008, Out of bounds: insights from Australian children to support sustainable cities, *Encounter: Education for Meaning and Social Justice*, 21(4), 20-26.

Tranter, P.J. & Warn, J.R., 2008, Relationships between interest in motor racing and driver attitudes and behaviour amongst mature drivers: An Australian case study, *Accident Analysis and Prevention*, 40(5), 1683-1689, doi:10.1016/j.aap.2008.06.003.



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Williams, C.P., 2008, Female transnational migration, religion and subjectivity: The case of Indonesian domestic workers, *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*, 49(3), 344-353, doi: 10.1111/j.1467-8373.2008.00382.x.

Journal - Non refereed

Tranter, P.J., 2008, How to save time and money: Using the walking school bus to increase your "effective speed", *World Transport Policy & Practice*, 14(1), 56-63.

Journal - Letter or note

Tranter, P.J., 2008, The journey to school: walking toward a future, *World Transport Policy & Practice*, 14(1), 3-5.

Conference - Full Paper Refereed

Beckenham, A., 2008, Face off online: Pedagogy and engagement in social network sites, *Engaging communities: Proceedings of the 2008 annual international conference of the Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia Inc (HERDSA)*, 1-4 July 2008, Rotorua, New Zealand, M. Barrow & K. Sutherland (eds), HERDSA, Milperra, N.S.W.

Abstract available at: http://conference.herdsa.org.au/2008/pdfs/HERDSAProgramme_v8.pdf.

Conference - Abstract

Smith, S., 2008, A new electoral barometer? Exploring the electoral geography of the Greens in Australian cities, *Institute of Australian Geographers Conference*, University of Tasmania, Hobart, 30 June-2 July 2008.

Grants

External Grants

A. Bundy, G.A. Naughton, **P.J. Tranter**, S.R. Wyver, L.A. Baur, W.E. Schiller & A. Bauman, Popping the bubblewrap: Unleashing the power of play, *ARC Discovery*, 2009-2011: \$399k.

A. Bundy, G.A. Naughton, **P.J. Tranter**, S.R. Wyver, L.A. Baur & W.E. Schiller, Cluster randomised controlled trial of an innovative intervention to increase children's physical activity, *NHMRC Grant*, 2009-2011: \$486k.

A. Griffin & M. Doherty, Social-ecological intersections: A spatial approach to understanding bushfire risk and community capacity for resilience and adaptation in the Sydney metropolitan area, *DSARC Scholarship/CSIRO*, 2009-2010: \$64,881.

A.C. Thornton with academics from the University of Otago (New Zealand), University of the Free State (South Africa), and the University of Zambia (Lusaka, Zambia), Investigation of the current nature and future potential of urban and peri-urban agriculture to help meet the Millennium Development Goals in South Africa and Zambia, *Global Development Network-UNDP*, 2009-2010, USD \$126,000.

A.C. Thornton with academics from University of Otago, and National University of Samoa, Cyclones, cash crops and capitalism: Can small-scale agri-industries survive economic openness in Samoa?, *Oceania Development Network*, 2008-2010, USD \$6,000.

A.C. Thornton with academics from Otago University and National University of Samoa, Alienation and obligation: Exploring the role of the church and kinship in the emergence of landlessness in Samoa, *University of Otago Research Grant (NZ)*, 2008-2009, NZ \$12,000.

A.C. Thornton with academics from Sierra Leone, UK and NZ Development Partnerships in Higher Education (DePHE), Urban and Peri-Urban agriculture and food security in post-conflict Sierra Leone, Grant (DfID/British Council, UK), 2008-2010, GBP 90 000 (ca. AUD \$200,000).

Conference Participation

Dr Amy Griffin

- Using GIS to identify errors in an historical database, *14th International Conference of Historical Geographers*, 23-27 August 2009, Kyoto, Japan.
- The muscle trade: International track and field athlete mobility, colonialism and development. *Annual Conference of The Australian Sociological Association*, 1-4 December 2009, Canberra.

Dr Alec Thornton

- Institutional capacity building for urban agriculture in Southern Africa, *3rd European Conference on African Studies (ECAS)*, 4-7 June 2009, Leipzig, Germany.
- Kinship & church obligations and the emergence of landlessness in Samoa, *31st International Geographical Congress*, 12-15 August 2008, Tunis, Tunisia.
- The church and development in Samoa, *New Zealand Geographical Society 24th Conference 2008*, 2-5 July 2008, University of Victoria at Wellington.

Dr Paul Tranter

Dr Paul Tranter has given several keynote addresses and invited presentations on his research on child friendly cities and on effective speed. Some recent examples include:

- Invited speaker on Peak oil and child friendly environments at the *Population, Peak Oil and Climate Change, National Conference*, 14-15 March 2008.
- Invited Speaker at the *Switch to Green Climate Change Expo and Conference*, Canberra, 4 April 2008, on the theme of Creating sustainable cities through child friendly perspectives.
- Expert Speaker for Danish Embassy's *Dreams on Wheels Exhibition*, 22 May 2008, Commonwealth Place, Canberra, with a presentation: How fast are you really going? The "effective speed" of cyclists.
- Invited speaker at the *Sustainable City Fora*, Australian Institute of Architects, Canberra, on Creating Child Friendly cities in a design brief for a sustainable city, 13 June 2008.
- Guest speaker at *Department of Transport (Victoria) forum on Children's Travel and Independent Mobility in a Changing World*, 18 June 2008, Melbourne.
- Guest speaker at *Australian Institute of Urban Studies Seminar Series*, 20 August 2008, Town Hall House, Sydney, on the topic: A monster problem or child's play? Peak oil and child-friendly cities.
- Keynote Address Home, school and the spaces in between, *Child Friendly Cities Symposium*, October 2008 University of Wollongong, titled: A monster problem or child's play: Child friendly cities as a response to peak oil.

Society & Space

Service

Dr Alec Thornton - Co-Convenor, Asia-Pacific Seminar Series at UNSW, Canberra.

Memberships

Dr Amy Griffin

- Member, American Association of Geographers.
- Member, Institute of Australian Geographers.

Dr Scott Sharpe

- Member, Institute of Australian Geographers.

Dr Alec Thornton

- Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.
- Member, Aotearoa New Zealand International Development Studies Network.
- Member, Global Development Network.
- Member, International Geographer's Union.
- Member, Oceania Development Network.
- Member, Poverty, Inequality and Development Research Cluster.

From Left to Right: Dr Scott Sharpe and Dr Paul Tranter are collaborators on a project investigating how the challenge of peak oil might provide opportunities for making cities more child-friendly.

Dr Paul Tranter

- Member, Institute of Australian Geographers.
- Member, Editorial Board for the *Journal: World Transport Policy and Practice* (1995-present).
- Member, Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia (HERDSA).



Children's sense of place is enhanced by close contact with their physical environment, and the opportunity to manipulate their environment. Here children play in their own "store" in a forest.

