Social Identity and Groups Network
UQ Research Centre Annual Report
2017

Screenshot of the SIGN website, March 2018
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1. Director’s Report

After operating for four years as an informal research group, 2016 saw the formal establishment of SIGN as a recognized Research Centre at The University of Queensland. The group is comprised of 15 academics and post-doctoral researchers and 21 PhD students, and its work centres on the examination of social identity processes in social, organizational, and clinical settings.

2017 was a very successful year for the group, but the following highlights emerge from the report below.

In October SIGN’s writing retreat took place at Springbrook National Park in the Gold Coast hinterland. It was attended by 21 UQ staff, students and visitors.

We also held 9 monthly workshops on a range of topics. About half of these were given by visitors and each was attended by between 20-30 researchers.

Over the course of the year SIGN members

- Published 97 peer-reviewed publications and 44 publications in a variety of other outlets (e.g., book chapters, encyclopedia entries, industry reports). Many of these papers were the subject of UQ press releases.
- Were awarded grants worth $1,70 million and worked on existing grants (including industry contracts) worth over $ 6.90 million.
- Helped 5 SIGN members complete PhDs and MPhils: Tamara Butler, Melissa Chang, Laura Ferris, Kunalan Manokara, and Kiran Singh
- Held 16 editorial positions on national and international journals.
- Hosted 2 domestic and 6 international visitors for extended periods.
- Received national and international recognition for their ongoing research through a range of distinguished fellowships and awards.

Finally, as the only formally established Social Identity Centre in Australia, we were very pleased to see that “social identity” is a field in which Australian universities “top the world“ (see screenshot of The Australian, March, 2018).
2. SIGN Members

Prof Jolanda Jetten
SIGN Director, Professor of Psychology, UQ Developmental Fellow

Prof Alex Haslam
SIGN Associate Director, Professor of Psychology, ARC Laureate Fellow

Prof Catherine Haslam
SIGN Associate Director, Professor of Psychology

Christine McCoy
Centre manager

Dr Tegan Cruwys
Lecturer in Applied Psychology, ARC DECRA Fellow,

Dr Genevieve Dingle
Senior Lecturer in Clinical Psychology

Dr Kelly Fielding
Associate Professor of Psychology, ARC Future Fellow

Dr Katharine Greenaway
ARC DECRA Fellow

Dr Ben Lam
ARC Post-Doctoral Fellow

Dr Winnifred Louis
Professor of Psychology
3. Key SIGN Activities in 2017

SIGN Writing Retreat

The writing retreat is one of the SIGN Centre’s key activities for the year. This is where executive members, other Centre staff and RHD students take time out from regular routine to focus on and progress key collaborative research projects and associated writing tasks. In order to effectively achieve the goals of the retreat it is necessary to dedicate a number of days and to take the meeting away from usual locations.

Our writing retreat took place over in mid-October (Wednesday 11-Saturday 14 October) at Koonjewarre Accommodation and Activity Centre on the Springbrook plateau about a 90 minute drive from Brisbane. The retreat was attended by 21 UQ staff and RHD students and visitors. The retreat was very successful and enabled the Centre executive, staff and RHD students to progress key collaborative research studies and related writing tasks.

SIGN Monthly Workshops

In 2017, we held 9 monthly 2-3 hour meetings in which members of the group and visitors presented their work. The SIGN meetings work very well for the group and have helped both to bring on students and to widen the group’s circle through the inclusion of external visitors (e.g., from other UQ departments). See Appendix A for the 2017 calendar.

Attendance at the workshops steadily increased throughout the year and the invitation now officially goes out to over 50 staff, students and visitors. The workshops are followed by lunches where attendees have the opportunity to interact and discuss their research more informally.
4. Peer-Reviewed Publications that Appeared or were Accepted for Publication in 2017

SIGN members authored 96 peer-reviewed publications.

Refered journal articles


roles of mindfulness and need for cognitive closure. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations, 59*, 31-42.


5. Other Publications that Appeared or were Accepted for Publication in 2017

SIGN members authored 44 publications in a variety of outlets other than journals (e.g., books, book chapters, encyclopedia entries, industry reports).

**Authored books**


Journal special issues


Chapters in handbooks and edited books


**Magazines, commissioned reports and scholarly media outputs**


SIGN members were awarded grants worth $1.70 million.

A$450,000 (approx.) for a 3-year Development Fellowship from The University of Queensland: for project on Responding to the challenge of identity change (J. Jetten).

A$364,996 from the Australian Research Council for a DECRA on How beliefs about others’ social identification shape behaviour (N. Steffens).

A$39,946 from the Queensland Alliance of Environmental Health Sciences on Communicating risk information about PFAS in Australia (K. Fielding, K. Morphett & A. Roiko)

A$A543,000 from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to examine COMPASS - Passport processing research project (S. A. Haslam, P. Sanderson, J.K. Peters, S. Parker, K. Greenaway, & N. Steffens).
A$63,433 from Australian Rotary Health for project titled: Groups 4 Health: Can a social identity intervention reduce social isolation in young adults more effectively than traditional cognitive behaviour therapy? (C. Haslam, T. Cruwys, F. Dark, & V. Gore-Jones)

A$35,624 from HABS-Metro North and Hospital Services Collaborative Seed Funding Scheme for project titled: Groups 4 Health: Building connectedness in transitioning home from care (C. Haslam, J. Whitmore, C. Bruggeman, L. Lynch, P. Johnson, P. Stephens, C. Saxby, T. Cruwys, J. Jetten, N. Pachana and M. Peterson)

A$110,000 from the UQ Global Change Institute Flagship Project for a project titled Empowering older adult sustainability ambassadors to create positive environmental and health change (N. Pachana, C. Haslam, T. Kastelle, B. Keane, K. Nichols, M. Smyer, & N. Steffens).

A$20,000 from the University of Queensland Early Career Researcher Grant for a project titled Reducing Isolation in Young People (the RIYP trial): A randomised controlled trial to assess whether a social identity intervention reduces social isolation more effectively than cognitive behaviour therapy (T. Cruwys).

CA$66,315 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, for project titled: “You've got email: Online social networking to reduce loneliness and enhance wellbeing among older adults” (R. Ysseldyky, C. Haslam, S.A. Haslam, & T. Morton)

CA$10,272 Development grant for project “Peer support and dementia – reducing social isolation by enhancing social identity” (R. Ysseldyky, T. Luciani, K. Theurer, C. Haslam & G. Dingle)

A$2,142 UQ Seeding grant for “Live Wires music program for promoting cognitive and social functioning of older adults” (G. Dingle, R. Davidson & S. Clift)

7. Grants Held in 2017

SIGN members currently hold grants worth over $6.90 million.

A$387,000 from the Australian Research Council for a DECRA on Rethinking positive emotion regulation (K. Greenaway).

A$2,529,601 from the Australian Research Council for research on Responding to the challenges of identity change: An Advanced Social Identity Approach to issues of leadership, health and well-being. (S. A. Haslam).

A$240,000 from the Australian Research Council for Discovery project on Consequences of inequality on social behaviour and political attitudes (J. Jetten, F. Mols, K. Peters, & M. Verkuyten).

A$806,012 from the Australian Research Council for a Future Fellowship on Racism wellbeing and extremist identification in Australia (F. Barlow).
A$349,000 from the Australian Research Council for Discovery project on *Adjustment to retirement through social identity change* (C. Haslam, T., S.A. Haslam, Cruwys, N. Steffens & N. Pachana).

A$150,000 from the Australian Research Council, Linkage Program, titled: “Ageing well in a foreign land: Identity, social connectedness, well-being” (S. Liu, J. Jetten, C. Haslam, C. Gallois, & V. McDonald).

USD$6000 from the American Psychological Foundation for a project titled *Understanding couple dynamics from a cultural perspective* (B. Lam).

A$363,000 from the Australian Research Council (Discovery Early Career Researcher Award) Does shared group membership increase social risk-taking? (T. Cruwys).

A$277,000 from the Australian Research Council for Discovery project on *How pain shapes our social world* (B. Bastian & J. Jetten).

A$14,608 from the Safer Schoolies Initiative: Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, State of Queensland Government for a project titled *Understanding the psychosocial dynamics of the Schoolies experience: A social identity perspective* (T. Cruwys).

A$1,019,593 from Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities for project on “*Water sensitive city transition strategies and implementation plans*” (B. Rogers, K. Fielding, K. Hammer, A. Dean, C. Chesterfield, R. Brown).

A$325,000 from the Australian Research Council for Discovery project on *Outcomes of collective action: After the blockade, what next?* (W. R. Louis, E. Thomas, C. McGarty, C. E. Amiot, & F. M. Moghaddam).


CA$190,000 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Insight Program for a project titled *Internalisation of discriminatory norms and impact on well-being: The role of social identity processes* (C.E. Amiot, E. Thomas, & W.R. Louis).

A$232,000 from Australian Research Council for Linkage project on “Conserving and recovering koala populations on NSW Far North Coast” (C. McAlpine, J. Rhodes, D. Lunney, R. Goldingay, K. Fielding, G. Brown).

### 8. PhD Completions since 2017

Five SIGN students completed their PhDs/MPhils.

**Tamara Butler** (2017, PhD) *Intragroup dynamics of social support* (supervisors: S. A. Haslam, B. McKimmie)

**Melissa Chang** (2017, PhD) *Multiple identities and well-being across cultures* (supervisors: J. Jetten, C. Haslam & T. Cruwys)

**Laura Ferris** (2018, PhD) *physical pain* (supervisors: J. Jetten & B. Bastian)
9. PhD Students Starting and Continuing in 2017

22 students are currently working towards a PhD under the supervision of a SIGN member on projects that are directly relevant to the SIGN focus

Tulsi Achia (2016-) Collective action and social justice (supervisor: W. R. Louis)
Sarah Bentley (2013-) Social identity and learning (supervisors: K. Greenaway, S. A. Haslam)
Cassandra Chapman (2015-) Social identity and charitable giving (supervisor: W. R. Louis)
Mark Chong (2014-) Social identification and narcissism (supervisors: S. A. Haslam, N. Steffens)
Mylyn Dat Organisational culture and diversity (supervisor: T. Okimoto & K. Peters)
Polly Fong (2017-) Social identity, space and retirement (supervisors: C. Haslam, N. Pachana & S. A. Haslam)
Robyn Gulliver (2016-) Social psychology (supervisors: W. R. Louis, & K. Fielding)
Kelly Kirkland (2017-) The effects of inequality on children (supervisors: M. Nielsen & J. Jetten)
Nikole Kwok (2013-) The importance of group memberships for the successful adjustment of overseas students. (supervisors: S. A. Haslam, C. Haslam, T. Cruwys)
Zahra Mirnajafizadeh (2017-) Minority solidarity and collective action (supervisors: W.R. Louis, & J.Jetten)
Katie Munt (2018-) Organizational well-being (supervisors: N. Steffens & K. Peters)
Nita lauren (2013-) Environmental behaviour (supervisors: W. R. Louis & A. Dean)
Tracy Schultz Common in-group identity and recycling (supervisor: K. Fielding)
Randall Tame (2013-) Organizational identity mapping (supervisors: S. A. Haslam, K. Peters)
Zhechen Wang (2015-) How social status shapes the desire for wealth and status (J. Jetten, N. Steffens)

Susilo Wibisono (2016-) Religious fundamentalism, fusion and collective action (supervisor: W. R. Louis & J.Jetten)

Elyse Williams (2015-) Singing in choirs (G. Dingle & J. Jetten)

Postdoctoral supervision

Dr. Niklas Steffens (2012-) Social identity, leadership and health. (ARC-funded postdoctoral award)

Dr. Daniel Skorich (2016-) Self-categorization and autism. (ARC-funded postdoctoral award)

10. Community and Professional Activities

Major partners and collaborators

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Workplace Health and Safety Queensland
- Superfriend
- AustralianSuper
- QHealth: Brighton Health Campus
- Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital
- Prince Charles Hospital
- Aveo
- Diversicare
- Queensland Alliance of Environmental Health Sciences
- Tweed Shire council, Byron Bay Council, Lismore Council
- Cooks River Alliance
- Conservation Volunteers
- Tangaroa Blue Foundation and the Australian Marine Debris initiative
- The Salvation Army
- Queensland Parliament

Conference Organization


Outreach

F. Barlow: SBS Documentary The Truth About Racism March 1

K. Fielding: Member of Healthy Land and Water Scientific Expert Panel
J. Jetten: Industry liaison coordinator for the School of Psychology

J. Jetten: Invited speaker at the Australian Command and Staff College, Military and Defence Studies Program, Canberra.

J. Jetten: Invited speaker at the Rotary club, Maroochydore branch, Sunshine coast.

F. Mols: Member of the Australasian Parliamentary Studies Group Queensland Chapter (APSG-Q)

11. Editorial Responsibilities

G. Dingle Associate Editor British Journal of Clinical Psychology

G. Dingle Associate Editor Journal of Clinical Psychology

K. Fielding: Senior Associate Editor of Environment & Behavior

C. Haslam Associate Editor British Journal of Psychology

S. A. Haslam Associate Editor Leadership Quarterly


J. Jetten: Editor with the SPSSI Youtube Initiative (2017--). The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issue

J. Jetten: Associate Editor of Comprehensive Results in Social Psychology

J. Jetten: Guest Editor of Journal of Social Issues (with V. Esses)


F. Mols: Chronicles Editor—Australian Journal of Politics and History (AJPH)

W.R Louis Associate Editor Journal of Peace Psychology

W.R Louis Associate Editor Journal of Social and Political Psychology

W.R Louis Associate Editor Journal of Pacific Rim Psychology
12. Awards and Distinctions in 2017

**F. Barlow:** Early Career Research Excellence Award. *Faculty of Health and Behavioural Science Research Excellence Awards.* $AU3000.

**F. Barlow:** Emerging Advisor Award *University of Queensland Research Awards.* $AU2000.

**F. Barlow:** Australia’s Top 150 Young Innovators: *Included in their list of Australia’s top 150 young innovators, and they invited Fiona to their annual conference in Canberra (JUNKET)*

**M. Chang:** Runner up for the Outstanding Postgraduate Research Award at the annual Society of Australasian Social Psychology (SASP) conference, Melbourne

**T. Cruwys:** winner of the APS Early Career Research Award

**K. Greenaway:** winner of the Society of Australasian Social Psychology (SASP) Early Career Award

**S.A Haslam:** International Society of Political Psychology’s Nevitt Sanford Award for contribution to political psychology

**S.A. Haslam, N. K. Steffens & K. Peters:** Winner Australian Psychology Society’s Workplace Excellence Award for Leadership Development (for research on 5R)

**J. Jetten:** Member on the *Humanities and Social Sciences panel* of the Cluster of Excellent Funding Line selection panel by the German Research Council (DFG, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft), 2017

**W.R Louis:** National convenor, Psychologists for Peace

**W.R Louis:** Participated in Senate Inquiries on Strengthening Australian Multiculturalism and Australia’s Citizenship Laws

**Keynote addresses**

**S.A. Haslam:** *The new psychology of leadership: Identity, influence and power.* Conference of the Work, Organizational and Business Psychology Section of the German Psychological Society, Dresden, 13-15 September.

13. Centre Visitors in 2017

In 2017, the SIGN Centre hosted 2 domestic and 6 international visitors, contributing significantly to our reach and collaborative research partnerships in Australia and abroad.

- Prof. Orla Muldoon, Limerick University, Ireland
- Dr. Katrien Fransen, University of Leuven, Belgium
- Dr. Michele Kearns, Limerick University, Ireland
• Ms. Anatolia Batruch, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
• Prof. Harvey Whitehouse, Oxford University, UK
• Dr. Zoe Leviston, Edith Cowan University
• Prof. Charles Abrams, University of Exeter, UK
• A/Prof. Brock Bastian, University of Melbourne
Appendix A: SiGN Centre Calendar 2017

SIGN (Social Identity and Groups Network) Centre Calendar 2017

**Workshops:** Held in the morning on the first Friday of each month (whenever possible) in Rooms 109/109A, Level 1, Mcllwain Building (#24A).

**SIGN Executive Meetings:** Held in the half hour prior to each month's workshop in Rooms 109/109A.

**Lunches:** Approx. fortnightly on Fridays, including after each month's Friday workshop, from 12:00-1:00pm, changing locations.

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SIGN monthly workshops
SIGN fortnightly lunches
SPSP 2017 Convention
SASP 2017 Annual Conference
BPS Annual Conference 2017
EASP 18th General Meeting
Public Holidays