

# La Trobe University, School of Psychological Science: Staff Research Interests

## BUNDOORA CAMPUS

**Dr Edith Bavin:** Cognition and language; language acquisition; language disorders, auditory perception.

**Dr Sheila Crewther:** Cognitive and behavioural neuroscience associated with selective visual and cross-modal attention in neurodevelopmental disorders such as reading difficulties, ADHD and autism. Modelling of mechanisms of neural plasticity in animals and children. Molecular and physiological mechanisms of ocular growth and myopia.

**Professor Simon Crowe:** Neuropsychology of psychiatric and degenerative disorders; animal models of memory formation, behavioural neurotoxicology.

**Professor Geoff Cumming:** Reform of statistical practices in psychology, multimedia for learning statistics, communication of research to professional psychologists, evidence-based practice.

**Professor Ross Day:** Human perception, perceptual illusions, movement, space, and biological activity, and perception in abnormal states. The relationship between perception and action.

**Dr Cheryl Dissanayake:** Studies of social-emotional and social-cognitive development in children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder and typically developing children; identification of autism in infancy; physical growth in children with autism.

**Dr Lynette Evans:** Eating problems and the impact on relationship experiences for women. Attachment styles in adult relationships.

**Mr Bruce Falconer:** Psychiatric disorders and their clinical application, personality disorders, depression, the application of CBT within the primary health care system.

**Dr John Farhall:** Hallucinations and delusions in clinical and normal populations; working with families in mental health; psychiatric rehabilitation; clinical practice guidelines.

**Mr Martin Jackson:** Alcohol related brain injury; substance abuse; recovery following acquired brain injury and long term outcomes; mild head injury; cognitive sequelae of emotional disorder; ecological validity of neuropsychological tests, learning disabilities.

**Dr Emi Kashima:** Culture and social psychology, with emphasis on self, stereotypes, social identity, language and communication; acculturation of immigrants and international students. Threat reactions, especially the socio-cultural processes that moderate the impacts of various threats such as identity, self-integrity, uncertainty, worldview, and mortality salience threats.

**Dr Stephen Kent:** Interactions between the immune system and the brain including the development of sickness behaviour (e.g., fever, loss of appetite), immune-induced cognitive deficits, and the effects of stress on the immune system. Behavioural, endocrine and immunological consequences of calorie restriction.

**Dr Glynda Kinsella:** Clinical neuropsychology; working memory and prospective remembering for everyday activities; traumatic brain injury; neuropsychology of mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease; neuropsychological interventions for memory impairment.

**Dr Danuta Loesch:** Genetic and neural determinants of neuropsychological and physical manifestations in fragile X disorder, with emphasis on autistic behaviours in affected children, and neurodegenerative process in aged premutation carriers.

**Dr Anthony Love:** Psychosocial factors in chronic illnesses (e.g., cancer) and at end of life (palliative care); social inferences and judgements in clinical assessment and patient-practitioner communication.

**Dr Mary Omodei:** Use of computer-simulated scenarios, head-mounted video recording/transmission, video conferencing methods to study decision making in complex dynamic situations.

**Dr Ben Ong:** Cognitive and memory deficits in aging and disease (eg. executive function, visual-spatial memory). Factors which predispose and maintain gambling (e.g., personality, beliefs, mood).

**Dr Tony Paolini:** Behavioural and systems neurophysiology; auditory neuroscience; deafness, plasticity and cochlear implants. Auditory processing and cognition.

**Professor Susan Paxton:** Risk factors, prevention and treatment of body dissatisfaction, disordered eating and obesity. Understanding health risk and health promoting behaviours.

**Dr Robyn Stargatt:** The emotional, behavioural and neuropsychological effects of anesthesia in infants and children; explicit and implicit recall of events under anaesthesia in children; the emotional, behavioural and neuropsychological outcomes in infants and children treated for brain tumours, other cancers and following closed head injury. Aggression and executive dysfunction in children with severe psychological disturbance; Drug and Alcohol use among adolescents comorbid for psychological disturbance.

**Dr Art Stukas:** Social psychology (broadly construed), with an emphasis on interpersonal processes in social interactions, volunteerism and community involvement, and prejudice, stigma and stereotyping.

**Dr Richard Weisinger:** Role of omega-3 fatty acids in health and disease; mechanisms involved in the regulation of body fat metabolism and body weight; central mechanisms involved in the control of ingestive behaviour.

**Professor Eleanor Wertheim:** Conflict resolution, enhancing relationships in schools through better conflict resolution and cultural diversity programs, the process of forgiveness and reconciliation after conflict; disordered eating and body concerns.

## ALBURY-WODONGA CAMPUS

**Dr Michael Halloran:** Social and cultural psychology, with a focus on social identity, intergroup dynamics, Indigenous issues, and the impact of existential concerns on social psychological processes and behaviour.

**Dr Brad Wright:** Issues relating to health psychology, particularly identifying and modelling the various relationships between employment, social support, exercise and stress levels on physiological and health outcomes.

## BENDIGO CAMPUS

**Dr Graeme Galloway:** Humour; philosophical psychology; tourist psychology.

**Mr Tim Godber:** Intraindividual performance variability, psychological assessment, developmental disorders

**Dr Anna Kokavec:** Complex feedback loop between energy intake and metabolism, immune response, and activity of steroid hormones; biochemical and behavioural aspects of substance abuse; and the contribution of dietary factors to the development of disease.

**Dr Sandra Tunley:** Receiving and providing social support to work colleagues, family and friends; social support and health; the role of health psychology in developing countries – development versus humanitarian aid; trust as a function of the social support process.