

ICA 2024  
POSTCONFERENCE

# NEWS INDUSTRIES: FUNDING INNOVATIONS AND FUTURES

24–25 JUNE 2024

Kurrawa Surf Club 'Beachside'  
Old Burleigh Road,  
Broadbeach QLD 4218



# PROGRAM

## 24 JUN

Monday

6.00pm-9:30pm

**KEYNOTE 1:**

**Somebody always pays—rethinking the economics of news in the 21st century**

*Richard Denniss, The Australia Institute*

## 25 JUN

Tuesday

8:30am-9:00am

**Arrive at venue**

*MC for the day: Caroline Fisher, University of Canberra*

9:00am-9:15am

**Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country**

*Kerry McCallum, University of Canberra*

9:15am-9:45am

**KEYNOTE 2:**

**'Burning platforms'?: Exploring local news futures in Australia**

*Kristy Hess, Deakin University*

*Chair: Aljosha Karim Schapals, QUT*

9:50am-10:40am

**LIGHTNING ROUND 1:**

**Digital platforms and news**

*Chair: Derek Wilding, UTS*

**The end of news platformization? Global trends in news dissemination on Facebook after the news bargaining codes**

*Si Yu Lee and Peng Hwa Ang, Nanyang Technological University*

**Is Australia's news media bargaining code a blueprint for saving journalism?**

*Sacha Molitorisz and Monica Attard, UTS*

**Navigating the digital landscape: Challenges and opportunities in Iranian journalism**

*Hamide Khaleghi Mohammadi, University of Sydney*

**The press as platform?**

*James Meese, RMIT*

10:45am-11:00am

**Morning Tea**

11:00am-12:00pm

**PANEL:**

**International news subsidy schemes**

*Chair: Monica Attard, UTS Centre for Media Transition*

*Canada: Alfred Hermida and Mary Lynn Young*

*South Korea: Jaemin Jung, Se-uk Oh and Youngju Kim*

*Norway: Eli Skogerbø*

*Australia: Tim Koskie*

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**12:05pm-1:05pm      Panel: Industry Panel**

*Chair: Robert Picard*

*Megan Brownlow, Houston Consulting  
Jarrah Petzold, Australian Community Media  
Will Hayward, Private Media  
Jacqui Park, Editor and Media Strategist*

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**1:10pm-1:40pm      Lunch**

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**1:40pm-2:10pm      KEYNOTE 3:**

**Calculating the funding gap in local journalism: Methodological and empirical observations from a work in progress**  
*Phil Napoli, Duke University  
Chair: Terry Flew, University of Sydney*

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**2:15pm-3:25pm      LIGHTNING ROUND 2:**

**Innovation in business models**

*Chair: Agata Stepnik, University of Sydney*

**Am I niche enough to go it alone?**

*Claire Merlo, RMIT*

**Valorising credibility: Trust as paradigm and revenue repair in South African news organisations 2012 to 2022**

*Harry Dugmore, University of the Sunshine Coast*

**Youtuber business model: A profitable way forward for longform journalism**

*Christopher Hall, UTS*

**Funding news through patronage: The case of Hankyoreh supporters in South Korea**  
*Minjeong Kim, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies*

**Strategies for success: Dos and don'ts in the digital transformation of media companies**  
*Katerina Mandenaki, Catherine Sotirakou, Anastasia Karampela, and Constantinos Mourlas, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens*

**Volunteer-run hyperlocals: sustainability and professionalism**

*Josie Vine and Timothy Marjoribanks, RMIT*

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**3:30pm-4:00pm      Future research discussion**

*Chair: Sora Park, University of Canberra*

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**4:00pm      Drinks and networking**

# ABSTRACTS

## Keynotes

### Somebody always pays—rethinking the economics of news in the 21st century

*Dr Richard Denniss | The Australia Institute*

Dr Denniss' insightful and provocative views will lead to some rethinking about how we imagine the role of news, how we fund it and how we regulate it. Let's get the conversation started.

### 'Burning platforms'?: Exploring local news futures in Australia

*Professor Kristy Hess | Deakin University*

The future of news in rural and regional Australia is an issue of national significance—it is widely acknowledged that local journalists provide essential information needs that enable citizens to live a safe, well-informed and connected life. Yet news deserts are an increasing reality and there are many 'local' news outlets across Australia that struggle to be sustainable. This presentation situates some of the key areas identified as vital to securing local news futures, from funding models to collaboration, audience engagement, Big Tech, recruitment and resourcing. The presentation argues a need for a measurement tool that assesses a news outlet's commitment or physical, cultural and social proximity to the 'places' they purport to serve to help policymakers provide more targeted support where it is needed most. As a provocation, I argue there is currently too much emphasis on metrics and digital reach at the expense of content and relevance of local news to audiences—the former may have contributed to the very decline of local news in the first place.

### Calculating the funding gap in local journalism: Methodological and empirical observations from a work in progress

*Professor Phil Napoli | Duke University*

This keynote will provide an overview of the Democracy Fund-supported project Estimating the Local Journalism Funding Gap that is focused on developing a methodological approach to calculating the gap between the amount of funding currently available across all sources to support local journalism in the U.S. on an annual basis, and the amount of funding necessary to ensure that local journalism is effectively meeting communities' information needs. This project was motivated in part by the launch of Press Forward, a landmark consortium of funders who have committed \$500 million in the coming year to support local journalism in the US. Although this represents an unprecedented investment into US local news production, there is ongoing debate as to whether \$500 million will be adequate going forward. The keynote will draw from initial stages of the project to provide empirical input to these debates.

# Lightning Rounds

## The end of news platformization? Global trends in news dissemination on Facebook after the news bargaining codes

*Ms Si Yu Lee and Professor Peng Hwa Ang | Nanyang Technological University*

Australia's novel News Bargaining Code has put pressure on the platforms to pay news publishers for the use of their (publishers') content. Facebook initially stopped disseminating Australian news and then backtracked in the face of a public outcry when news on official government pages were also not disseminated. What has Facebook done elsewhere? This study of leading news publishers in 15 countries, selected from all continents and varying in their regulation maturity regarding platform payments for news, found that the average number of post interactions and link interactions have almost halved (decreasing 41.5% and 49.4% respectively) from 2022 to 2023. Notably, this decline extends beyond countries that are considering but have not passed platform-payment laws. This suggests a broader Facebook strategy to suppress news globally. We argue that this algorithmic manoeuvre by Facebook limits the utility of the bargaining code as an approach to support the news industry. This global deprioritization of news on Facebook also suggests an inflection point in the era of news platformization. Drawing insights from the Nordic model of press support systems, we suggest how a government-led press support system can better address the viability crisis of the news industry while preserving its independence.

## Is Australia's news media bargaining code a blueprint for saving journalism?

*Dr Sacha Molitorisz and Professor Monica Attard | UTS*

In recent years, the most radical innovation in funding journalism has arguably been Australia's world-first news media bargaining code. Highly controversial, the 2021 code has redistributed more than \$200m annually from Google and Meta to Australian news media businesses, and has prompted Canada, Indonesia, New Zealand and further jurisdictions to follow suit. However, due to extensive confidentiality clauses, the deals made as a result of the code are shrouded in secrecy. In this paper, we draw on interviews with representatives from eight Australian news media businesses to argue that the code has been a major but qualified success, even in the absence of any digital platform being 'designated' under the code. We argue that the code has delivered a significant boost to public interest journalism, but the details of this boost are difficult to discern, given the code's lack of transparency. What's more, given negotiations are currently underway to renew the deals, it is unclear whether the code's success will be long-lasting or short-lived. We propose improvements to Australia's code, as well as the need for supplementary measures to bolster public interest journalism.

## Navigating the digital landscape: Challenges and opportunities in Iranian journalism

*Dr Hamide Khaleghi Mohammadi | University of Sydney*

This presentation embarks on a thorough investigation into the intricate financial dynamics that underpin digital journalism within the Iranian context. With a primary focus on sustainability, it delves deeply into the pivotal role played by digital platforms amidst a regulatory landscape that significantly shapes press freedom. In Iran, digital platforms have emerged as indispensable channels for the dissemination of news and information. However, their operation is intricately intertwined with the regulatory environment, prompting critical inquiries into the delicate balance between regulatory oversight and the provision of financial support. This paper provides a nuanced examination of this interplay, shedding light on the multifaceted nature of financial support within the Iranian digital journalism ecosystem.

## The press as platform?

*Associate Professor James Meese | RMIT*

In this lighting talk I identify a collection of emerging business models and innovations occurring in the upper echelons of the news sector and go on to argue that major news outlets are starting to adopt the features of digital platforms. A series of examples are used to support this claim including the growing use of logins to collect first-party data, the adoption of in-house recommender systems, and efforts to establish back-end solutions for advertisers. While news media organisations will never become platforms, businesses adopting the practices and strategies of more successful competitors, is well-established in institutional theory (DiMaggio and Powell 1983). The news media and digital platforms have historically been viewed as opposing forces. This has been seen most clearly during recent efforts by governments to force platforms to bargain with news media companies for the use of their content. However, I suggest that focusing on the similarities between these two sectors may be more productive. While the above innovations and business models may not all be successful, or lead to long-term sectoral sustainability, they offer a useful insight into the current state of the news industry.

## Am I niche enough to go it alone?

Ms Claire Merlo | RMIT

This talk will explore a number of cases where journalists have stepped away from a news organisation altogether and have become self-employed, to varying degrees of success. Instead of mastheads, they rely on platforms—TikTok, Substack, Ghost—who primarily host their journalism, but also perform several other functions such as offer legal assistance and help with promoting their content. This talk will briefly explore some cases where columnists, pundits, and insider journalists have taken their speciality out from a publication and have tried to make it alone. It will examine some of the reasons journalists choose this venture in the first place and why some of them abandon it and go back to working at traditional publishers. Overall, this talk will examine how the business model performs and the complex platform economics, labour, and ethical issues that arise for the self-employed journalist.

## Valorising credibility: Trust as paradigm and revenue repair in South African news organisations 2012 to 2022

Dr Harry Dugmore | University of the Sunshine Coast

Despite the halving of the journalistic workforce in South Africa since 2008 (Daniels, 2021), and the sharp contraction in revenues across news organisations over the past decade (Dugmore, 2018; Dugmore 2021), South Africa found itself, in 2022, in the extraordinary position of having the second highest levels of 'trust in news' across 46 countries, as measured by the annual Reuters Institute *Digital News Report* (Newman et al., 2022). Compared with a global 'trust average' of 42%, South Africa ranked behind only Finland in these measures of trust in news, ahead of Australia's 41% level (Park et al 2022) and France's 29%. Even considering the survey limitations, skewing as it did to more urban and better-educated respondents in South Africa, this is a surprising result. This paper argues that part of the explanation can be attributed to a new generation of news organisations that have been able to reconfigure their news production processes and business models through unequivocal 'credibility lenses'. A range of specialised journalism organisations, including the crusading *AmaBhungane* as well as *The Conversation (Africa)*, health journalism-specialist *Bhekisisa*, 'community news agency' *GroundUp*, and hybrid publisher *The Daily Maverick* have each 'operationalised' credibility in novel ways, including via innovative membership schemes and 'supporters clubs' generating substantial subscription-like revenue, and through similar credibility-framed corporate and philanthropic grant-driven strategies. Drawing on interviews with founders and editors, and a decade-long analysis of these organisations' public statements and annual reports, this paper explores the implications of these approaches for news work in low-trust environments elsewhere in the world.

## Youtuber business model: A profitable way forward for longform journalism

Mr Christopher Hall (UTS)

News media organisations face funding challenges. This is especially true for small independent news organisations. One innovative funding approach to journalism can be found by looking to the business models of independent youtubers. Based on data from nineteen youtuber interviews, and textual analysis of youtuber content, I argue that the youtuber business model is an innovative funding option for quality journalism. Moreover, there already exist early pioneers of platform journalism on YouTube who are creating quality journalism using the youtuber business model. Some long-established youtubers have been evolving their businesses towards creating journalism content while maintaining youtuber norms and business practices. Additionally, large media organisations, including the ABC, have begun adopting youtuber norms and presentation styles in some of their content. The youtuber business model is resilient as it is based on multiple revenue streams where no single stream dominates. Importantly, youtuber content performs better in terms of audience engagement and views compared to traditional TV news media uploaded to YouTube. As YouTube continues to grow as a source of news and information for audiences, it is important for journalists and news organisations to learn from those already successful on the platform.

## Funding news through patronage: The case of Hankyoreh supporters in South Korea

Professor Minjeong Kim | Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

Recent research indicates a decline in news traffic from digital social and search platforms, the traditional gateway for general readers to visit media sites, leading to a decrease in revenue. This presentation will explore the case of South Korea's Hankyoreh Friends (HF), as an intriguing example of funding news through patronage. The Hankyoreh, established in 1988, stands out as a robust national daily newspaper with a strong brand. The HF program, launched in May 2021, distinguishes itself from a paid subscription model, instead operating on a patronage basis. The former creates a barrier, allowing only those who can afford to pay to access quality news. The latter is a way to make good journalism available to everyone and underscores the growing importance of cultivating reader loyalty. One can participate in the Hankyoreh Supporters Program in one of the following three ways: (1) one-time donation, (2) recurring (monthly) donation, or (3) sponsorship by purchasing Hankyoreh shares. As of June 28, 2022, there were about 3,200 supporters and the cumulative donation was about 800 million KRW (about 913,000AUD). Looking at the numbers, Hankyoreh hasn't even reached half of its original internal goals. But, the program is in place to connect with passionate

fans who are willing to open their wallets for the cause. Is funding news through patronage a viable option? The Hankyoreh's experiment should shed some light and this presentation will discuss the feasibility of a patronage system as well as the challenges and limitations.

### **Strategies for success: Dos and don'ts in the digital transformation of media companies**

*Ms Katerina Mandenaki, Dr Catherine Sotirakou, Ms Anastasia Karampela, and Prof Constantinos Mourlas | National and Kapodistrian University of Athens*

In an era defined by digitization, the media industry struggles to avoid 'Digital Darwinism'. Our work investigates the current state of digital transformation in four European countries and focuses on digital literacy, artificial intelligence, monetization strategies and organizational adaptation. We conducted a quantitative survey administered to more than 130 professionals from circa 90 media organizations across Greece, France, Portugal and Cyprus. The results depict a digital transformation in the media industry that is yet to fully embrace the potential of AI and data analytics. Publishers' hesitation reflects broader concerns about technology's influence on journalism, although there is widespread interest in exploring how AI can be utilized to enhance the quality of news and boost revenue. The study further delves into digital literacy and highlights the necessity for targeted training into certain areas, since most of the participants are not aware of existing AI tools for journalism and marketing. Furthermore, managers in the media sector seem to ignore the potential for new business models to reconfigure existing profit-making structures and remain focused on advertisements and sponsored content as their principal revenue sources. This work is done in the context of IQ Media Hub that, based on this knowledge, designed a forward-looking curriculum that spans from basic digital literacy to advanced technological applications, aiming to bridge the gap and prepare media organizations for the digital future.

### **Volunteer-run hyperlocals: Sustainability and professionalism**

*Dr Josie Vine and Professor Timothy Marjoribanks | RMIT University*

Volunteer-run hyperlocal news outlets—distinguished here as news outlets operating in small geographically-defined communities, with a citizen-ownership structure and public interest ethos (Metzgar et al., 2011)—have become key to civic participation in democracy across local communities both nationally (Withers, 2020) and internationally (Rodriguez, 2001). Meta's recent announcement that it will not renew the voluntary content agreements with news organisations under the News Media Bargaining Code means the importance of volunteer-run hyperlocals will foreseeably increase in Australian society. This sector, however, is still exploring frameworks of economic (Metzgar et al., 2011), cultural (Dovbysh, 2020) and social (Chadha, 2016) sustainability. What has not been explored, however, is the possible relationship between sustainability and the contested concept of journalistic professionalisation. Arguably, the relationship between sustainability and professionalisation founded mainstream commercial journalism's original business framework and precipitated issues of ownership concentration and general distrust of journalistic integrity and neutrality. Using six volunteer-run hyperlocal news outlets as case studies, this paper examines a range of models of sustainability—economic, cultural and social—to question whether these models are moving the sector towards 'professionalisation', and what impact this may have on citizen-ownership structures and public interest ethos.

# Keynotes

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



**Richard Dennis** is the Executive Director at The Australia Institute. He is a prominent Australian economist, author and public policy commentator, and previously an Associate Professor in the Crawford School of Public Policy at ANU.

The *Australian Financial Review* listed Richard Dennis and Ben Oquist of The Australia Institute on their 'Covert Power' 2018 list of the most powerful people in Australia. Prior to his appointment at The Australia Institute, Dennis was Senior Strategic Advisor to Australian Greens Leader Senator Bob Brown and was also Chief of Staff to Senator Natasha Stott Despoja, former Leader of the Australian Democrats. He was also a Lecturer in Economics at the University of Newcastle. Dr Dennis writes regular columns in the *Australian Financial Review* and the *Guardian* as well as regular essays for *The Monthly* and has published six books.



**Kristy Hess** is a Professor of Communication at Deakin University, Australia. Since 2018 she has been involved in four Australian Research Council grants that draw on her expertise on local media, digital journalism and rural communication. She is currently leading an ARC Linkage examining local news sustainability and the role of the public broadcaster, the ABC, in supporting the sector.



**Philip M. Napoli** is the James R. Shepley Professor of Public Policy, and Director of the DeWitt Wallace Center for Media & Democracy. Professor Napoli's research focuses on media institutions, technology and policy and he has written four books and 80 chapters and journal articles. Professor Napoli has provided testimony, consultation, and research to government bodies such as the U.S. Senate, the U.S. Federal Communications Commission, the U.S. Government Accountability Office, and the Australian Communications and Media Authority. His award-winning research has been funded by organizations such as the Ford Foundation, the Knight Foundation, Democracy Fund, and the Open Society Institute.

# Invited panellists



**Monica Attard** is a Professor of Journalism Practice and Co Director of the Centre for Media Transition at UTS. During her 45 years as a journalist, she was an ABC foreign correspondent who documented the collapse of Soviet communism. Monica has won six Walkley awards, including a gold one, and received an Order of Australia for services to journalism.



**Alfred Hermida** PhD is a professor and former director (2015–2020) at the School of Journalism, Writing, and Media at the University of British Columbia, and co-founder of The Conversation Canada. With 25 years of experience in digital journalism, his ongoing research addresses the transformation of news, media innovation, and AI in journalism. His current focus is the Global Journalism Innovation Lab, a six-year SSHRC-funded project investigating how the future of journalism is being shaped by innovation practices, business models and policy frameworks. Before joining UBC in 2006, he was a BBC TV, radio and online journalist for 16 years.



**Mary Lynn Young** is a professor in the School of Journalism, Writing and Media at the University of British Columbia. Her research interests include gender and the media, newsroom sociology, data and computational journalism, journalism startups and representations of crime. Her books include *Reckoning: Journalism's Limits and Possibilities* (Oxford, 2020) with Candis Callison, and *Data Journalism and the Regeneration of News* (Routledge, 2019) with Alfred Hermida. She is co-founder and board member of *The Conversation Canada* and has worked as a journalist with major daily news organizations in Canada and the United States.



**Se-uk Oh** is a senior researcher at the Media Research Center of the Korea Press Foundation. He is researching the impact of technology on journalism and has been responsible for developing the 'News Trust Algorithm', which aims to arrange news based on journalistic values.



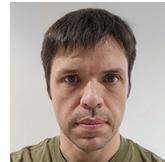
**Youngju Kim** is the chief researcher at the Media Research Center of the Korea Press Foundation. Her research has mainly focused on media regulation and industry analysis. She has also been engaged in studying media users' behaviors in the digital environment.



**Jaemin Jung** is a professor at the Graduate School of Future Strategy at KAIST. His research interests include strategic management of media business, AI journalism, and the intersection of blockchain technology with the media ecosystem.



**Eli Skogerbø** is Professor at the Department of Media and Communication at the University of Oslo where she is Co-director of POLKOM—Center for the Study of Political Communication. She researches political communication in Norway and internationally and has recently co-edited (with Øyvind Ihlen, Nete Nørgaard Kristensen & Lars Nord) *Power, Communication & Politics in the Nordic Countries, NORDICOM 2021*. She works with different but related topics in political communication and leads and participates in several national and international research projects addressing elections and election campaign communication, the COVID-19 crisis and minority and Indigenous political communication.



**Timothy Koskie** is a researcher of online media and media pluralism with the Centre for Media Transition at UTS, with a recent focus on generative AI. His current projects include Valuing News and Wikihistories Discovery projects and the Implications of Generative AI for Knowledge Integrity on Wikipedia. His doctoral research investigated news comments' potential as a component of media pluralism, and he has two master's degrees in media research. He has taught undergraduate and postgraduate seminars and tutorials in multiple fields across media, internet governance, and digital cultures at UTS and the University of Sydney. In addition, he has nearly two decades of experience in publishing and education and has conducted courses on media and communication skills for 14 years across the US, Australia, Spain, and South Korea.



**Robert G. Picard** is a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, a senior research fellow at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism at University of Oxford, and a fellow at the Information Society Project at Yale University Law School. His scholarship focuses on the nexus between the economics of media and communications systems and public policy. Professor Picard has authored 33 books and consulted for leading media companies in North America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America.



**Megan Brownlow** is an experienced strategist and non-executive director who, over the course of her 30-year executive career, held senior leadership positions in strategy, marketing and management for large media and consulting firms. She started her career as a broadcast journalist and news and current affairs producer in television and radio. Apart from her consulting and research work for clients such as Google, the IAB and the Sydney Opera House, Megan is Deputy Chair and Audit Committee Chair of Screen Australia, Chair of the Industry Advisory Board for the School of Communications at UTS and a director of the Media Federation of Australia. Megan is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD), holds an MBA from the AGSM and a BA (Hons) from the Australian National University.



**Jarrah Petzold** is the Director of Marketing at ACM, Australia's largest independent media company publishing more than 100 news, agricultural and specialist brands. He leads consumer, digital and trade marketing as well as ACM's national design studio and Chi Squared—the research agency who founded ACM Heartbeat of Australia. Jarrah is a key member of the Executive Leadership Team, driving the company's transformation strategy. Previously, Jarrah was Head of Marketing for News Corp Australia's prestige brands *The Australian*, *Vogue Australia* and *GQ* where he championed many successful strategies including 'For the informed Australian' brand strategy and podcasting (inc. *The Teachers Pet*).



**Will Hayward** is CEO of Private Media, parent company of *Crikey*, SmartCompany, Inc. Australia and *The Mandarin*. Prior to working at Private Media, Will was CEO of JOE Media, an online lifestyle publisher focused on live video. He has also held roles at Dow Jones and *The Economist*.



**Jacqui Park** is a journalist, editor, media builder and strategic designer with deep experience telling stories and building journalism communities around media innovation, press freedom and high-integrity journalism. She was most recently the head of strategy and innovation for the Vienna-based IPI Global Network of editors and journalists and is now a Senior Fellow for Media Innovation at the University of Technology, Sydney. Jacqui was founding CEO of Australia's Walkley Foundation, founding Asia-Pacific Director for the IFJ and a JS Knight fellow at Stanford University.

## Lightning rounds

**Peng Hwa Ang** is a Professor at the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, Nanyang Technological University, where he researches media law and policy.

**Si Yu Lee** is an MA graduate from the same School. Her research interests lie in media policy and online misinformation.

**Sacha Molitorisz** previously worked at the Sydney Morning Herald. Later, he completed a PhD about the ethics and law of digital privacy and is now with the Centre for Media Transition and UTS Law, where his work explores news media standards, journalistic ethics and how the law can best support public interest journalism.

**Monica Attard** is a Professor of Journalism Practice and Co Director of the Centre for Media Transition at UTS. During her 45 years as a journalist, she was an ABC foreign correspondent who documented the collapse of Soviet communism. Monica has won six Walkley awards, including a gold one, and received an Order of Australia for services to journalism.

**Hamideh Khaleghi Mohammadi** is a dynamic academic and PR professional with a Ph.D. in Media and Communication Studies. As a student and lecturer at The University of Sydney, her research delves into journalism, social media, and communication. With a wealth of experience, she brings a unique perspective to academia and industry.

**James Meese** is an Associate Professor at RMIT University. He regularly publishes work in leading media and communication journals and his most recent book is *Digital Platforms and the Press* (Intellect).

**Claire Merlo** is a PhD candidate at RMIT University in Melbourne. She studies journalism from the perspective of business models and is interested in media industry studies, startups, and platform economics.

**Harry Dugmore** is Senior Lecturer and Discipline Lead in Communication at University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) researching news media economics, precarity in African news ecosystems, and the normalisation of 'post-literate' authoritarian discourses.

**Christopher Hall** is a PhD researcher with the Faculty of Law at UTS. He works within the Centre for Media Transition. Christopher's research focuses on the emergence of platform journalism on YouTube. He also teaches media practice, media theory, and media politics at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

**Minjeong Kim**, a Media and Communication professor at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFS) at Seoul, South Korea, earned her M.A. and Ph.D. from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Prior to joining HUFS in 2013, Minjeong held a professorship at Colorado State and

# Organising Committee

Hawaii Pacific University in the United States. She served as Hankyoreh Citizen Editor from March 2021 through to February 2022.

**Katerina Mandenaki** is a PhD candidate at the University of Athens (NKUA) and a researcher at the Laboratory of New Technologies (NKUA). She specializes in text analysis using algorithmic methods and computational linguistics. She has extensive professional experience in journalism and has contributed to several research projects on digital education and media, examining large text datasets for ideological and discursive transformations.

**Catherine Sotirakou** is a Visiting Lecturer at NKUA and the director of the IQ Media Hub, a European initiative for Digital Transformation in the Media Industry. She holds a PhD in the field of Artificial Intelligence and journalism and a certificate from the Lede Program at Columbia University. She has worked as a broadcast journalist and Tech and Innovation Consultant for media companies in Greece.

**Anastasia Karampela** is a researcher at the Laboratory of New Technologies of the University of Athens. She holds a Master's degree in Digital Communication Media and Interaction Environments and a Bachelor's in Communication and Media Studies. Her research interests are related to the integration of data science and AI technologies in the media field.

**Costas Mourlas** is a Professor at the Department of Communication and Media Studies (NKUA). His current research activities are focused on the retrieval, processing and visualization of information, pattern recognition, and big data analysis. Dr. Mourlas is Director of the Digital Media Lab, Dept. of Communication and Media Studies.

**Josie Vine** is Program Manager of the RMIT Journalism Program in the School of Media and Communication. Her teaching and research interests focus on the history and future of journalism's democratic role. She is particularly expert on the historical development of journalism, and how its democratic ideology is inherited from one generation to the next of professional practitioners. After more than a decade in local regional print and radio as a journalism practitioner, Josie came to academia in 2003 and joined RMIT in 2006. She continues her professional practice as local government reporter for the hyperlocal *Westsider* news outlet.

**Timothy Marjoribanks** is Associate Dean Research and Professor of Management in the School of Business, Law, and Entrepreneurship at Swinburne University of Technology. He is also Pro Vice Chancellor Research Integrity. Tim's research and teaching engage with debates in organisational innovation, technology and transformation, and leadership and management practice, both in Australia and internationally. His work focuses in particular on the media industry, journalism practice, sport, and new technologies. He is a member of the ARC College of Experts.



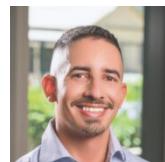
**Professor Sora Park**  
University of Canberra



**Associate Professor Caroline Fisher**  
University of Canberra



**Professor Terry Flew**  
University of Sydney



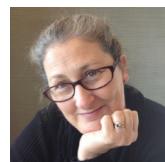
**Dr Aljosha Karim Schapals**  
Queensland University of Technology



**Professor Derek Wilding**  
University of Technology, Sydney



**Dr. Agata Stepnik**  
University of Sydney



**Dr Janet Fulton**  
University of Canberra



**Ms Jing Su**  
University of Canberra

## Sponsors

We would like to thank our sponsors:

News and Media Research Centre, University of Canberra  
Discipline of Media and Communication, University of Sydney  
Australian Community Media  
Digital Media Research Centre, QUT



## Funding is from Australian Research Council grants:

LP220100121 Heartbeat of Australia: Tracking, Understanding and Engaging News Audiences Linkage Project  
DP210100157 The Rise of Mistrust: Digital Platforms and Trust in News Media Discovery Project  
DP220100589 Valuing News: Aligning Individual, Institutional and Societal Perspectives Discovery Project

## Endorsed by the following ICA Divisions:

Media Industry Studies Interest Group  
Journalism Studies Division

## Acknowledgement

This post-conference event aims to continue the discussions that were sparked at the ICA 2023 post-conference 'Novel Directions in Media Innovation and Funding' hosted by Mary Lynn Young and Alfred Hermida, which was held in Toronto in May 2023.