

The Humour Studies Digest

Australasian Humour Studies Network ([AHSN](#))

May 2017



Call for Papers

The 24th Conference of the Australasian Humour Studies Network (AHSN)

“Humour: How does it Travel?”

hosted by the

Centre for Tourism and Regional Opportunities (CTRO)

Central Queensland University, Cairns Campus

2-4 February 2018

Papers are invited from all disciplines on all topics related to the study of humour, but the conveners of this conference are particularly interested in those that address the concept and practice of how humour travels, whether between times or places, genres or forms, from creator to recipient, from one hearer to another, as well as humour about travel (e.g. tourism, exotic locations etc), and the questions of whether such travelling is successful, and why – or why not.

Humour Studies is an expansive multi-disciplinary field, and we welcome approaches that encourage dialogue across disciplines as well as within them. Postgraduate students researching humour-related topics are especially invited to present their research-in-progress, and some postgraduate scholarships or fee waivers will be available to assist the attendance of those whose proposals first successfully complete review.

Guidelines for preparing proposals for papers (30 mins) and practical workshops (60 minutes), as well as the AHSN review process, are set out on the AHSN website at:

<http://sydney.edu.au/humourstudies/events/index.shtml>

The Call will close on Monday 10 July 2017 at 5.00pm, unless otherwise advertised.

Proposal Submission

To submit your proposal, and for information on attending the conference and all enquiries, visit the Events page of the AHSN website at: <http://sydney.edu.au/humourstudies/events/index.shtml>

Follow the link on that page to the dedicated submission and review website for registering your proposal for the conference.

Organizing Committee

Dr Anja Pabel, CQUniversity Australia

Dr Jessica Milner Davis, University of Sydney

Dr Bruce Findlay, Swinburne University of Technology

THIS EDITION

Call for Papers

*The 24th Conference of the Australasian Humour Studies Network (AHSN)
2-4 February 2018* 1

*AHSN Member News,
Angelina Hurley* 2

*AHSN Member News,
Karen Lee Austin* 2

Call for Abstracts:

*Humour Competency Training in Foreign
Language Education* 3

*Members' New Humour Research
Publications* 4

Fake News – a game 4

AHSN Member News, Angelina Hurley

Member of The Blak Critics Program At

Yirramboi: First Nations Arts Festival, 5-14 May, 2017, Melbourne

What is Yirramboi?

From "About" page:

"YIRRAMBOI means tomorrow in the shared languages of the Boon Wurrung and Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nations.

YIRRAMBOI First Nations Arts Festival is a ten-day feast of arts and events showcasing the diversity and individuality of First Nations artists leading 21st Century contemporary arts practice.

Rise, Unite and be Inspired!"

Chasing Smoke: Review by Angelina Hurley

If you can't attend to catch the show, you can read Angelina's review of the new comedy show, *Chasing Smoke*, on the Yirramboi Reviews page at:

<http://yirramboi.net.au/blak-critics/chasing-smoke-review-angelina-hurley/> (accessed 9 May 2017).

(Part of the "Blak Critics" program of Yirramboi) - <http://yirramboi.net.au/>

AHSN Member News, Karen Lee Austin

Following her recent piece published in *The Conversation* (see the April 2017 Digest), Karen Lee Austin of Flinders University was interviewed on radio about her research on Indigenous stand-up comedians. You can listen to the podcast at:

<http://www.2ser.com/component/k2/item/28203-indigenous-comedy>

Karen was interviewed on Sydney radio station 2SER, 3 April 2017 by Myles Houlbrook-Walk.

Convener of the February 2015 Post-Conference Study Day for Research Students on 'Investigating Humour and Laughter: Trans-Disciplinary Approaches', Karen was profiled in the April-May 2014 *AHSN Humour Studies Digest* when she was just beginning her doctoral thesis and is now about to graduate – congratulations, Dr-to-be Austin!

Call for Abstracts:

Humour Competency Training in Foreign Language Education

Editors John Rucynski (AHSN) and Caleb Prichard of the Center for Liberal Arts & Language Education at Okayama University, Japan, seek abstracts for book chapters for a proposed volume on the topic of humor competency training in foreign language education. The editors have met with Lexington Books about the proposed volume and now wish to submit a formal proposal with a list of tentative chapter titles and contributors.

Description/Rationale:

A growing body of research illustrates the benefits of humor in foreign language education. While a great deal of this research focuses on the positive impact humor has on classroom atmosphere, there is a need for more empirical research aimed at evaluating humor competence and training. In other words, how can foreign language teachers best assist learners in understanding, appreciating, responding to, and producing humor in the target language, thus helping to develop their intercultural awareness and communicative competence?

If you have done or are planning to conduct original empirical research on the topic of humor competency or humor training in the field of foreign language education, you are invited to submit an abstract for a proposed book chapter to the editors. The proposed chapter should focus on one or both of the following:

1. research evaluating learners' humor competency with the aim of proposing methods or materials for humor training;
2. research evaluating the efficacy of humor training.

It is expected that most proposals will focus on one specific aspect of humor, such as detecting satire or sarcasm, understanding and appreciating puns or other wordplay, reacting to jokes when communicating cross-culturally, etc. Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed method research designs will all be considered. Final manuscripts (chapters) will be approximately 5,000-8,000 words.

Proposal Submission Guidelines:

Please send the following information by the deadline below:

1. a **sample title** for your proposed chapter;
2. an **abstract** of up to 400 words describing your research or research plan, including detailed information on the research purpose, participants, procedures, and data analysis;
3. a statement on the **status of your research** (whether the research is already conducted, in progress, or in the planning stages; please include approximate completion date for ongoing or future research);
4. a short **bio** of two to three sentences, including your educational background and teaching experience

Send your proposal or queries to humortrainingbook@gmail.com by June 15th.

Preliminary Scheduled Dates:

June 15, 2017: submission of proposals deadline

July 15, 2017: notification of conditional acceptance

End of July 2017: editors submit full proposal to publisher

Summer/Fall 2017: result from publisher

Members' New Humour Publications

Rucynski, John Jr, ed. 2016. *New Ways in Teaching with Humor*. Alexandria VA: TESOL Press.
At: <https://sites.tesol.org/bookstore/>

This edited book features nearly 100 lesson plans for teaching with and about humor in the English language classroom. Sections include:

- I. Humor and Language Development
- II. Wordplay and Puns
- III. Comics and Cartoons
- IV. Jokes and Joke Telling
- V. Sitcoms and Movies
- VI. Internet Resources and Digital Literacy
- VII. Parody, Satire, and Sarcasm

Fake News – a game.

Berthold Brecht is reported as saying, “If it's not funny, it's not true”. The current fascination with concepts such as ‘fake news’, ‘alternative truth’ and ‘alternative facts’ may make us question what we find funny. Following Brecht’s logic we should not find ‘fake news’ funny.

The web site below takes a gamification approach to the production and dissemination of ‘fake news’. If you’ve ever wondered how ‘fake news’ is made, this game will explain the process and allow you to test your fakery skills. Other than that, it’s a fine little diversion.

<http://www.fakeittomakeitgame.com/>

The Humour Studies Digest

The Australasian Humour Studies Network (AHSN)

‘We put the “U” back into “HUMOUR”!’

Send newsletter submissions to our Co-Editors:

Michael at michael.meany@newcastle.edu.au or Jessica at Jessica.davis@sydney.edu.au

To subscribe or unsubscribe, visit the AHSN website (<http://www.sydney.edu.au/humourstudies>), click on “Subscribe to e-Newsletter” and follow the prompts to enter or remove an email address.