About the Contributors

**Angela T. Ragusa** is Lecturer in Sociology and Course Coordinator for the BA Honours Program at Charles Sturt University, Australia. She obtained a Ph.D. & MS in Sociology and MS in Science & Technology Studies from Virginia Tech and a BA (Hons) in Psychology from St. Francis College, Brooklyn, NY. Teaching sociology, psychology, politics and STS in American and Australian universities since 1997, she has received two (2007, 2010) research fellowships from the Institute for Land, Water & Society (ILWS), special study leave and is a member of the ILWS senior management committee. Angela is Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Rural Society*, an Editorial Board member for *Information Resources & Management Journal*, *Open Sociology Journal* and *Open Communication Journal* and supervises several PhD and honours students. Attracting over $50,000 in grants, Angela has over 20 refereed publications on media/communication technologies, socio-demographic change, environmental & water issues and social inequality and is currently researching tree changers, domestic violence and mental health nursing in rural Australia.

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**Abdul Gapar Abu Bakar** is a PhD candidate/research associate at the Centre for Community Networking Research (CCNR), Monash University, Australia. He received his B.Sc. from the Indiana University, Bloomington IN, in the U.S.A and M.Sc. from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, in the U.K. His primary area of research interest is in the usage of interactive ICT by public administrators for e-democracy in the Malaysian Federal Government.

**Stephen Bax** is Principal Lecturer at Canterbury Christ Church University in the UK. His main research interests are in the areas of discourse, technology in education, language in society and language education, focusing in each case on social and cultural dimensions, on how these impact on behaviour, and on ways of researching this interaction. He has worked and researched widely in Europe, the Arab world and in Latin America, and published on technology in language education, discourse and genre, and teacher education. His book ‘Discourse and Genre’ (2009) is published by Palgrave Macmillan.

**Rick Bennett** joined the College of Fine Arts (COFA) in 1993 at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) as a member of academic staff based within the School of Design Studies. In 1998, following completion of a Master of Higher Education, Rick founded *The Omnium Project*: an ongoing research initiative investigating online collaboration within the visual arts. In 2003, Rick was also appointed head of *COFA Online*: a newly formed academic unit established to design, produce and facilitate a suite of online courses across a range of art and design disciplines. As a result of achievements in these areas,
Rick has received numerous awards and nominations for his research through *The Omnium Project* and his teaching and learning initiatives through *COFA Online*. He is also currently undertaking his PhD at the University of Sydney, titled ‘*Drawing on The Virtual Collective*: Formalising a Framework for Collaborative Online Creativity (OCC) in the Visual Arts.

**Rosemary Clerehan** (PhD, Monash University) is Director, International Postgraduate Academic Support in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences and an Associate Professor at Monash University, Australia. She was formerly Head of the Monash University language and academic skills support program. Rosemary has published on evaluation of web-based initiatives supporting transition to writing at university; Web 2.0 and authorship; internationalization of the curriculum; generic skills testing; and cross-cultural issues in teaching and learning.

**Andrea Crampton** obtained her PhD in microbiology and parasitology from the University of Queensland, Australian in 1999. She has worked extensively as a research scientist in the USA, Virginia Tech and Australia, Queensland Institute of Technology and University of New England. Andrea is currently a Lecturer in Microbiology and Forensic Science in the School of Biomedical Sciences, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, Australia. Her teaching specializations are microbiology, parasitology, and the application of molecular technologies to forensics and microbiology. Her current research interests include the microbial and social realities of water quality in rural Australia and Student uptake and perceptions of, the inclusion of advanced teaching tools (e.g. Podcasts, vodcasts, and wikis) in the teaching of forensics or microbiology. Andrea was an international finalist for the 2009 Teaching with Sakai Innovation Award for her work on the use of technology to teach forensic science.

**Philip Groves** is a PhD candidate in Sociology at Charles Student University. His main research interest is located in the application of Symbolic Interactionism to the examination of the issues surrounding problem gambling in Australia. He is also an undergraduate law student in the final year of study at Macquarie University. He has a varied work history that including roles in Local Government regulatory enforcement, Workers’ Compensation, Community Services and General Insurance fraud.

**Jeff Harrison** is Senior Lecturer in Pharmacotherapy at the School of Pharmacy, University of Auckland. Jeff is a hospital clinical pharmacist by profession. During his training in the UK, Jeff accumulated all the usual certificates and diplomas and a PhD in Orthopaedic Surgery, which is pretty odd for a pharmacist! Jeff is also a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist in the US and has qualifications in Clinical Education. Jeff moved to New Zealand with his family in 2001 and took up an academic position at the University of Auckland in 2004. Although his research interests are primarily in clinical medicine, he also has interest in educational research, particularly as it pertains to the development of professional behaviours. Jeff teaches two postgraduate courses that are fully online and make extensive use of multimedia and discussion forums. He is particularly interested in the health inequalities between socioeconomic, ethnic and cultural groups.

**Paul Hii** is currently a Network Engineer for the Infrastructure Services, Information Technology Services Division at Monash University. He has a Bachelor of Computer Systems Engineering (Hons) and a Master of Information Technology (Minor Thesis) from Monash University. His main area of interest is videoconferencing and he has been involved in videoconferencing projects such as Marratech. He is
currently serving as a member of the Desktop Videoconference Project Group for AARNet (Australia’s Academic and Research Network) that is making recommendations for desktop videoconferencing solutions to Australia’s research and education community.

**Michelle Honey** has a 30 year history in nursing, and as a Registered Nurse has experience in surgical, cardio-thoracic, intensive care nursing and nurse education. Michelle is currently a Senior Lecturer at the University of Auckland, School of Nursing. Related to her current role in nursing education is an interest in how educational technology can enhance student learning, specifically flexible, web-based or virtual learning opportunities, and Michelle has recently completed her doctorate exploring e-learning for nurses. She is probably best known for her interest in health informatics – computer and information technologies for healthcare and is a long standing champion of nursing informatics in New Zealand, serving on the Executive of Health Informatics New Zealand, and supporting the International Medical Informatics Association Nursing Informatics group and the Working Group on Education.

**Tania Humphreys** has been working in IT since the late 20th century, particularly in software development of airline and cargo systems. Tania managed to corral this work into stints in the UK and the Netherlands, before returning to Australia to become a director in an airline software development company. After some years of developing and implementing websites to book flights for the companies such as Air New Zealand and Singapore Airlines, Tania now works as a Project Manager for the Web Team at the University of Technology, Sydney.

**Graeme Johanson** is Director of the Centre for Community Networking Research (www.ccnr.net) and Associate Professor in the Faculty of Information Technology at Monash University. It is linked to the International Development Informatics Association (http://www.developmentinformatics.org/). His research covers organizational knowledge sharing, communities of scholars, academic and public libraries, Internet communities, social networks, the impact of mobile phones, civil society organizations, the capture of indigenous cultural heritage in perpetuity by use of information and communications technologies, community sustainability, and the virtual knowledge commons. He has edited a book on the Chinese in Prato, Italy, which has just been published. He is co-editing books on Development Informatics with the Monash Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International), and the Head of School of Information Technology in Monash South Africa.

**Maxwell Keith Jory** is Director of Undergraduate Studies in the School of Psychology, Psychiatry and Psychological Medicine at Monash University. He has a Bachelor of Science (Hons) and a PhD from Monash University. His main area of research interest is in human perception, specifically visual perception, but he also has interests in social perception, including attitudes and behavioural change strategies. Max has been at the cutting edge of the School’s Marratech lectures, and despite the initial technical difficulties, has remained supportive of the technology.

**Gayle Lansdell** is an Associate Professor in the Law Faculty at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. From 2000-2008 she was the Convener of the Postgraduate Diploma of Legal Practice, Skills and Ethics. Dr Lansdell has many years’ experience as both a practitioner and an academic spanning a number of Australian jurisdictions and including the United Kingdom. From 1993-1997 she was a subject Co-ordinator in the skills programme at the Inns of Court School of Law in London. Before
accepting the challenge to lead the Postgraduate Diploma of Legal Practice at Monash in 2000, Dr Lansdell was the Director of the Articles Training Program in Perth, Western Australia - a practical legal training course run in conjunction with articles and compulsory for those seeking admission to practice in Western Australia. Her research expertise and publication record covers the area of legal practice, legal education, ethics and professional responsibility.

**Linda Leung** is Senior Lecturer at the Institute for Interactive Media and Learning at the University of Technology, Sydney and director of postgraduate studies in interactive multimedia. She is author of *Virtual Ethnicity: Race, Resistance & the World Wide Web* which concerned with how technology is appropriated by those with limited access to it, as well as the problems and possibilities which arise when technology is made available to marginalised groups. Her second book *Digital Experience Design: Ideas, Industries, Interaction* (Intellect Books) examines the different disciplinary backgrounds of interactive media practitioners and subsequently, the theories, ideas, models and frameworks they bring and apply to the design of online experiences. Returning to Sydney from London in 1999 to catch the tail-end of the dot.com boom, she worked in the multimedia industry in Executive Producer and Project Manager roles with clients ranging from government departments to telcos to artists.

**Morgan Luck** is Senior Lecturer in philosophy at Charles Student University and a senior research fellow of the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics (CAPPE). He completed his PhD in Philosophy at the University of Nottingham and a PGCE in Religious Education at the University of Cambridge. His areas of research include applied ethics and philosophy of religion.

**Alexandra Ludewig**, Associate Dean (Education) and Convenor of German Studies at The University of Western Australia, has studied and worked at a variety of universities in England, Germany, South Africa and Australia. Her research interests include questions of Heimat and identity in European film and contemporary German speaking literature as well as e-Learning and e-Research.

**Nataly Martini** - Graduating with a BPharm in 1995 from the University of Pretoria, South Africa, Nataly completed her PhD in 2001 looking into “The isolation and characterisation of antibacterial compounds from *Combretum erythrophyllum* (Burch.) Sond.” In 2003, Nataly moved to New Zealand and her research interests evolved into developing socially aware health projects in developing countries. Her first online project, Visualising Issues in Pharmacy (VIP) in 2007 (http://creativewaves.omnium.net.au/vip/outline/) was hosted in Winam, Kenya. Nataly’s many other diverse interests involve the use of 3D animation in health education, clinical research into irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) and inappropriate medication use in the elderly. Nataly is currently employed as a Lecturer in Pharmacotherapy at the University of Auckland, New Zealand.

**Darryl Maybery**, BA, BSc (Hons), PhD is an Associate Professor of Rural Mental Health at Monash University Department of Rural and Indigenous Health and Gippsland Medical School. He was a clinician for 15 years in the areas of drug and alcohol counseling, prison psychology and employee assistance services. His teaching has been in the areas of research methodology and statistics and he has specific expertise in program evaluation. He has over 40 publications, 30 conference presentations, has successfully supervised over 30 honours, Masters and PhD students to completion and has successfully acquitted 15 research grants totaling over $500,000. He researches in the areas of stress, mental
health and wellbeing, positive psychology and rurality. His current major research focus is in the area of families with parental mental illness. He is the outgoing Editor of the Journal Rural Society.

**Natalie Milic**, BS(Hons), Medical Laboratory Science, PhD Molecular Pharmacology, University of South Australia, is a Lecturer in pharmacology for the nursing and pharmacy degrees at Charles Darwin University. Natalie has researched chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in rural New South Wales, perceptions regarding water quality and contamination, Australian Stringhalt and the antimicrobial effects of natural medicines. Her PhD focused on cytochromes P450 in Australian marsupials and she has worked with the lung research group at the Hanson Institute in South Australia where she researched mesothelioma via gene therapy techniques.

**Nicola North** is a nurse and social scientist working in health services education and research. After qualifying as a nurse and midwife she completed her BA and MA (SocSci) and PhD in Social Anthropology in 1996. Since 1990 she has worked as an academic, in health services management and postgraduate. She has supervised numerous doctoral and masters theses, including working with Michelle in the doctoral research reported here. Recent and current research focuses on nursing workforce including the New Zealand Cost of Nursing Turnover study 2003-2007, the impacts of the 2004 multi-employer pay agreement for nurses, educational needs for the nursing workforce needed to deliver cancer and palliative care, research into international migration of nurses and other health professionals, and effectiveness of workforce in health promotion.

**Nancy November** received her PhD from Cornell University in 2003 and is currently lecturing in musicology at the University of Auckland. Her research and teaching interests centre on the music of the late eighteenth century: aesthetics, analysis, and performance history and practices. She has published review articles in MLA *Notes* and in the Critical Forum of *Music Analysis*. Recent publications include essays on visual ideologies of the string quartet (*Music in Art: International Journal for Music Iconography*, 2004), on Haydn and musical melancholy (*Eighteenth-Century Music*, 2007), on Haydn’s compositional use of register in the strings quartets (*Music Analysis*, 2008), and on “voice” in Haydn’s early string quartets (*Music and Letters*, 2008). Edition of Adalbert Gyrowetz’s String Quartets Op. 29, and string quartets by Paul Wranitzky and Emanuel Aloys Förster, are forthcoming from Steglein Publishing. In 2006-07 she was Edison Fellow at the British Library, where she investigated the performance history of Haydn’s and Beethoven’s string quartets.

**Peter O’Brien** is a Lecturer in the School of Cultural and Language Studies in Education at the Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane. His research interests include governmentality and the rationalities and practices of teacher education and teachers’ work. He has published in the areas of teacher education policy and teacher professional learning.

**Nick Osbaldiston** is a PhD candidate in Sociology and a Sessional Academic in the Humanities program and Education faculty at the Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane. His main research interest is located in Cultural Sociology in the examination of the contemporary push for simple lifestyles. However, he has also an interest in the role of material objects in contemporary governance and has recently presented a conference paper on the role of non-human actors in maintaining aesthetics in regional locations.
Mark Pegrum is an assistant professor in the Graduate School of Education at the University of Western Australia, where he teaches in the areas of E-learning and World Englishes. His research focuses on the increasing integration of web 2.0 and mobile technologies into our everyday lives, and examines the pedagogical, social and sociopolitical implications of phenomena such as blogs and wikis, podcasts and video mashups, social networking sites and virtual worlds. Since 2007, he has been working with Stephen Bax on the Third Spaces in Online Education project, which focuses on cross-cultural interaction in virtual classrooms. In 2007, Mark co-edited Brave New Classrooms: Democratic Education and the Internet, published by Peter Lang, New York. Further information on his publications can be found on his wiki at http://e-language.wikispaces.com/.

James Gavin Phillips is a Senior Lecturer within the School of Psychology, Psychiatry and Psychological Medicine at Monash University. He has a Bachelor of Science (Hons) from Adelaide University and a PhD from Flinders University. His main area of research interest is in human performance, specifically automaticity and motor control, but he has also studied patterns of internet usage and gambling behavior. He chairs the school’s information technology committee and lectures using Marratech. As he teaches statistics, he enjoys using the cursor to point to things at remote locations.

Jonathan Gordon Macleod Pratt - joined the School of Management in 2004, after teaching management at Insearch University of Technology, Sydney. Before commencing his career in academia, Jonathan worked as a management consultant in strategy and supply chain management across a wide range of industries, following employment in several management and logistics roles. Jonathan recently completed his PhD in management where he investigated uncritical decision making and institutional change around the adoption of emerging learning management systems in selected Australian universities. In addition to conducting research in management and higher education, Jonathan teaches managing change in the School’s postgraduate programs.

Andrea Reupert, BA, Dip.Ed.,Grad.Dip.Couns.Psych.Dip.Clin.Hyp, PhD, is a psychologist and has worked for over twenty years in teaching, therapy, supervision and research. She has worked predominately in schools and universities undertaking various teaching and research roles that focus on the ways in which various populations such as early career researchers, distance students or those with a mental illness might be better served. Dr. Reupert’s PhD project considered the ways in which therapists combine professional and personal aspects of self, and how these personal dimensions impact on clients and the therapeutic environment, an area that she is now expanding to teachers and the teaching environment.

Jill Harrison is a graduate student in Sociology at Virginia Tech where she specializes in studies of culture and aging. Her research interests include musical tastes of older adults, symbolic boundary work among older adults with same age peers, and well-being in long term care residencies. In addition to this research, Ms. Harrison has also published work in the area of communication, including how communication impacts social capital in the workplace and the use of social media by public relations practitioners.

Karen Lerossignol has extensive experience in adult learning and curriculum design at vocational, corporate and higher education levels. She teaches creative and professional writing at Deakin University in Melbourne, incorporating the postgraduate coursework areas of New Ventures in Creative
Enterprise and Building Creative Teams for project work. Her focus has been on developing creatively engaging virtual scenarios and projects that replicate workplace-based situations. She has received teaching excellence awards at both university and national level for her work in this area. A freelance writer, she has worked in the professional writing and editing industry, and curriculum design, for approximately 20 years. She has published 13 texts related to Communications, Small Business and Working in Teams. Her interest in the Net Generation learner focuses on how their learning styles may increase their engagement in experiential learning through postgraduate live work projects and creative industry freelancing/micro businesses.

**John Ryan** is Professor and Chair of Sociology and Interim Director of Africana Studies at Virginia Tech where he teaches the Sociology of Law. His research interests include the study of culture production and consumption, as well as violence and crime control within communities. One line of research has been to examine the relative effectiveness of violence intervention programs that focus on structural issues (for example, enforcing housing codes) versus those that focus on cultural issues (for example, parenting or self-esteem classes). He has also researched dimensions of community solidarity, the effectiveness of community policing, and the relationship among grass-roots neighborhood anti-crime organizations, community policing, social disorganization and crime. He is former Chair of the Social Science Panel of the Ford Foundation Minority Fellowship Program.

**Thiru Vanniasinkam** is a microbiologist who teaches virology, bacteriology and immunology to final year students in the School of Biomedical Sciences at Charles Sturt University. Thiru is also an active researcher working on viral vector based vaccine development and was admitted as a Fellow of the Australian Society for Microbiology in the speciality area of vaccine development in 2007. Thiru who is a member of the New South Wales Branch Committee of the Australian Society for Microbiology has a keen interest in undergraduate education and is actively involved in promoting microbiology education in Australian universities through her involvement with the Australian Society for Microbiology and the associated undergraduate microbiology education sub-committee.

**Karin Vogt** is a professor in the English department at the University of Heidelberg / Germany. She is a fully trained teacher with several years of teaching experience at different school types. She has been teaching English and French at general education and vocational schools as well as in companies and other adult education institutions. Her research interests include Vocationally-Oriented Language Learning (VOLL), mediated communication and e-learning, intercultural communication and intercultural learning, and classroom-based testing and assessment. She has been involved in LEONARDO projects as well as another project on the adaptation of CEFR descriptors for vocational purposes. Karin has published widely in the afore-mentioned areas; one of her publications in the VOLL / ESP area is an edited volume on Language in the World of Work.

**Ian Walker** (MA, Governor’s State University, Illinois) is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Marketing at Monash University, Australia, where he is currently Program Director for the Marketing stream of the Bachelor of Commerce program. Ian has published in the areas of marketing education, electronic marketing and buyer behaviour, and is currently completing his doctorate on graduate business coursework students and their choice of university and degree program.
About the Contributors

Alastair Weakley is a specialist in creative collaboration. With 11 years professional experience in product development he returned to University in 2000 to study for a Masters degree in IT. Since then, as well as completing a PhD in Computing Science (“Internet- based Support for Creative Collaboration”, submitted in 2006) at the Creativity and Cognition Studios, University of Technology Sydney, he has been involved in numerous collaborations with artists resulting in exhibited interactive artworks. Some of these collaborations were also part of his work on the EPSRC-funded COSTART project at Loughborough University of Technology in the UK. More recently, he was a Senior Research Assistant at the Australasian Cooperative Centre for Interaction Design, mainly looking at the development of tools to support remote non-deliberate sharing of information: an extension of his PhD thesis. Alastair has published in the areas of HCI, Information Systems, Information Visualisation and Presence.

Lasitha Wijenayake is currently the Service Manager in the IT and Multimedia section of the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences at Monash University. His interests towards collaborating technologies started when he was undertaking studies in electrical and computer systems engineering at Monash University. He previously worked for the School of Psychology, Psychiatry and Psychological Medicine at Monash University, as the technical services manager and was involved in the Marratech project within the Faculty of Information Technology. He was involved in both technical administration of Video conferencing facility and organising virtual classrooms. He presented a paper on Target User acceptance of ICT at the HCSNet–HxI Workshop on Human Issues in Interaction and Interactive Interfaces in 2007, where he talked about Collaboration between academics and students using video conferencing technologies in tertiary education institutes.