Throughout 2011, the Institute for Social Science Research continued to advance UQ’s reputation for research leadership, and to reinforce its position as one of Australia’s preeminent universities for research quality and breadth. The institute achieved this by upholding its focus on major social, economic and environmental issues through undertaking excellent research.

The Institute’s researchers contributed strongly to UQ’s standing in the first Excellence in Research for Australia results, released in 2011, which asserted UQ is above world standard in more broad fields than any other Australian university. We were well above world standard in fields including sociology, studies in human society and education.

Working in areas as broad as homelessness, policing and crime control, employment and labour force participation, policy analysis, and social science research methodology, the Institute informed better policies, decisions and actions. Its focus on problem-oriented projects relies on effective engagement with industry, government and the community, and delivers outcomes to address some of society’s most complex challenges.

In 2011, by increasing the emphasis on translating research developments into better practices for data collection and analysis, the Institute strengthened its delivery of client-focused solutions that are built on strong scientific foundations.

Although a comparatively young institute, it is a national leader in social science. It has a rising international reputation and profile, and contributes to UQ’s stature in the top 100 of world universities.

I congratulate the team at the Institute for Social Science Research on another year of achievements, and look forward to future outstanding results with national and global impact.
Director’s message

Professor Mark Western

2011 saw ISSR enter its fourth full year of operations. A number of activities marked the maturing of the Institute. Major projects, such as the national evaluation of the Paid Parental Leave Program for the Federal Government; the program of work to address homelessness and Professor Lorraine Mazerolle’s prestigious ARC Laureate Fellowship in Experimental Criminology achieved significant milestones.

ISSR’s work in peace and conflict studies was integrated into the School of Political Science and International Studies in the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, enabling the University to concentrate its expertise and critical mass in this important area.

The Institute’s relationship with UniQuest – the University’s main commercialisation company – was strengthened with the Institute’s Manager for Innovation and Commercial Development helping spearhead new activities in research and commercialisation.

ISSR and the Social Research Centre, a leading private company undertaking health and social research, jointly hosted Australia’s first national conference on the impact of mobile phones on telephone surveys – a significant issue in maintaining the veracity of survey data.

Associate Professor Warren Laffan, who with Professor Paul Boreham and myself helped establish one of the centres that eventually became ISSR, left the University to pursue an active and well-earned retirement.

In 2011 the Queensland Centre for Social Science Innovation (QCSSI), a major partnership between the Queensland Government and five Queensland Universities was established and headquartered in the Institute (see page 20).

With these changes, ISSR continued to refine its focal areas, build scale and critical mass, and round out its activities in research, research training, engagement and commercialisation. The Institute’s mission – to conduct social science research for the public good – remains constant, but how we attempt to realise it, is evolving all the time.

2012 will see a number of exciting new things for ISSR. We aim to:

- Expand our research into the causes of and effective responses to Indigenous disadvantage by building new capacities and new projects.
- Develop new cooperative relationships with international colleagues in Asia, Europe and North America.
- Grow and improve our research higher degree training so that students who study with staff in the Institute receive a PhD experience that is comparable to their peers’ overseas.

And we look forward to new opportunities and challenges we haven’t foreseen. The 2011 Annual Report provides an entree into a year in the life of ISSR. We hope you enjoy it.
Mission
The Institute’s mission is to undertake advanced problem-oriented social science research into the important issues facing Australia and our region, to contribute to the learning experiences of students at the University, and to engage with our stakeholders and partners in research and practice that makes a positive difference.

Key activities
- Pure and applied research
- Postgraduate and postdoctoral research training
- Policy analysis and evaluation
- Involvement in and leadership of national social science initiatives
- Commercial services including research, data collection, professional development and training

Partners
ISSR’s leading role in Australian social science is shown by its participation in the following major national research initiatives:
- QCSSI – Queensland Centre for Social Science Innovation, established in August 2011. The Centre, headquartered at ISSR, is a collaboration with the Queensland Government and four other Queensland universities to focus research on government priority areas.
- AHURI – The Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute. ISSR hosts The University of Queensland AHURI Research Centre.
- ADA – The Australian Data Archive. ISSR houses the Queensland node of ADA and is developing the Australian Qualitative Archive (AQuA).
- CEPS – The ARC Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security. ISSR houses The University of Queensland Node of this national centre.

Commercial research services
- Policy and program evaluation
- Social impact evaluation
- Systematic reviews
- Continuing professional development training in research methods and evidence utilisation
- Text analytics
- Survey design
- Data collection

International connections
ISSR researchers are in high demand from overseas universities, and public and private sector organisations that are seeking expertise for collaboration. Some examples include:
- Berghof Foundation for Conflict Studies, Germany
- Catholic North University, Chile
- Institute for Social and Economic Research, Essex University, UK
- George Mason University, US
- McGill University, Canada
- University of Bristol, UK
- Vanuatu Council of Chiefs
- US Department of Homeland Security
- US Department of Justice
- UK National Policing Improvement Agency
- Center for the Study of Poverty and Inequality, Stanford University, USA
- Edinburgh University, Scotland
- Simon Fraser University, Canada
- Lund University, Sweden
- SITRA Innovation Fund, Finland

Research infrastructure
- Australia’s largest academic Survey Research Facility (35 telephone interview workstations, approximately 100 interviewers, program and survey management staff, software for telephone, online and mail surveys)
Telephone surveys and the mobile-phone-only population

Each year government, industry and the community sector spend hundreds of millions of dollars on social and health research to inform policy and address major social issues and problems.

Much of this research relies on customised telephone surveys using random samples that are based on landline telephone numbers. However, conventional telephone surveys face many challenges that threaten to undermine the quality of the data collected.

One of the most pressing is the growing number of individuals and households who no longer have a fixed landline, or who use their landline for services such as internet access or fax, but not voice communication.

The decline in the proportion of individuals and households using landlines to make and receive calls is matched by the growing proportion of individuals who rely exclusively or primarily on mobile phones. The growth of “mobile phone only” and “mobile phone mostly” populations has been recognised as a major challenge to standard telephone surveys in the US since about 2007, with the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) establishing national task forces to address the issue in 2008 and 2010.

The workshop featured presentations and discussions by speakers at the forefront of these issues in Australia, including those from government agencies responsible for managing telephone and address databases and using research. The highlights were the keynote address and scientific presentations by Dr Paul Lavrakas (2012 AAPOR Vice-President and President-Elect, and Chair of the two AAPOR taskforces) and the keynote address by Professor Simon Jackman, a political scientist from Stanford University and an expert on online internet panels.

In addition to canvassing the issues and exploring solutions the workshop showcased what SRC and ISSR believe is Australia’s first “dual-frame” telephone survey, a survey that draws scientific random samples from the landline and mobile phone populations and properly combines them to yield valid results. The dual-frame survey results were presented by two senior staff from SRC, Mr Darren Pennay and Mr Graham Challice. They showed that mobile phone users are typically younger than landline users, more likely to be male, have higher education, are more geographically mobile, and more likely to be Indigenous or overseas born. Mobile phone users also report higher levels of mental health problems, binge and heavy drinking, smoking, legal and illicit drug use, problem gambling and financial hardship, and have fewer social supports.

Based on these preliminary results, and bearing in mind that rates of decline in landline-only households and rates of growth in mobile phone only individuals are increasing, researchers and policy makers should be extremely concerned if survey methodology cannot adequately address the challenges mobile phone and other new communications technologies pose. Proper scientific surveys are still the best and most cost-effective way to get accurate information about large populations, but research and advances in industry practice are needed to ensure that this continues.

SRC-ISSR workshop intended to provide a national forum to raise awareness of the issues, catalyse action amongst stakeholders in industry, government and universities and stimulate the research and changes to practice that will ultimately allow these challenges to be successfully addressed. Our intention is to support such a workshop every one or two years as part of a broader strategy to advance developments in this field.

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The workshop was modelled on the AAPOR “national summits” held in 2008 and 2010.

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ISSR released findings of a major, three-year longitudinal study of 4000 Queenslanders on their social wellbeing by region, gender and age at a symposium in 2011.

Despite the pressure on infrastructure with population growth in Queensland rising from 1.8 million in 1970 to 4.6 million in 2010, the findings showed, in 2010, 76 percent were satisfied with their ability to afford essential items, 65 percent were satisfied with their health, 59 percent were satisfied with their savings and other financial assets and 53 percent were satisfied with their stress levels.

The study found respondents who were unemployed or living with a disability experienced the lowest wellbeing scores. Those retired from paid work indicated the highest wellbeing scores. There was no statistical difference between the wellbeing of males and females in Queensland.

Female respondents with children aged under 18 years of age had higher wellbeing than their male counterparts. Overall, respondents aged 30 to 49 had statistically lower wellbeing scores, as compared to other age groups.

“Despite the overall positive levels of wellbeing, the survey showed many families were struggling to afford medical and dental care with some significant differences by region,” one of the study’s chief investigators Professor Paul Boreham said.

In 2010, 13 percent of families surveyed were not able to afford a visit to the dentist. A higher proportion (17 percent) of Queenslanders living in the Ipswich and West Moreton regions were unable to afford a visit to the dentist.

In the 12 months leading up to the 2010 data collection, 7 percent reported not being able to keep up with payments for water, electricity, gas, or telephone, 4 percent got behind with rent or mortgage and 4 percent had to pawn or sell something, or borrow from a money lender.

Thirty percent of Queenslanders surveyed indicated public transport was not accessible for them. In remote regions, 73 percent found public transport
inaccessible and 46 percent found it inaccessible in the Ipswich and West Moreton regions. The project was jointly funded by the Australia Research Council and the Public Sector Union.

“It is rich with data that can aid in regional and state-wide planning. We collected data before and after the Queensland disasters and before and after the global financial crisis, measuring 12 indicators of wellbeing,” Professor Boreham said. The project team developed a conceptual and statistical framework to measure social wellbeing using indicators to measure wellbeing covering the domains of stress level, savings and financial assets, employment, income, health, leisure, ability to afford essentials, respect accorded by others, natural environment, personal security, housing or accommodation and family relationships.

“Conventional measures of wellbeing have focused on economic resources within a family and material consumption,” Professor Boreham said. “Income has been the main metric to measure quality of life, but it’s now clear that this measure has considerable limitations in assessing quality of life. “The wellbeing index showed health as most important, then housing and personal security and natural environment a close third and fourth.”

“The project has allowed us to develop valid alternative measures of quality of life which should provide a nationally recognised evidence base on which to develop policies of importance to the social wellbeing of Queensland’s urban and regional communities,” Professor Boreham said. This project has provided a unique opportunity to track the wellbeing and inequality of Queenslanders at a regional level over time. The data has been archived and the project team has encouraged researchers and policy-makers to make contact regarding the use of this data.

Accolades for excellence
Institute Director, Professor Mark Western, was rewarded for his outstanding research through receiving two prestigious accolades with the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia (ASSA) and the Australian Research Council (ARC). In November 2011 he was elected as a Fellow of the ASSA while also being appointed as a Research and Evaluation Committee Chair of the ARC’s Excellence in Research for Australia Initiative for 2012 (ERA2012).

ASSA is Australia’s learned academy for the social sciences and promotes the discipline’s research while recognising distinguished careers through the election of Fellows. Fellows are elected by their peers on the basis of scholarly distinction in their discipline, and Professor Western said he was delighted to receive the award.

“It is a great honour to be elected as an Academy Fellow for sociology. At the Institute for Social Science Research we are committed to carrying out high quality research that will help make a difference to people’s lives, and I am delighted that the Academy recognises the value of such work,” he said.

Professor Western’s research areas include social inequality, political behaviour, educational inequality, families and households, and developments in quantitative methodology, especially longitudinal data analysis.

For the Australian Research Council’s ERA 2012, Professor Western will Chair the Research and Evaluation Committee (REC) for Education and Human Society.

Professor Margaret Sheil, Chief Executive Officer of the ARC, said Professor Western’s position is integral to the committee’s success.

“The REC Chairs have a central role in the ERA processes. They collectively bring considerable experience and ability which will ensure that ERA evaluations are of the highest standard,” she said. Past REC Chairs have included distinguished and internationally recognised researchers with expertise in research evaluation.

Just a little respect goes a long way
Criminology researchers at the Institute completed a world-first trial that tested the theory of procedural justice in policing and found that respectful dialogue with citizens during routine encounters makes a big difference to the way citizens think of police.

Funded by the ARC Centre for Excellence in Policing and Security (CEPS), Criminology Professor Lorraine Mazerolle’s team conducted the Queensland Community Engagement Trial (QCET) - a randomised field trial of police-citizen encounters at 60 Random Breath Testing (RBT) operation sites in Brisbane over a period of seven months.

The experimental test involved officers communicating with citizens in a way that incorporated the four principles of procedural justice: neutrality in decision making, conveying trustworthy motives, ensuring citizen participation and treating people with dignity and respect. These principles were embedded into the conversation police officers had with drivers during the 12,000 test RBTs. The experimental test group encounters with police lasted, on average, a minute and a half. The 12,000 control group drivers experienced the usual twenty to thirty second encounters with police. After the RBT encounters, drivers in both the control and test groups were given a survey to take home and complete.

“The trial tested the key principles of procedural justice: all of which are very well known in the criminological literature,” Professor Mazerolle said.

“For the experimental group, the police conveyed to citizens that their motives for doing the RBT were trustworthy and that police are genuinely concerned about alcohol-related traffic accidents and deaths,” she said.

Police also provided the experimental group of drivers with community safety information and asked drivers if they had any questions about crime issues in their neighbourhoods. For the experimental group of drivers, the RBT encounter went for an average of a minute and a half, which is about four times longer than the usual encounter.
than usual RBT stops,” she said.

Dr Sarah Bennett, the project manager of QCET, said it was not the length but the quality of the interaction between the police officer and the driver that was important.

“The trial shows that a relatively short interaction with the public using the procedural justice elements can have a dramatic effect not just on the individual police officer’s legitimacy but on a citizen’s global perception of police legitimacy,” Dr Bennett said.

“The Queensland Police Service, under the leadership of Assistant Commissioner Peter Martin, suggested the RBT encounter as a starting point to explore ways that the police could change the way they engage with citizens to increase perceptions of police legitimacy,” she said.

“From a research perspective, RBTs had the advantage of being a high volume, consistent interaction which made it easy for us to monitor the trial,” Dr Bennett said.

The results showed that the experimental test group of citizens ended up with higher levels of satisfaction with police and said that they would be more likely to comply and cooperate with police. They felt they were treated with fairness and that the police had conveyed trustworthy motives.

“We’re also looking to replicate the project in different sites in the US and the UK. What we want to now explore is whether or not these results can be replicated in different contexts, and whether they hold for different types of police-citizen encounters,” Dr Bennett said.

Based on these research findings, says Professor Mazerolle, this extra minute of quality communication by the police, using the principles of procedural justice, makes all the difference in the way citizens think about police.

“We’re keen to disseminate these findings to police departments, policy makers and our research colleagues in other countries and other parts of Australia,” Professor Mazerolle said.

Amanda Davies examines patterns and causes of uneven population ageing.

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It identifies countries and localities most likely to experience population ageing. Attention is given to the role that youth migration, labour force migration, retirement migration and ageing in place have in influencing the spatial concentrations of older people.

The book brings together a range of diverse international case studies to illustrate the importance of understanding the causes of population ageing. Case studies include a review of ageing in Florida’s (USA) labour force, an investigation into the housing arrangements for the elderly in Northern Ireland and an assessment of the environmental stewardship activities of Grey Nomads on Western Australia’s remote north coast.

Population ageing is projected to affect all countries across the world in coming decades. The current rate of population ageing is unprecedented in human history with population projections indicating that this will be an enduring trend. Moreover, population ageing is spatially pervasive, affecting every man, woman and child.

This has considerable implications for policy responding to the economic, social and healthcare outcomes of population ageing. The potential economic implications have been likened to those of the 2008 global financial crisis.

Geographies of Ageing book published

Geographies of Ageing, a book co-authored by ISSR Research Fellow Dr Amity James and Amanda Davies examines patterns and causes of uneven population ageing.

Life course turned upside down

Researchers in ISSR, led by Professor Janeen Baxter, are investigating how changing life course pathways and relationship trends affect health, wellbeing, access to employment, education and economic resources.

The research is funded in large part by the Australian Research Council, commenced in 2009 and included a Professional Fellowship for Professor Baxter.

“The task is to understand how changing life course pathways affect these outcomes, and what governments and policy makers can do to ensure equal support to all groups across all pathways,” Professor Baxter said.

“Personal ties and family relationships are undeniably as important as ever in determining adult and child outcomes such as health, wellbeing and access to employment,” she said.

In the mid-1970s in Australia 16 per cent of couples lived together before marrying. Now, more than three-quarters do. In the 1950s in Australia, approximately one in every 25 children was born outside marriage. Now, the corresponding figure is one in three. About thirty two per cent of Australian marriages end in divorce and the traditional nuclear family, with a full-time male earner and a full-time female housewife and mother is now less common in Australia than a household in which both partners work for pay,” Professor Baxter said.

“New relationship types are recognised, such as couples who “live apart together” (LAT’S) and governments both in Australia and overseas are moving toward formally recognising and legitimating same-sex unions, including changing the definition of marriage to include same sex couples,” Professor Baxter said.

Some key findings:

- Cohabiting couples are not uniform but vary widely depending on previous marital history and future intentions about marriage.
- Married people are healthier, happier and better off economically than other relationship types, but there is no difference between married and cohabiting couples on these outcomes.
- Australians report lower levels of relationship satisfaction than couples in France and Germany.
- Married women spend much more time doing housework than men, and more time than women in other relationship types.
- Men’s housework time remains low and stable across their life course, only rising significantly when they separate from a relationship.
- The birth of a first child increases women’s housework time by 6 hours per week, but does not change men’s housework time.
- The birth of a first child leads both men and women to more strongly support mothering, but...
Using evidence to set the political and social agenda

Phase One of the project surveyed almost 700 Australian academic social science researchers about their experiences and perceptions on a number of issues surrounding the utilisation of research in their field in policy and program design and review. Professor Head says one of the main problems, highlighted by responses to the academic survey, “is the institutional emphasis on academic papers to the detriment of other forms of communication such as the media, blogs and other forms of social media and a reward system that does not recognise dissemination barriers.”

An overwhelming number of the respondents said they believed that academic reward systems (84 percent) and the demand to publish in peer-reviewed journals (74 percent) were barriers to knowledge translation and uptake.

Likewise, academics considered that there were costs in translating research for non-academic end-users. More than 55 percent of respondents agreed there were insufficient networks to promote collaboration and less than half saw it as a way to advance their careers.

The project is examining research utilisation within public sector agencies in Australia at both state and national levels focusing on agencies whose responsibilities include human service policies and programs.

“The project involves agencies from four governments (Qld, NSW, Victoria and Federal) in a million-dollar Australian Research Council Linkage grant project. We’re looking at the key human services and currently have nine funding partners and 12 other supporting agencies,” Professor Head said.

The survey showed the time it took to coordinate the work between different partners (81 percent), different research orientations (79 percent), the complexity of contractual arrangements (63 percent) and the ethics process (63 percent) were some of the problems they faced when working in collaboration with non-academic partners from the government, industry or community sectors.

“We need to ask public servants what knowledge and research they use and how they access it when they feel it is relevant for their work,” he said.

When asked what characteristics of research they thought policy-makers prioritised, responses indicated recognition that research must be tailored to end-user needs in the context of its delivery (94 percent), practically, i.e. implications for policy and practice (91 percent) and availability (90 percent).

And more than 80 percent of the sample said they believed the reputation of the researcher was a priority for end-users, and an advantage in the likelihood of their research being utilised by policy-makers.

Professor Paul Boreham, ISSR Deputy Director and a Chief Investigator on the project said: “There is a lot of blue sky research that does not have that need for engagement and translation but the results (so far) suggest there is a wider, structural problem with the uptake of research for policy – few bridges have been built to utilise academic social science research.”

Wider agreement recommended for water resource planning

The Millennium Drought of 2002-2009 made a permanent mark on southeast Queensland (SEQ), and there is now far greater recognition of the value of water and the need for effective water resource management.

A new package of measures was developed, including water restrictions, a desalination plant, a regional pipeline network and recycled water facilities.

ISSR program leader, Professor Brian Head, led the Urban Water Security Research Alliance (UWSRA) project on Institutional Change in the Urban Water system in southeast Queensland.

The project team, which included CSIRO’s Tabatha Wallington and Cathy Robinson, examined how this package of measures was developed, including the inevitable stresses which emerged between the various State and local institutions.
The researchers examined developments such as the establishment of the Queensland Water Commission (QWC), the development of water reduction targets and restrictions, the reduced role of Councils as assets became centralised, the establishment of the SEQ Water Grid, and the release of the SEQ Water Strategy.

“Another key issue was that the evidence base for water policy shifted during this period,” Professor Head said. “The planners could no longer rely on average historical rainfall for water planning because of the variability in the amount and seasonality of rainfall.”

The project team spent three years examining the key institutions, relationships and factors impacting on the management of water in SEQ.

Reducing labour market transition costs

This ARC Linkage project is led by the program leader of Research Methodology and Social Statistics Program Associate Professor Michele Haynes who is also the chief investigator.

The project, funded at $300,749 from 2009-2011 aims to develop an analytical model to inform policies concerned with reducing the economic and social costs associated with unproductive time in labour market transitions between jobs and between unemployment and employment. Integrating data from several large Australian social surveys, a hierarchical statistical model incorporating spatial analysis is being developed.

The model will identify the locations and characteristics of people who are at risk of labour market exclusion and will facilitate the development of region-specific social and economic policy.

Impact of drug trafficking profits

This research project is led by Associate Professor Michele Haynes and the chief investigator is Deputy Director (Research) Paul Boreham. It is funded at $164,970 from 2010-2012 and aims to estimate the multiplier effect of profits derived from drug trafficking. With organised crime, a proportion of the profits of drug trafficking are reinvested in further drug trafficking and may also be used to support other illegal activities.

The research will identify the reinvestment of the profits of drug trafficking into both legitimate and illegitimate activities, calculate the downstream profits and harms to the community produced as a result of the reinvestment of drug trafficking profits; derive the multiplier effect of illicit drug trafficking on other crimes, and; describe the characteristics of drug trafficking operations where the profits of such operations are more likely to be employed in further illegitimate activities. The results of the research should allow police agencies to describe the true impact of their proceeds of crime activity on illicit drug trafficking.

Enhancing research capacity in Indigenous issues

Professor Paul Memmott is chief investigator on the projects listed below. He founded The Aboriginal Environments Research Centre (AERC) in 1976. His professorship is cofunded by the Institute for Social Science Research and the School of Architecture. Professor Memmott is a major contributor to the Institute’s capacity in qualitative Indigenous social science research.

Restorative justice and Indigenous peacemaking

Professor Memmott’s social and research relationship with the Mornington Island Indigenous community has flourished for almost four decades beginning with his doctoral thesis in 1973 and expert advice for the community’s Native Title Claims and culminating in the recent success of a restorative justice project. The Mornington Island Restorative Justice Project (MIRJ) uses restorative justice, or “peacemaking” principles to resolve disputes within the community that may otherwise escalate to the criminal justice system and lead to incarceration.

Professor Memmott provided expert anthropological advice. And Dr Morgan Brigg of the School of Political Science and International Studies provided early training and Steering Committee input.

Restorative justice, according to Professor Memmott, usually means that a wrong-doer provides some gesture, service or payment to the victim of their crime as a means of restoring inequity that results from their crime.

“This is in contrast to the state penalising someone for their crime by fining or imprisoning. In the

Integrating data from several large Australian social surveys, a hierarchical statistical model incorporating spatial analysis is being developed.

Professor Paul Memmott
Aboriginal context at Mornington Island it is defined more plainly as “peacemaking”, Professor Memmott said.

Peacemaking is defined in this project as, “a meeting between families in conflict. Elders and the right family members help the families talk respectfully to each other to sort it out between themselves. It is not a community court where people are found innocent or guilty or get punished. It is where conflict is put right by agreement, where hurt is healed and relationships are restored. Peacemaking is a partnership between Elders, the right family representatives and a Coordinator from the Justice Department”.

Professor Memmott’s expert anthropological advice based on his knowledge of traditional dispute resolution processes and of the complex family kinship structures in the community was pivotal in the success of the project.

The MIRU project is an important social justice initiative to help address the disproportionate representation of Indigenous people in the criminal justice system. Indigenous people account for 3.5 per cent of Queensland’s population but make up 21.9 per cent of reported offenders in 2009–2010.

“I started work as a PhD student at Mornington Island in 1973 and have had a long history of involvement there culminating in work as an expert anthropologist on their Native Title Claims,” Professor Memmott said.

The MIRU project, based in the Aboriginal community of Gununa on Mornington Island, Southern Gulf of Carpentaria, was administered by the Dispute Resolution Branch of the Queensland Attorney-General’s Department and funded in a partnership with the Australian Attorney-General’s Department.

It has successfully dealt with 63 major conflicts. Of these, 28 related to family conflict, 20 were court referred victim-offender mediations and 15 dealt with conflict in other ways (not necessarily through a formal mediation).

The project was successfully piloted in Mornington Island community. And according to Professor Memmott, also the Director of Aboriginal Environments Research Centre it has the potential to be used in other communities subject to recurrent funding.

In October 2011 the MIRU Project submitted by the Dispute Resolution Branch of the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General (Queensland) won a High Commendation as a finalist in the ‘Fair’ Awards Category at the Premier’s Awards for Excellence in Public Service Delivery.

Effects of isolation on Aboriginal culture in the Gulf of Carpentaria

This interdisciplinary project completed in 2010 (funded at $365,000 from 2007-2011) tested pivotal hypotheses concerning insularity, isolation and cultural change in Aboriginal Australia.

It examined two now-divergent island populations residing in similar physical environments and with shared ancestral language and a common mainland source group.

The project examined how these groups contended with cultural change over a 10,000-year time scale, sometimes acculturating exogenous traits whilst at others exploiting insularity and isolation to promote distinctiveness through local invention in such a way that two different cultures emerged. The findings will contribute to international debates on island colonisation and how cultural reproduction continues in the face of globalising influences.

Australian Indigenous House Crowding

This Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) funded project (2010-2012) aims to build an Indigenous model of crowding, initially based on literature analysis, and then to test its veracity and application to Indigenous crowding in regional urban and metropolitan settings. It will show how different tenures impact on distinctly Aboriginal rule-governed behaviours and coping mechanisms.

These findings seek to inform refined definitions of Aboriginal crowding for policy applications across all Australian jurisdictions as well as to have relevance for other international jurisdictions with substantial Indigenous populations (e.g. Canada and New Zealand).

The findings will have implications for government policies on Indigenous health, housing procurement, housing management, homelessness, town planning and appropriate house design. The project will provide policy-makers with ways to understand, predict, measure, assess and manage Aboriginal household crowding.

Two suburbs within metropolitan centres were chosen for this study: Inala in Brisbane and Swan in Perth; each has a substantial Indigenous residency. In addition, the two regional centres of Carnarvon and Mt Isa were selected as case study sites, both of which have high Indigenous residency rates and attract visitors or residents from a regional catchment of remote communities that are characterised as having strong traditions of residential behaviours.

Developing effective service responses to homeless and public place dwelling Indigenous people

This project (2010-2013, funded by FaHCSIA) is designed to provide a research evidence base to inform service and practice responses to homeless and public-place dwelling Indigenous people - including rough sleepers.

It will involve identification and critical analysis of a number of different types of service responses to public-place dwelling and homeless Indigenous people in three selected regional centres.

It will focus on regional centres away from southeast Queensland and Mt Isa in the Northern Territory and the community of Gununa on Mornington Island.
Australia that have a majority or a major proportion of Indigenous people in their profile of homeless people (including those present in towns from remote settlements).

It will be based upon previous conceptual analysis on the distinctive nature of Indigenous homelessness, and will focus on the specialised service responses required to obtain effective outcomes for Indigenous people who are homeless.

There will also be a particular emphasis on service integration and the significance of funding and policy models for collaborative service delivery. This will include analysis of the roles of Indigenous (specialist homelessness and mainstream) and non-Indigenous (specialist homelessness and mainstream) organisations and factors promoting and impeding service integration.

WHY A NEW CENTRE WITH A QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT SOCIAL POLICY FOCUS

Approximately 70 per cent of the total State budget is directed towards the delivery of human services such as education, health, justice, child protection and disability services. The evidence base under-lying the policies and service delivery practices of the Government line-agencies with responsibility for these services is, in many cases, surprisingly under developed, thin, and contested.

To date, the academic research community has not generally and routinely been able to focus its resources and expertise on government priorities that provide both practical outputs for government and meaningful outputs for the research community.

There is a disconnect between what the Government needs and seeks, and what the academic community can offer and is interested in providing. Bridging this disconnect means bringing quality applied social science to the policy and service delivery priorities of Government. QCSSI is the intended mechanism for bridging this disconnect.

PRIORITY AREAS OF RESEARCH

These three priority areas for 2012 were defined in 2011 by the then Premier Anna Bligh:

- Building individual and community resilience and improving effective governance in response to disasters.
- Examining what works for improving Indigenous health and wellbeing, including a focus on infant and maternal health.
- Research into factors affecting educational achievement with the potential to investigate the links between school design, refurbishment and educational outcomes.

These priorities are significantly aligned with key Australian Research Council national research priorities of:

- An environmentally sustainable Australia
- Promoting and maintaining good health
- Frontier technologies
- Safeguarding Australia

The work program is developed collaboratively by University and Government partners, addressing questions of direct policy interest and providing a genuine evidence-base for human services and other policies and programs.

Research is chosen based on whether it has direct and applied significance for social, economic and environmental policy-making and service delivery (as well as its national and scientific significance already mentioned).

QCSSI FUNCTIONS AND AIMS

- A joint initiative of five Queensland universities – UQ, CQU, GU, JCU, and QUT, and the State Government. It is focused on innovative and applied social science for policy and service delivery priorities of the Government.
- Brings together expertise and resources of the academic research sector and the policy concerns and service delivery issues associated with human services managed by the State Government, such as; health, education, justice, child protection.
- Aims to provide Government with research products that can be readily drawn upon by the Government line-agencies that have specific responsibility for the delivery of human services.
- A way for the enhancement and continual strengthening of a genuinely rigorous evidence base to underpin policy formulation and service delivery practices in the human services.
- To provide State Government with the capacity to monitor a wide range of social dimensions characterising both the community at large and more targeted foci of special or particular interest.
Social Wellbeing, Health and Housing Program

The Social Wellbeing, Health and Housing Research Program led by Professor Andrew Jones was established in 2009 to provide a focus for the Institute’s research on the wellbeing of individuals, families, neighbourhoods, cities and regions in Australian society.

The three main research groups within the Research Program are:

LIFE COURSE, GENDER AND FAMILY
This research group focuses on analyses of gender differences in life course transitions and outcomes. The aim is to describe and explain recent changes in patterns of household and family formation and dissolution, increasing diversity in the pathways individuals take through the life course, and variations in the effects of differing pathways and transitions on women and men’s access to resources and wellbeing.

Much of the research has focused on transitions relating to family and household formation (e.g. cohabitation, marriage, divorce and parenthood), and other life course transitions including education, employment, housing and retirement have also been examined.

A key aspect of the research is to develop and explain patterns of gender inequality in paid and unpaid work over the life course and the ways in which men and women negotiate work and family life. This research group is led by Professor Janeen Baxter who holds an ARC Professorial Fellowship in The School of Social Science and ISSR.

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS
This research group focuses on Australian housing policy and the ways that housing policies impact on the distribution, affordability, suitability and security of housing provision. The research focuses on the housing needs of older people, Indigenous Australians and low income Australians.

A major focus is on policy and practice responses to people experiencing homelessness. The Queensland Research Centre of the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) is located within the Research Program. The focal point for Indigenous housing research is the Aboriginal Environments Research Centre (AERC), a multidisciplinary centre for research into the culture, environment and architecture of Australian Indigenous peoples. It is colocated in ISSR and the School of Architecture. The Director of the AHURI Queensland Research Centre is Professor Andrew Jones and the Director of the AERC is Professor Paul Memmott.
Social Wellbeing

Research in this area is focused on conceptualising and measuring social wellbeing and related concepts such as quality of life, social inclusion and exclusion, equality and inequality and poverty. A major project of the research group is the Living in Queensland study, a large, longitudinal study of social wellbeing in southeast Queensland. This research group is led by Professor Paul Boreham.

Activities

- Commenced five projects under FaHCSIA’s National Homelessness Research Partnership to underpin National Homelessness Policy including studies of responses to rough sleeping in Brisbane and Sydney; Indigenous homelessness; homelessness and ageing; service integration and homelessness; and the homelessness workforce.
- Participated in ISSR’s major evaluation of the Paid Parental Leave program.
- Undertook research on a number of AHURI-funded studies including: families exiting the private rental market; assertive outreach approaches to homelessness; residual measures of housing affordability; Indigenous household crowding.
- Completed AHURI-funded studies of: remote Indigenous housing procurement; regulation of the community housing sector; Indigenous social housing; and residual methods of measuring housing affordability.
- Awarded AHURI Multi-Year Research Project on Spatial Concentrations of Disadvantage (with The University of New South Wales and Swinburne University of Technology).
- Awarded AHURI Multi-Year Research Project on Aboriginal Lifeworlds, Conditionality and Housing Outcomes as lead university (with Curtin University and University of Tasmania).
- Undertook an evaluation of the Townsville Homelessness Services Integration Demonstration project for Queensland Department of Communities.
- Commenced evaluation of Brisbane ‘Under One Roof’ project and Queensland Street to Home project for Queensland Department of Communities.
- Appointed UQ AHURI PhD scholar (including AHURI PhD top-up scholarship) on ‘housing transitions, fertility and levels of wellbeing’.
- Postdoctoral research fellow jointly funded with the Office for Seniors, Queensland Government undertook research on social isolation service models (Dr Maree Petersen).
- Postdoctoral research fellow jointly funded by AHURI undertook research in the area of homelessness (Dr Cameron Parsell).
- Two new UQ postdoctoral research fellows appointed in living environments of older people (Dr Wojtek Tomaszewski) and domestic violence and women’s pathways in and out of homelessness (Dr Silke Meyer).
- Undertook an evaluation of the Universal Postnatal Contact Initiative.
- Dr Amity James co-authored the book titled ‘Geographies of Ageing’ published by Ashgate.
- Participated on FaHCSIA panel arrangement of gender experts.
- Progressed work on a five-year ARC funded Discovery project on marriage trends.
- Progressed work on ARC Linkage grant (with colleagues in Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining and the UQ Business School) on longitudinal study of women in mining.
- Completed ARC Linkage project on cohabitation trends and outcomes.
- New UQ Post-doctoral fellow, Dr Tsui-o Tai, joined the Program with research expertise in gender, poverty and cross-national analyses.
- Gained UQ Strategic Initiative funds to develop a program of research in life course and longitudinal social research to fund two academic appointments (ISSR and Social Science joint appointments).
- Continuing supervision of approximately 20 postgraduate students.

Awards

Medal of recognition awarded to Australian Professorial Fellow Janeen Baxter for services to the External Reference Group of the HILDA project.
Policing and Security Program

The Policing and Security Research Program aims to better understand community and policing processes that seek to reduce crime and disorder, increase quality of life, improve community resilience and reduce national security threats. The Program is led by Professor Lorraine Mazerolle, an Australian Research Council (ARC) Laureate Fellow and Chief Investigator and UQ Node Leader of the ARC Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security (CEPS).

Professor Mazerolle’s leads a team of scholars and PhD students with diverse expertise across a range of disciplines and fields of inquiry including experimental criminology, urban criminological theories, systematic reviews, survey methods, advanced multi-level statistics and spatial statistics, systematic reviews, survey methods, advanced multi-level statistics and spatial statistics, criminological theories, civil remedies, drug policy, national security and counter-terrorism.

Activities

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY CAPACITY STUDY (ACCS)

It is funded by CEPS and various ARC Discovery and Linkage Project Grants. It is one of the world’s best longitudinal studies of place. ACCS uses urban criminological theories to better understand the spatial and temporal dynamics of community resilience, crime, disorder and inter-group violence.

During 2011 the ACCS research team oversaw the completion of the first Melbourne wave and third Brisbane wave of over 9,000 Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI) as well as in-depth face-to-face interviews with an “additional sample” of nearly 1,000 people from culturally and linguistically diverse migrant groups.

The project will also be the first to examine the key community processes and structures associated with community resilience before and after a disaster using the first three waves of ACCS in Brisbane to benchmark changes in the post Brisbane-flood environment. It will provide critical insights into the rebuilding and recovery of affected suburbs and present a comparative evidence base to researchers and policy makers to assist in preparing for inevitable future disasters in Australia and elsewhere.

NATIONAL SECURITY AND PREPAREDNESS STUDY (NSPS)

This study is funded by CEPS and ARC Linkage Grants and involves two surveys which seek to benchmark public attitudes and perceptions of preparedness, community resilience and vulnerability in a post 9/11 environment of heightened awareness. In 2011 the team included a national security module on the longitudinal “Living in Queensland” survey and they also developed a new, national survey on disaster preparedness and perceptions of security. The two NSPS surveys use CATI surveys of over 4,000 respondents nationally and an additional 2,360 plus respondents for the “Living in Queensland” survey.

The NSPS contributes to the literature surrounding the sociology of disasters, resilience and recovery, and preparedness for both natural and human-caused (e.g. terrorism) disasters in the Australian context and asks: How do global and community-wide security threats or incidents affect Australians’ social and cultural values and perceptions of risk? How do citizen perceptions of risk and level of trust in government institutions influence Australians’ actions and preparedness to natural and man-made disasters? How resilient are Australian citizens to natural and man-made disasters?

QUEENSLAND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TRIAL (QCET)

The Policing and Security Program comprises a number of projects that seeks to better understand issues of procedural justice, legitimacy and policing.

The Trial is funded by CEPS. QCET emerged from the results of a Campbell Collaboration systematic review on police legitimacy which had been undertaken by ISSR Policing and Security Program researchers in 2009 and 2010.

Using meta-analytic techniques, the review assessed what types of interventions work best to increase citizen perceptions of fairness, trust and respect. Building from the systematic review, the research team worked closely with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) to launch QCET, the world’s first experimental trial aimed at exploring legitimacy and policing in a routine police-citizen encounter (in this case, random roadside breath tests). QCET was completed in mid 2010 and data analysis and dissemination of results continued into 2011.

Three police agencies in Australia are consider-
ing replicating the QCET study in their own jurisdic-
tions including Victoria Police, South Australia Police and New South Wales Police. Five police
agencies elsewhere in the world (UK, US, Hong Kong, Norway and Taiwan) are in discussions with the ISSR Policing and Security research team to replicate the trial. A replication of the trial is already under-
way in South Carolina.

The QCET project created the foundations for Profes-
sor Mazerolle’s ARC Laureate Fellowship which has since capitalised on the national and international momentum now driving field experimentation in the field of criminology. Professor Mazerolle’s Laureate Fellowship has created an unprecedented opportu-
ity to build the future of experimental criminology in Australia, advance the theoretical understanding of Third Party Policing, and build both academic and field capacity for experimentation in Australia.

PROJECT ABILITY
2011 marked the official launch of Project ABILITY, an experimental test of the effectiveness of Third Party Policing where police partner with a third party, or parties (Department of Education and the Depart-
ment of Communities), and use existing, school based legal levers and ultimately prosecution (in the case of continued non-compliance) to reduce the anti-social behaviour (including crime and truancy) of traumatizing young people.

Project ABILITY is an initiative of the QPS, with pro-
grammatic funding through the National Drug Strategy Law Enforcement Funding Committee (NDSLEFC) and the QPS Drug and Alcohol Unit. The evaluation of the Project ABILITY pilot and trial is fully funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC) Laureate Fellowship to Professor Mazerolle.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY (FES)
This project was initiated by the Brisbane Metropoli-
tan North Region of QPS in 2010 to focus on those high risk juveniles and their families that generate a disproportionately large number of crime incidents, calls for police service, and arrests. While these po-
lice contacts didn’t always at-
tract criminal sanctions, they consumed a large proportion of police resources due to their frequent occurrence. Many of the high risk families also had records of past interventions with a range of other service agencies. At the core of FES is an inter-
agency working forum of agency representatives that have access to various legal levers and diverse responsi-
FAMILIES FOR REDUCING THE DEVIAN'T BEHAVIOUR OF TROUBLE-
some family members: FES is thus a Third Party Policing approach.

Using ARC Laureate Fellowship funding, the Policing and Security Program research team sought to evalu-
ate the impact of FES under randomised field trial conditions. A pilot evaluation of FES was undertaken during 2011 and a final process report was made available to the QPS in December 2011. No further plans are in place to take the pilot to full trial.

CAMPBELL COLLABORATION SYSTEMATIC REVIEW PROJECTS
The team are actively involved in three Campbell Collaboration systematic review projects. The Camp-
bell Collaboration (C2) is a sibling organisation to the prestigious, international Cochrane Collaboration and seeks to help policy makers and practitioners make well-informed decisions by preparing, main-
taining and disseminating systematic reviews in education, crime and justice, international develop-
ment and social welfare.

During 2011, with funding from George Mason University and the UK National Policing Improvement Agency, the team finalised a review of Legitimacy in Policing and drafted the final report for submission to the Campbell Collaboration systematic review panel. A second systematic review project was initiated to explore the effects of Justice System Interven-
tions on Violent Crime in Developing Countries. This review has been funded by 3ie, the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, an organisation that focuses on using evidence to improve lives in low and middle income countries. In addition to reviewing the evidence on justice interventions, a related systematic review and meta-analysis which

focuses specifically on the effect of community policing interven-
tions is underway.

The project will be submitted for title registration to the Campbell Collaboration Crime and Justice Group, to be co-registered with the International Development Group. A third systematic review started in late 2011 and focuses on Crop Targeting Interventions for Drug Control. This review as-
sesses the effectiveness of crop targeting, eradica-
tion and substitution interventions on drug supply. A multidisciplinary, international advisory group has been formed and a draft project title registration and protocol has been completed.

DRUG POLICY MODELLING PROGRAM (DPMP)
The DPMP has provided the team with significant funding since 2004. With funding from Colonial Foun-
dation Trust and the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLREF), the drug policy projects include an Evaluation of Project STOP (Queensland and Victoria) as well as an evaluation of the Liquor Enforcement and Proactive Strategy (LEAPS) in Queensland. The Crop Targeting Drug Control Sys-
tematic Review is co-funded by DPMP and CEPs.

Project STOP was initially launched in Queensland in November 2005 and aimed to reduce the diver-
sion of pseudoephedrine-based products into illicit drug manufacture. The research team undertook a process evaluation of Project STOP and produced a report for NDLREF in 2011.

The research team also evaluated how a problem-
oriented and partnership policing initiative, LEAPS, shaped the actions of place managers working in an inner city entertainment district in Brisbane and they used a generalised linear model to analyse the impact of lockout legislation on recorded violent of-
fences in two entertainment districts in Queensland.

NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY MODELLING PROJECTS
These projects include the development of new, text analytic software called HARVEST, creation of a National Security i-Library, and a project that applies Self Exciting Models for Analysing Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism Data. The research team suc-
cessfully software engineered HARVEST as a tool for policy makers and practitioners working in the field of national security.

HARVEST is an automated, entity extraction and ontology discovery software which, in turn, uses Leximancer® software. Researchers used HARVEST to create a user-friendly interactive i-Library that enables users to access information about national security interventions, strategies and responses on a global scale. The team refers to the database gener-
ated by HARVEST as the National Security i-Library, or NSIL for short.

CONTRACTED EVALUATIONS
These included an Evaluation of the Coordinated Response to Young People at Risk (CRYPAR) pro-
gram of the Queensland Police Service (QPS) and an exploration of the role of leadership in the case of the South Australian Police Service (SAPOL) experience of implementation of a Problem Solving Model. CRYPAR was initiated by the QPS in 2006 in the North Brisbane and Pine Rivers Policing Districts, and later expanded to include Logan and Rock-
hampton.

It recognised that mainstream policing approaches - with their focus on criminal offenders and victims - did not adequately support ‘at risk’ youth in the community. CRYPAR was designed as a whole-of-
government initiative which aimed to assist young people at risk of developing criminal and self-harm-
ing tendencies and anti-social behaviour. Following data analysis, a final evaluation of CRYPAR report was submitted to QPS at the end of 2011.

In its 2011 evaluation of the SAPOL Problem Solv-
ing Model, the research team used interrupted time series models to isolate the impact of the SAPOL Commissioner’s leadership efforts to spearhead the implementation of a program of problem-oriented policing on crime trends.
Sustainability and Environment Program

The Sustainability and Environment Research Program conducts research to address the issues and dynamics of change related to sustainability, climate change, environmental policy, and natural resources management in the local, regional, national and global context.

Policy responses to emerging sustainability challenges are highlighted, along with the challenges of gaining stakeholder support for innovative approaches to sustainability based on new scientific research.

The Program works closely with the UQ Global Change Institute on a range of issues, including studies of the attitudes and knowledge of Australian decision-makers and the general public concerning climate change, and appropriate responses to climate change.

Areas of research include:
- community attitudes to climate change;
- risk communication;
- community trust;
- risk management in relation to water quality and climate change;
- community attitudes to sustainable consumption of water and energy; and
- institutional aspects of sustainable development.

Activities:
- Progress in developing regional case-studies for ARC Discovery project on Collaborative Approaches to Natural Resource Management in Australia.
- Completion of UWSRA project on Institutional Change in the Urban Water system in southeast Queensland.
- Establishment of new UWSRA research project on institutional factors in urban water system, 2010-2012.
- Commencement of new PhD project on Climate Change Scepticism (Willem Van Rensburg).
- Appointment of further adjunct researchers including Dr Vikki Uhlmann and Mr Greg Oliver who have worked with Professor Head on water policy frameworks.
- Commencement of PhD projects on biodiversity planning (Tim Holmes) and river basin management in southeast Queensland and Java (Candra Sametko).
- Co-organised the Urban Water Governance Forum for U21 universities in Lund (Sweden).
- Provided submissions to federal inquiries into urban water.
- Progressed research funded by UWSRA on residential demand management, community perspectives on decentralised water systems and communicating about alternative water sources.
- Commenced collaborative project with Griffith University and Mater hospital on facilitators and barriers to workplace environmental sustainability.
- Commencement of PhD project on emotion and environmental behaviour (Megan Bissing-Olson).
- Continuing supervision of three PhD projects and one Honours project on environmental sustainability, including the role of norms, motivation and status in promoting pro-environmental behaviour.
- Organised symposium on Psychology and Global Environmental Change at the Annual General meeting of the Society of Australasian Social Psychologists.
- Senior researcher Dr Kelly Fielding was successful in gaining an ARC Future Fellowship that commenced in 2011. Her research focuses on the social and behavioural dimensions of environmental sustainability.
Policy Analysis Program

ISSR has a broad interest in policy-relevant applied research. All ISSR Research Programs contribute directly or indirectly to understanding and influencing policy.

The policy analysis and evaluation perspective in research asks questions about whether policies are effective, affordable and best-value. It also addresses the good governance aspects of decision-making by public agencies, including issues of performance, accountability, integrity, and stakeholder involvement.

Policy analysis areas
- Poverty and social disadvantage
- Housing and homelessness
- Health and aged care
- Indigenous services
- Children and families
- Education and workforce issues
- Security and justice issues
- Environmental sustainability issues and
- General policy-related issues such as evidence-bases for decision making and the relationship between research and decision-making.

Activities

The major new initiative was the commencement of a major ARC Linkage project on Evidence-based Policy in Australia. Led by Professor Brian Head, Associate Professor Adrian Cherney and Professor Paul Boreham, the project focuses on the use of academic social research in government agencies, and the perceptions of both academics and policymakers about what types of research information are most valuable.

The project website, [http://www.issr.uq.edu.au/EBP-home](http://www.issr.uq.edu.au/EBP-home), provides considerable detail about the nine partners and other supporting agencies, and outlines the stages in gathering data from both academic and government sources through surveys, interviews and document analysis. Conference papers reporting the early findings have been presented during 2011 (see bullet list on adjacent page for list of findings to date).

In addition:
- Two PhD students are attached to the evidence-based policy project, working on the interface between academic research and policymakers and the role of knowledge-brokering activities in promoting better linkages (Jenny Van Der Arend, Jenny Bell).
- Continuing supervision of PhD projects and education policy reform (Raeline Garvey) and school governance (Sally Pitkin).
- Continuing supervision of PhD project on evolution of ‘Smart State’ policies.
- Supervision of the Summer Scholar’s program on distrust of politicians.
- Convening the panel on evidence-based policy at the annual conference of the International Research Society for Public Management.
- Submissions to the federal government’s initiative in Public Sector Innovation.
- Invited address by Professor Head to the OECD workshop on Strategic Agility in the public sector, Paris, November 2011.

Summary of the academic survey findings of the project on the utilisation of social science research in policy development and program review:
- A survey of almost 700 Australian academic social science researchers identified obstacles to their research being used in policy and program design and review.
- Academics considered there were considerable costs in translating research for non-academic end-users.
- 84 percent of respondents said they believed that academic reward systems and the demand to publish in peer-reviewed journals (74 percent) were barriers to knowledge translation and uptake.
- More than 55 percent of respondents believed there were insufficient networks to promote collaboration and less than half saw it as a way to advance their careers.
- 81 percent indicated the amount of time it takes to collaborate with government, industry or community sectors was a problem.
- 79 percent said it was onerous to coordinate different research orientations.
- 63 percent indicated the complexity of contractual arrangements and the ethics process was also a barrier.
Research Methodology and Social Statistics Program

The Research Methodology and Social Statistics (ReMASS) Program led by Associate Professor Michele Haynes comprises of statisticians, mathematicians and social scientists with expertise in various aspects of social science and statistical methodology. It focuses on the development and evaluation of methods for analysing social science data and training in statistical methods and computer software.

ReMASS team work closely with other researchers to collect and analyse quantitative data for informing policy development and planning. They use advanced statistical procedures for collecting and analysing social survey data – particularly those exhibiting multi-level, longitudinal and spatial structures.

ISSR, through the ReMASS Program, is a partner in the network of nodes of the national electronic repository for social science data, The Australian Data Archive (ADA). The Program employs two archivists who archive social science research data and specialise in standards and methods for longitudinal survey data. The Australian Qualitative Archive (AQUA) was established through the ISSR node – its researchers are involved in a national consultation process to develop methods and technologies to allow the preservation and confidential reuse of the qualitative research data.

Training

ReMASS developed training modules for a Methods for Social Analysis and Statistics course. The modules focus on developing skills and knowledge in social analysis for public sector professionals, including methods for quantitative analysis, interpretation of statistical data, and translation of social science research to develop and evaluate public policies and programs. The course targets policy, planning and management occupations in socially-oriented sectors (education, government administration and defence, and health and community services) across three tiers of government (local, state and federal). Workshops are also conducted in social research methods for RHD students and academics in UQ.

Other activities

- Won tender for ‘Utilisation of allied health services by people with chronic disease: differences across health insurance coverage and policy change’ submitted to the Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute. It was a competitive grant round with only four out of 37 applications funded nation-wide. Presented findings from a statistical analysis of the National Health Survey.
- Completed an electoral boundary survey for the Electoral Commission Queensland.
- Progressed a National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) funded research project on targeting the profits of illicit drug trafficking through understanding proceeds of crime factors and its cycle. It is developing a model and quantifying the multiplier effect of investment of proceeds of crime and criminal enterprises in Australia.
- Won tender for the Respectful Relationships Program Evaluation for Sexual Assault Prevention through Education funded by FaHCSIA. It is a longitudinal outcome and process evaluation with analyses of program content, program implementation, and an experimental analysis of pre and post outcome measures.
- Continued the project ‘Longitudinal multilevel study of change in physical activity in mid-age, and factors associated with change’ which is quantifying psychological, social, socio-demographic and environmental determinants of activity.
- Continued work on project ‘Understanding the Spatial and Social Drivers of Employment Transitions’ using ABS and HILDA data and techniques of hierarchical statistical regression models.
- Successful in a tender, with the University’s School of Population Health, on the NSW Department of Health Preferred Supplier Panel for the quantitative population-based health surveys research category of services and health economic evaluation category of services.
Progressed an ARC funded project on the dynamic social systems and adolescent alcohol/tobacco use: a new cusp catastrophe model, joint with A/Prof Adrian Kelly, Faculty of Health Sciences, UQ.

Extended work on ADA and participated in its Executive and Technical Committee.

Progress on digitizing and archiving the Indigenous research collection held in the AERC at UQ (with staff from ATSIDA and University of Melbourne). The final digitized collection will be incorporated into the ATSIDA component of ADA.

Work continued on the interrelationships between housing transitions and fertility in Britain and Australia funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (UK). Associate Professor Haynes and international colleagues Professor Fiona Steele, Professor John Ermisch, Dr Hill Kulu and Dr Paul Clarke won the grant in 2009. Data is being analysed from nine waves of the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) panel study to advance our understanding of how couples plan their family lives, housing and careers in changing societal settings, and to identify changing priorities for the provision of housing assistance and policy.

Successful in a Strategic Initiative Funding bid in partnership with Professor Baxter to develop a program of research in life course and longitudinal studies (see story p18).

Dr Andrew Smith successfully completed the project, ‘Hypermancer - enhanced search in qualitative databases’, that developed software to aggregate, consolidate and interpret search results within a qualitative database.

Dr Smith also won funding from the USA Department of Defence for a three year project entitled ‘Situation Tracking in Large Data Streams’ which begins in 2012.

Program news

Data archivist Melanie Spallek was successful in her application for the UQ AHURI scholarship in Housing Policy Research. She started her PhD project in March 2011, which aims to advance housing, family and methodological research by investigating interrelationships between housing transitions, fertility and health, as well as addressing methodological issues along the way.

Employment and Education Program

The Employment and Education Program, established in 2009 is led by Professor Bill Martin. It focuses on understanding the social arrangements and institutions that shape patterns of employment and education in Australia. It examines the direct effects of these arrangements and institutions on individuals – on their life chances, experiences, income, wealth, health, and happiness; and on their willingness and ability to contribute skills and effort where needed.

The Program’s highlights for the year are outlined below.

PAID PARENTAL LEAVE EVALUATION

In 2010, a team led by Professor Martin won a contract with the Commonwealth Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) to evaluate the Paid Parental Leave (PPL) scheme which commenced operation on January 1, 2011. This evaluation will take nearly four years, and involves researchers from ISSR, other parts of UQ, and four other Australian universities. The focus of the project in 2011 was twofold. First, it involved completing a baseline report for the evaluation. This report described patterns of working mothers’ leave eligibility and leave taking before the commencement of the PPL scheme, and examined the relationship between leave patterns and mothers’ and babies’ health and wellbeing, gender equity, and mothers’ return to work patterns. It also provided an initial overview of maternity and parental leave offered by employers and their attitudes towards the scheme.

The report will be publicly released in 2012. Second, a range of data was collected on the early operation of the PPL scheme to conduct a ‘process evaluation’. The data include surveys and in-depth interviews with mothers and employers.
In 2011, a team led by Dr Mara Yerkes and Professor Romke van der Veen of the Erasmus University in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, were awarded a €206,600 grant from the Dutch GAK Foundation to conduct comparative research on the interaction of collective agreements and social policies in the Netherlands, Germany, Sweden and Australia. The ISSR will work with Erasmus University to conduct the Australian case study. This research builds on the findings presented in Transforming the Dutch Welfare State.

Activities

- Completed research towards a profile of the specialist homelessness workforce under ISSR contract with FaHCSIA to undertake specified research on homelessness.
- Completed research on Shared Care and Unpaid Domestic Work Amongst Intact Couples - funded by Women for Work.
- Completed research on Indigenous Households and Post-separation Parenting – funded by FaHCSIA.
- Started research on the interaction of collective agreements and social policy – funded by the Dutch GAK Foundation.

COMMUNITY SERVICES WORKFORCE RESEARCH

The Program has an active stream of research focused on the community services workforce. In 2011 this research was focused on a project profiling the specialist community services workforce that provides homelessness services. This research was undertaken as part of the program of research on homelessness centred in the Social Wellbeing, Health and Housing Program.

FOR BETTER OR WORSE? UNDERSTANDING THE REVOLUTION IN MARRIED LIFE IN AUSTRALIA

The program has been involved in an ARC funded study that is examining the changing nature of marriage and family relationships in contemporary Australia. In 2011 work was completed on several longitudinal papers analysing data from the Households Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia and Negotiating the Life Course surveys.

TRANSFORMING THE DUTCH WELFARE STATE

In August 2011 the ISSR celebrated the publication of Dr Mara Yerkes’ book Transforming the Dutch Welfare State. Social Risks and Corporatist Reform by hosting a book launch at the UQ Art Museum. Professor Sheila Shaver, an eminent social policy scholar, was invited to introduce the book. The book outlines the dramatic changes that have taken place in the protection of social risks in the Netherlands.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND SOCIAL SECURITY

In 2011, a team led by Dr Mara Yerkes and Professor Romke van der Veen of the Erasmus University in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, were awarded a €206,600 grant from the Dutch GAK Foundation to conduct comparative research on the interaction of collective agreements and social policies in the Netherlands, Germany, Sweden and Australia. The ISSR will work with Erasmus University to conduct the Australian case study. This research builds on the findings presented in Transforming the Dutch Welfare State.

Activities

- Continued evaluation of the Australian Government’s Paid Parental Leave program.
- Completed research towards a profile of the specialist homelessness workforce under ISSR contract with FaHCSIA to undertake specified research on homelessness.
- Completed research on Shared Care and Unpaid Domestic Work Amongst Intact Couples - funded by Women for Work.
- Completed research on Indigenous Households and Post-separation Parenting – funded by FaHCSIA.
- Started research on the interaction of collective agreements and social policy – funded by the Dutch GAK Foundation.

Innovation and Engagement Division

ISSR’s Innovation and Engagement Division (IED) is led by Associate Professor Warren Laffan. IED houses ISSR Surveys, the Institute’s commercial survey research service which provides research design and applied methodology advice, data-collection services and is a vehicle for assessing and improving survey research practice.

The Division has business strategies that engage academic clients as a partner in their research. It provides academic research clients with informed advice on how to optimise their survey research projects in terms of cost, scope, instrument design and adoption for specific data collection modes, sampling strategies and data analysis.

ISSR Surveys is the first Australian research services provider to license the advanced survey management and interviewing software, VOXCO. A key aspect of this investment was to provide a platform for conducting more complex and larger multi-mode survey research and data-collection projects with greater control and precision.

ISSR Surveys has 35 computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) stations. With new survey data collection technology ISSR Surveys can administer projects integrating CATI and on-line survey versions simultaneously. Using VOXCO, telephone interviewers can email partially complete survey links directly to respondents to prevent opting-out. The survey clients have continual online access to real-time progress reports of their projects whilst in the field.

ISSR interviewers and supervision staff are trained in protocols to reduce respondent refusal and non-response, and ensure survey delivery consistency. The resulting high CATI survey response rates and low longitudinal survey respondent attrition translated into greater data reliability, validity, and credibility.

By delivering high quality data collection services and advice the Institute adds significant value to academic research, whilst strengthening the links with external client institutions.

In 2011 ISSR undertook data collection for the following clients:

- Australian Federal Police – development, implementation, and analysis of several business, service and customer satisfaction surveys across a variety of internal and external service provision areas. The purpose of these surveys was to perform satisfaction audits and business analyses of AFP clients, function areas, and offices. Online and face-to-face surveys were administered to AFP staff and clients, and analyses performed on collected survey data evaluating levels of satisfaction against bench-
marked performance indicators. These formed the basis of annual reports delivered by the AFP to Federal Parliament.

Centre of National Research on Disability and Rehabilitation Medicine (UQ) – a multi-mode, mail-out and CATI, longitudinal survey of approximately 600 respondents examining the life experiences of hospitalised insurance claimants who sustained injuries during motor vehicle accidents. And a study of residents in Brisbane and Singapore comparing differences in public perception of whiplash injuries sustained during motor vehicle accidents.

Centre(624,956),(953,997) for Excellence in Policing and Security – a CATI survey and recruitment for a self-completion survey of 6100 national longitudinal and randomly sampled respondents to determine the way that Australia prepares for natural disasters like floods, bushfires, and cyclones. It will help decision makers understand how the Australian community feels about terrorism and other important national security issues.

Victorian Government – a CATI longitudinal survey of 3700 respondents studying the correlations between problem gambling behaviours as measured by the Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI) and scores indicating anxiety or depression on the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale (K10).

Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research – a CATI recruit of 2100 southeast Queensland residents in the replication of a world-wide study investigating schizophrenia susceptibility genes. Interviewers screened respondents applying criterion for psychosis to select control group participants who underwent further evaluations with mental health researchers, and provided blood bio-samples at local pathology clinics.

UQ Business School – Various CATI surveys amongst national business.

UQ School of Languages and Comparative Cultural Studies – an online survey of University language students on the beliefs and experiences of language students in their early years of transition to university-level study.

Electoral Commission of Queensland – a CATI survey of 4900 Queensland residents to seek feedback regarding local government electoral arrangements.

School of Population Health – a response boosting reminder CATI survey of participants in a longitudinal study of diabetes.

Community and Public Sector Union – an online survey of over 10,000 women working in the public sector.


UQ School of Languages and Comparative Cultural Studies – an online survey of over 10,000 women working in the public sector.


ISSR fosters research innovation and commercialisation by developing collaborative links with public and private organisations, and managing intellectual property from ISSR research to deliver new products and services to industry, government, and the community.

ISSR’s Manager of Innovation and Commercial Development, Sue McKell, works closely with the Institute’s staff and partners to develop commercial opportunities and research relationships. ISSR has strong track record in collaborating with public and private industry and continues to leverage expertise to assist partners through high quality research projects. The Institute is increasingly focused on realising opportunities to translate its research outputs into high impact products and services, with a view to delivering positive outcomes for stakeholders involved in ISSR projects.

In 2011 ISSR achieved a number of commercial successes including: development of collaborative relationships with industry partners, management of intellectual property, and support for commercialisation activities.

With the assistance of Pathfinder funding from UniQuest ISSR has been able to progress an early stage project through to piloting with industry end-users. MFAS (Methods for Social Analysis and Statistics) is an innovative short course training program aimed at transferring applied skills in social research methods and statistics to public sector professionals.

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MFAS courses aim to bridge the gap between those that “do” statistics and those that “do” social policy by providing practical know-how for translating research into evidence-based policy. Led by Associate Professor Michele Haynes with support from Leith Morris, this project was shortlisted as a UQ finalist in UniQuest’s Trailblazer competition in 2011 and is now being advanced by UniQuest towards commercialisation.

The Institute achieved a second UQ finalist in UniQuest’s 2011 Trailblazer competition with new software developed by ISSR researchers. Harvest uses novel concept-matching methods to profile, search and prioritise information from large unstructured data, and offers significant potential as an application for smart searching, document matching, and sampling of qualitative data.

This technology was developed by Professor Lorraine Mazerolle, Dr Andrew Smith and Dr Gentry White with research funding from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and development support from Leximancer Pty Ltd. ISSR has developed a commercialisation strategy to protect the intellectual property for this technology and support plans for future validation and commercial pilot studies.

Innovation and commercial development

ISSR fosters research innovation and commercialisation by developing collaborative links with public and private organisations, and managing intellectual property from ISSR research to deliver new products and services to industry, government, and the community.
Key events

UQ father of sociology tribute
ISSR and The School of Social Science hosted a public lecture in September to honour the legacy of the late Emeritus Professor John Western AM – the founding father of sociology at the University.

Professor John Braithwaite, an Australian Research Council Federation Fellow and Founder of RegNet (the Regulatory Institutions Network) at the Australian National University conducted a lecture on "Western Realism and Romanticism" for the occasion.

Professor Braithwaite is a UQ graduate and is one of Australia’s leading criminologists whose research boasts a worldwide reputation.

Professor Western arrived at UQ in the early 1960s after obtaining his PhD from Columbia University and was instrumental in building and establishing the new discipline.

Head of the School of Social Science Professor David Trigger paid tribute to his former colleague and team-based. In the early days these were all distinctive characteristics, and still distinguish UQ sociology at a national level,” Professor Trigger said.

“His work lives on in sociology at The University of Queensland and more generally throughout the discipline.”

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Professor Western passed away on January 6 2011, but his legacy continues through the work of his two sons, Mark and Bruce, who are both sociologists – Mark is the Director of ISSR, and Bruce is Professor of Sociology at Harvard University.

“He worked to establish core research findings for Australia in areas such as political behaviour, mass media, and the sociology of work, crime, education and the professions. His work also frequently involved PhD students and junior colleagues and he graduated more than 50 PhD students throughout his career,” Mark said.

To promote academic exchange and interaction, Professor Western formed, with international colleagues, the Asia Pacific Sociological Association and served as its Foundation President from 1996-1999.

He was the first professor of sociology at UQ and became Head of the Department of Anthropology and Sociology in 1970. Even in his retirement he continued to be an active researcher, writer and doctoral supervisor.

Professor Western made prolific contributions to basic and applied research, publishing more than 50 books, monographs and commissioned reports, 70 book chapters and 120 journal articles.

He also secured millions of dollars in research grants and contracts and built one of the largest and most successful sociology departments in the country.

For his services to the development of sociology nationally and internationally, Professor Western was made a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia in 1984, and was elected to the Swiss Academy of Development in 1989.

In 2009 he was made a Member of the Order of Australia for contributions to education and to sociology.

Launch of book on individual versus collective responsibility
The heavily debated issue of individual versus collective responsibility in social welfare policy was the theme of a book launch at the UQ Art Museum in August 2011.

The book, Transforming the Dutch Welfare State by ISSR senior researcher Dr Mara Yerkes was launched by leading welfare policy expert Professor Sheila Shaver.

She said the lessons of the social welfare policies in the Netherlands were relevant for policy makers worldwide as each country struggled to spread the welfare dollar as effectively as possible.

"In the 1990s the Dutch welfare state was viewed by outsiders as being exceptional for having low unemployment, high job growth and an overall strong economic performance," she said.

“Just a decade before, the Netherlands was struggling with a sluggish economy, high unemployment, and escalating expenditures on welfare state policies.”

In the early 1990s international commentators referred to the Dutch welfare state as ‘The Dutch Miracle’.

However, according to Dr Yerkes in the mid-1990s there was a shift in the economy due to the increased participation of women in the workforce and increased labour market "flexibilisation".

“These changes affect the risks individuals and families face in contemporary society,” Dr Yerkes said.

“My book focuses on how welfare state policy in the Netherlands has responded to these changes since the mid-1990s and the policies created to protect individuals against these social risks.

Social risks include concerns such as: sickness, disability, unemployment but also insufficient education or training, or the need to care for children or family members, Dr Yerkes said.

“Social risks are risks that individuals encounter throughout their lifetime, risks that are not always the result of individual choice, that can make it difficult and in some cases impossible to maintain a minimum level of subsistence for them or their family.

“Social risks can happen to anyone throughout their lifetime.

“From a societal standpoint, understanding social risks is important because while social risks can happen to anyone, certain people are more likely to be affected, which creates social inequality.”

According to Dr Yerkes, after a five-year study of the Dutch welfare state culminating in her book, the right policy mix can reduce inequality.

Despite a transformation in many Dutch welfare state policies, the current policy mix, while effective at protecting against social risks, could lead to increased inequality in the long run.

“If the Dutch government continues to make policies...
Increasingly selective and conditional, and aimed at smaller groups of people, this exacerbates the divide between the haves and the have-nots and puts many people at an increased risk of poverty,” she said.

Changing face of Australian families

Convenors, Professor Janeen Baxter and Dr Belinda Hewitt (October 20-21)

Experts from government attended presentations by the nation’s leading researchers on families and family policy at a two-day workshop, Family, Work and Wellbeing over the Life Course, at The University of Queensland.

The University of Queensland’s Australian Research Council Professorial Fellow Janeen Baxter was a co-convener and presented at the workshop hosted by ISSR and the School of Social Science.

Presentations addressed the policy implications of the huge changes in the structure of the family in the past 30 years including the age women have children, age of marriage, working patterns over a person’s life, and shifting social and gender attitudes.

In this time, says workshop co-convener Dr Belinda Hewitt, “...women entered the workforce at unprecedented rates, men’s employment hours and wages declined, and many households came to depend on dual earnings”.

“At the same time, social attitudes about gender became more liberal, leading to greater acceptance of personal and financial independence for women, but within a context of continuing policy support for the male breadwinner ideal.

“The ultimate goal of the workshop was to shed light on the changes that have taken place, and to consider whether they are enduring or temporary, what is driving them and the implications for policy in the future.”

Representatives from the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) and the Sex Discrimination Commission attended the Academy of the Social Sciences (ASSA) funded workshop whose mission is to promote Australia’s social science research excellence.

ISSR Summer Research Program

ISSR introduced 11 Summer Research Program scholarship winners to the real world of social science research. The UQ Summer Research Program Program is offered by a number of schools, research centres and institutes during the summer vacation.

ISSR Director Professor Mark Western said, “It’s an opportunity for us to invigorate our work with smart, young people who are enthusiastic about research. And it will help you (scholarship winners) kick start a research career and get to know people and the research we do here.”

The scholarship recipients were supervised by a researcher in a formal research environment and experienced the research process by working on a project from mid-November to mid-February.

One of the supervising researchers, Dr Rebecca Wickes said, “It’s a great way for students who are planning to do their honours, masters and PhDs to experience research – a great opportunity for them to start their research journey.”

See below a list of the summer scholars, their research topics and supervisors:

Cameron Meiklejohn and Adam Smith  The links between housing, social participation and wellbeing: evidence from the HILDA survey (supervision: Dr Wojtek Tomaszewski and Associate Professor Michele Haynes)

Zoe Power, Judith Bueving and Joel McGregor  Why politicians are less trusted than other professions (supervision: Professor Brian Head)

Claire Irvine  National security and preparedness survey (supervision: Dr Suzanna Ramirez)

Amanda Acutt  Vulnerable Communities (supervision: Dr Suzanna Ramirez)

Ellen Leslie and Michelle Sydes  Prejudice Motivated Crime in Australia (supervision: Dr Rebecca Wickes)

Harley Williamson  Trans-Border Drug Control: A Systematic Review (supervision: Professor Lorraine Mazerolle)

Blake Morvad  Project Harvest 2.0 (supervision: Professor Lorraine Mazerolle)

Summer scholar, Adam Smith

What research did you work on?

I worked on a project investigating residential mobility associated with retirement and how such moves can be linked to changes in personal wellbeing.

We explored factors that are linked with recent retirees relocating and whether or not this has a positive or negative impact on wellbeing - over and above the usual effect of retirement on wellbeing.

We used the HILDA (Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia) survey, Australia’s premiere panel data survey - meaning it follows many households over time, allowing for the use of sophisticated quantitative methods.

Why does that interest you?

My main interest in this project is seeing how large scale empirical research is done in practice. I am
For the work I am involved in of the links between education and get a better idea of the value added links between changes in income and changes in can control for this constant ability by looking at the With the HILDA data and other similar data sets - we this promotes accurate responses.

What are you looking forward to with the research the scholarship provides? I am looking forward to seeing how the quantitative methods I have learned are actually used in practice. When one learns a few methods over the course of a semester it is usually obvious which one to use in an exam or an assignment. This is not true in practice. Instead you have to figure out which methods should be used and which variables you should be investi-gating.

Also, in reality one also has much larger data sets than are usually used in a teaching setting, which is great in terms of statistical accuracy but also presents its own challenges in terms of organising the data and knowing which combination of variables matter.

I am hoping to obtain experience dealing with the challenges of empirical research such as these over the summer.

What is it about the HILDA data set that is so excit-ing for you to work with? The HILDA data set comes from a large scale survey of over 7000 households conducted every year. The survey asks a large number of questions about a variety of topics such as education status, income, expenditure, family status and employment. As many safeguards are put in place to ensure confidentiality this promotes accurate responses. With the HILDA data and other similar data sets - we can control for this constant ability by looking at the links between changes in income and changes in education and get a better idea of the value added by education.

For the work I am involved in of the links between retirement, residential mobility and wellbeing - the HILDA data will allow us to see how wellbeing changes in response to retirement and relocation.

Summer scholar, Harley Williamson

What research did you work on? I worked on collecting a series of documents that illustrate attempts made by independent and allied countries to counteract terrorism and terrorist-related activity between the years 2000 and 2010.

Why does that interest you? Helping to combat criminal activity, especially as heinous as terrorism, is something of interest to me because this sort of criminal activity needs to be addressed and I am passionate about devoting my time to help diminish the presence of such activity.

Would you like to become a researcher? I would like to become a researcher because it gives me the opportunity not only to constantly expand my knowledge base and skill set, but also to reciprocate by providing education to academics, policy-makers, and the wider community.

What area are you passionate about doing research in? I am passionate about human trafficking because I want to give a voice to the innocent women and children taken from their lives against their will, to endure torture, rape, and a despicable crime against humanity. Human trafficking is such a significant problem, something known by people but scarcely acknowledged as one of the largest and most profit-able organised criminal activities, because it is rarely at the forefront of the media and political sphere. I have a strong desire to put my time and effort into building on evidence, modifying policies to reflect the current situation, and overall, to help diminish the serious crime of human trafficking.

What are your current studies? I am doing a double degree Bachelor of Journalism and Bachelor of Arts with an extended major in Criminology. I commence my third year of study at the beginning of 2012.

And what next? I want to complete an Honours thesis in Criminology once I have graduated in 2013.

Harley Williamson
Innovation Award for homelessness research
Dr Cameron Parsell was awarded the 2011 ISSR Research and Innovation Award in September 2011 for his research on homelessness.

The Research and Innovation awards for social science research are presented each year in the lead up to The University of Queensland’s Research Week by the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences. In 2011 ISSR celebrated the inaugural award for an ISSR researcher.

In presenting the award for an outstanding and innovative early career researcher, ISSR Deputy Director Paul Boreham paid tribute to Dr Parsell’s ethnographic research and his prodigious publication output.

Dr Parsell is passionate about writing and contributing to the debate on homelessness. “I feel very appreciative being able to conduct the research I am involved with, and the Award is really nice recognition for some of the work that we are doing at the Social Wellbeing, Health and Housing group at ISSR,” he said.

“I hope that my research will say something meaningful and nuanced about homelessness and people who are homeless, with the primary objective to enhance knowledge, policy and practice in this area,” Dr Parsell said.

Dr Parsell’s research activity has included ethnographic research with people living in public places, four policy and practice studies examining the nature and efficacy of current homelessness policy and practice, research examining social interactions and identifications in homeless accommodation, and systematic analyses of the broader policy, social and economic context of homelessness.

Dean’s Award for two Institute researchers
Dr Amanda Hosking and Dr Cameron Parsell both received UQ Research Higher Degree Excellence Dean’s Awards for Outstanding Research Higher Degree Theses in 2010. This award is given to a thesis that receives examiners’ reports attesting to the outstanding quality and exceptionally innovative nature of the research described in the thesis. Fewer than ten per cent of PhD and MPhil graduates are recognised this way each year.

Dr Parsell’s doctoral research was an ethnographic study of people living in inner urban Brisbane’s public places. He sought to examine their day-to-day way of living, identities and to understand their meanings of home. In contrast to romanticised images of the chosen and free ‘homeless lifestyle’, he found that living in public places meant having no legitimate place – people had limited control over their day-to-day lives. Home was seen as synonymous with a physical structure. On the one hand, acquiring home represented a means for people living in public places to exercise autonomy, and on the other, it was a sign of their ‘normality’ and participation within a society they felt disconnected from.

Dr Parsell’s principal advisor was Professor Andrew Marston and Dr Harriot Beazley from the School of Social Work & Human Services.

Dr Parsell’s research on homelessness was published in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology, 43(3), 423-443. ANZSOC’s New Scholar Prize is awarded each year for the best publication in criminology or a related area written by a member of the Society who is within five years of their appointment to their first full-time or fractional academic or other research related position.

Further awards and grants

- Dr Rebecca Wickers was awarded the 2011 Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology (ANZSOC) New Scholar Prize for her article ‘Generating action and responding to local issues: Collective efficacy in context’, published in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology, 43(3), 423-443.
- Dr Sarah Bennett was awarded the Nigel Walker Prize for an outstanding written contribution to the field of Criminology by a member of the University of Cambridge in June 2011 (for 2010 round). This was a joint award with Leonidas Cheolitis.
- Data archivist Melanie Spallek won the UQ AVURI scholarship in Housing Policy Research. She started her PhD project in February 2011, which aims to advance housing, family and methodological research by investigating interrelationships between housing transitions, fertility and health.
## ISSR People

### Executive

**Professor Mark Western**  
Professor Paul Boreham  
Associate Professor Michele Haynes  
Professor Brian Head  
Ms Cordelia Jackson  
Professor Andrew Jones  
Professor Warren Laffan  
Professor Bill Martin  
Professor Lorraine Mazzerolle  
Ms Sue McKell  
Professor Paul Memmott

**Director**  
Deputy Director (Research)  
Program Leader, Research Methodology and Social Statistics  
Program Leader, Sustainability and Environment, and Policy Analysis  
Operations Manager  
Program Leader, Social Wellbeing, Health and Housing  
Manager, Innovation and Engagement Division  
Program Leader, Employment and Education  
Program Leader, Policing and Security  
Manager, Innovation and Commercial Development  
Director, Aboriginal Environments Research Centre (AERC)

### Research Staff

**Research Fellow**  
Dr Emma Antrobus  
Ms Laura Bedford  
Ms Sarah Bennett  
Mr Andrew Clarke  
Ms Rebecca Coates  
Ms Laetitia Coles  
Dr Linda Colley  
Ms Laura Cox  
Ms Caroline Crothers  
Ms Jacqueline Davis  
Dr Kristen Davis  
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Dr Silke Meyer  
Miss Leith Morris  
Miss Faye Nitschke  
Mr Martin O’Flaherty  
Dr Cameron Parcell  
Dr Maree Petersen  
Ms Rhonda Phillips  
Dr Jenny Povey  
Miss Emira Pruguda  
Mr William Probert  
Dr Suzanna Ramirez  
Ms Emily Rose  
Ms Judith Rose  
Mr Andrew Ross  
Ms Nicola Seage  
Ms Nicole Shepherd  
Ms Wendy Shulver  
Dr Andrew Smith  
Ms Adele Somerville  
Ms Melanie Spalek  
Ms Catherine Stillwell  
Mr Tsui-o Tai  
Ms Jenna Thompson  
Dr Wojciech Tomaszewski  
Dr Gentry White  
Dr Rebecca Wickes  
Mr Matthew Wyatt  
Mrs Ning Xiang  
Dr Mara Yekes  
A/Prof Maria Zadoroznyj  
Miss Renee Zahn  
Dr Bette Zhang

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### Operations Staff

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Mr Martin O’Flaherty  
Dr Cameron Parcell  
Dr Maree Petersen

### Conjoint Appointment

**Professor Justin Kenardy**

### Adjunct Appointments

**Adjunct Senior Research Fellow**  
Dr Garth Britton  
Ms Margaret Bryant  
Ms Amanda Hosking  
Professor John Manners  
Professor Michael McFadden  
Maurie McNar, AO

**Adjunct Associate Professor**  
Dr Garth Britton  
Ms Margaret Bryant  
Ms Amanda Hosking  
Professor John Manners  
Professor Michael McFadden  
Maurie McNar, AO

**Adjunct Professor**  
Dr Garth Britton  
Ms Margaret Bryant  
Ms Amanda Hosking  
Professor John Manners  
Professor Michael McFadden  
Maurie McNar, AO
Research and higher degree candidates

The table below lists students supervised by ISSR staff in 2011. The right-hand column shows the school the students are enrolled in as ISSR does not directly enroll RHD students. The principle supervisor is indicated in bold.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Supervisor(s)</th>
<th>Thesis Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bell, Jennifer</td>
<td>Prof Brian Head, Assoc Prof Adrian Cherney, Prof Paul Boreham</td>
<td>The use of social research in policy making in Australia: A comparative approach</td>
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<td>Brink, Katrina</td>
<td>Ms Belinda Hewitt, Prof Zlatko Skrbis</td>
<td>Positive youth settings, supportive relationships and trust: what factors support youth attainment of year 12 Queensland youth?</td>
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<td>Buchler, Sandra</td>
<td>Prof Janeen Baxter, Assoc Prof Michele Haynes, Prof Mark Western</td>
<td>Cohabitation in Australia: Trends and Implications for Family Outcomes</td>
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<td>Pathways of Networks Formation: Experiences of Sudanese Youth in Brisbane</td>
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<td>Coates, Rebecca</td>
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<td>Future Aspirations and Expectations: A study of the intergenerational mobility of young second generation Australians in Queensland</td>
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<td>Creagh, Susan</td>
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<td>What is the relationship between second language acquisition, as measured using the ESL bandscales, and performance on the NAPLaN tests?</td>
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<td>Foulstone, Alexis</td>
<td>Assoc Prof Adrian Kelly, Prof Janeen Baxter</td>
<td>Couple relationships and alcohol involvement during early adulthood: A longitudinal population-based study</td>
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<td>Garvey, Raelene</td>
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<td>The Education and Training Reforms for the Future, 1996-2006: Policy ideas, Networks and Interventions</td>
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<td>Prof Paul Memmott, Dr Sally Babidge</td>
<td>Urban Aboriginal place values</td>
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<td>Changing governance models, management practices and educational outcomes in a public Vocational Education and Training (VET) institution</td>
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<td>Prof Martin Milis</td>
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<td>Heybroek, Lachlan</td>
<td>Prof Janeen Baxter</td>
<td>The changing levels of life satisfaction associated with employment transitions in contemporary Australian society</td>
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<td>Assoc Prof Michele Haynes</td>
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<td>Fraud against the Commonwealth: An analysis of serious and complex economic fraud investigated by the Australian Federal Police</td>
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<td>Policing transformation; Transforming police: Monitoring and evaluating the impact of police in UN Peace Operations</td>
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<td>Janse Van Rensburg, Wileen</td>
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<td>Climate change sceptics in New Zealand: institutional capacities, overseas linkages and political relevance</td>
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<td>The emergence of a therapist identity in continental Western Europe during the late 19th century and its implications for the present</td>
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<td>Miles-Johnson, Toby</td>
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<td>Social control of the transgendered body: an ethno-graphic study of informal and formal policing of sexual identity</td>
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<td>Pitkin, Sally</td>
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<td>Which governance practices in independent schools enable the organization to effectively and efficiently achieve its purpose?</td>
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<td>A socio-linguistic study of work-life balance issues for working mothers of school-aged children</td>
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<td>Isolation and Insularity: a geoarchaeological investigation into cultural change, Wellesley Islands, Gulf of Carpetania</td>
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<td>Rahmadyanto</td>
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<td>Dr Sally Babidge</td>
<td>A comparative study of conservation values for existing built environments and material culture within former missions and reserves in Queensland</td>
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<td>AsPr Elizabeth Mackinlay</td>
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### Research projects

The table below does not include commercial in confidence projects and data collection income. The table to follow is a list of data collection projects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Chief Investigators</th>
<th>Scheme Duration</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dynamic social systems and adolescent alcohol/tobacco use: A new cusps catastrophe model</td>
<td>Adrian Kelly (CYSAR), Michele Haynes (ISSR), Ross Young (IHB), QUT</td>
<td>ARC Discovery 2010-2012</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
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<td>The Impact of First Home Ownership Grants on Access to Homeownership</td>
<td>Amiti James (ISSR), Andrew Jones (ISSR)</td>
<td>UQ FirstLink Scheme 2010-2011</td>
<td>$3,350</td>
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<td>National Homelessness Research Partnership Agreement</td>
<td>Andrew Jones (ISSR), FaHCSIA</td>
<td>2010-2013</td>
<td>$1,333,000</td>
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<td>Evaluation of Homelessness Service Integration Demonstration projects</td>
<td>Andrew Jones (ISSR), Queensland Department of communities</td>
<td>2011-2013</td>
<td>$136,684</td>
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<td>Hypermancer - enhanced search in qualitative databases</td>
<td>Andrew Smith (ISSR), UniQuest Pathfinder</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>$47,500</td>
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<td>Paid Parental Leave Scheme Evaluation</td>
<td>Bill Martin (ISSR), FaHCSIA</td>
<td>2010-2014</td>
<td>$2,720,000</td>
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<td>The Utilisation of Social Science Research in Policy Development and Program Review</td>
<td>Brian Head (ISSR), Adrian Cherney (Social Science)</td>
<td>ARC Linkage Project 2010-2013</td>
<td>$677,000</td>
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<td>Human Factors in Urban Water System Safety</td>
<td>Brian Head (ISSR)</td>
<td>UWSRA 2010-2011</td>
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<td>Collaboration as a solution to wicked public policy problems: the example of regional environmental and natural resources policy in Australia</td>
<td>Brian Head (ISSR) Helen Ross (IS)</td>
<td>ARC Discovery Projects 2009-2011</td>
<td>$125,624</td>
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<td>Studies in Homelessness</td>
<td>Cameron Parsell (ISSR), AHURI Postdoctoral Research Fellowship</td>
<td>2010-2013</td>
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<td>Interrelationships between Housing Transitions and Fertility in Britain and Australia</td>
<td>Michele Haynes (ISSR), Economic and Social Research Council (UK)</td>
<td>2010-2013</td>
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<td>For better or for worse? Understanding the revolution in married life in Australia</td>
<td>Janene Baxter (ISSR/Soc Sc), Belinda Hewitt (ISSR)</td>
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<td>Men’s engagement in household duties</td>
<td>Janene Baxter (ISSR/Soc Sc), Belinda Hewitt (ISSR)</td>
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<td>Public responses to alternative water supplies: The role of risk, beliefs, and identity</td>
<td>Kelly Fielding (ISSR)</td>
<td>ARC Future Fellowships 2011-2015</td>
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<td>What are the impacts of interventions to reduce violence crime in developing countries</td>
<td>Lorraine Mazerolle (ISSR)</td>
<td>AusAID/ADRA/3ie 2011-2012</td>
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<td>The Drug Policy Modelling Program (Colonial Foundation Trust grant administered by The University of New South Wales)</td>
<td>Lorraine Mazerolle (ISSR)</td>
<td>University of New South Wales 2009-2012</td>
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<td>Multi-Site Trials of Third Party Policing: Building the Scientific Capacity for Experimental Criminology and Evidence-Based social Policy in Australia</td>
<td>Lorraine Mazerolle (ISSR)</td>
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<td>Vulnerable Communities</td>
<td>Lorraine Mazerolle (ISSR)</td>
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<td>National Survey</td>
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<td>The Queensland Community Engagement Trial</td>
<td>Lorraine Mazerolle (ISSR)</td>
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<td>Co-ordinated Response to Young People at Risk (CYPYR) Evaluation</td>
<td>Lorraine Mazerolle (ISSR)</td>
<td>Queensland Police Service 2010-2011</td>
<td>$181,562</td>
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<td>Department of Communities – Service Agreement</td>
<td>Andrew Jones (ISSR)</td>
<td>Office for Seniors, Queensland Department of Communities (QDOC) 2010-2012</td>
<td>$193,047</td>
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<td>Indigenous family structure, household composition and parenting practice post-parental separation (Wave 1 and Wave 2)</td>
<td>Margaret Walter (Univ of Taip), Belinda Hewitt (ISSR)</td>
<td>University of Tasmania 2010-2011</td>
<td>$12,727</td>
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<td>Collaborative Research Network Southern Cross University: Policy and Planning Research for Sustainable Regions</td>
<td>Mark Western (ISSR), Brian Head (ISSR)</td>
<td>Collaborative Research Networks (DiSIR) &amp; Southern Cross University 2011-2014</td>
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<td>Ad hoc performance analysis work within the internal audit and business analysis area</td>
<td>Michael McFadden (ISSR)</td>
<td>Australian Federal Police 2010-2011</td>
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<td>Social Analysis Skills Bridge</td>
<td>Michele Haynes (ISSR)</td>
<td>UniQuest 2011-2012</td>
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<td>Local Government Electoral Arrangement Surveys</td>
<td>Michele Haynes (ISSR), Andrew Ross (ISSR)</td>
<td>Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) 2011</td>
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<td>Establishment of the Australian data archive: an integrated research facility for the social sciences and humanities (LE110100049)</td>
<td>Michele Haynes (ISSR), Prem Chhetri (RMIT), Paul Boreham (ISSR)</td>
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<td>Understanding the Spatial and Social Drivers of Employment Transitions</td>
<td>Michele Haynes (ISSR), Silke Meyer (ISSR), Lorraine Mazeroole (ISSR)</td>
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<td>Respectful Relationships Program Evaluation</td>
<td>Michele Haynes (ISSR), Prem Chhetri (RMIT), Paul Boreham (ISSR)</td>
<td>FaHCSIA</td>
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<td>Targeting the profits of illicit drug trafficking through Proceeds of Crime action</td>
<td>Paul Boreham (ISSR), Michele Haynes (ISSR), Michael McFadden (UQ)</td>
<td>National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF)</td>
<td>2011-2012</td>
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<td>Exploring the use of residual measures of housing affordability as an alternative to the ratio approach</td>
<td>Paul Hemman (SW&amp;HS), Andrew Jones (ISSR)</td>
<td>AHURI</td>
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<td>Overcrowding for Indigenous households in non-remote areas</td>
<td>Paul Memmott (ISSR/AERC)</td>
<td>AHURI</td>
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<td>The role of “Assertive Outreach” in addressing primary homelessness</td>
<td>Rhonda Phillips (ISSR), Cameron Parselli (ISSR), Nicola Seage (ISSR), Paul Memmott (ISSRAERC)</td>
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<td>Bridging the divide: the experience of low-income households excluded from the private rental sector in Australia</td>
<td>Trisch Short (SocSc), Cameron Parselli (ISSR), Rhonda Phillips (ISSR)</td>
<td>AHURI</td>
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<td>Addressing Concentrations of Social Disadvantage</td>
<td>Andrew Jones</td>
<td>AHURI Multi-Year Research Project</td>
<td>2011 - 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genetics of schizophrenia control recruitment pilot</td>
<td>UQ, Queensland Brain Institute</td>
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<td>Innovative Commercialisation</td>
<td>UQ, Business, Economics &amp; Law</td>
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<td>Conrod LSO (Longitudinal Study of Trauma)</td>
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<td>Victorian Gambling Longitudinal Survey Wave 4 2011-2012</td>
<td>Schottler Consulting</td>
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<td>DNA Sons and Daughters (Tier 1a)</td>
<td>Dept of Veteran’s Affairs</td>
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<td>Vietnam Veterans’ Family Study - DNA Tier 2</td>
<td>Dept of Veteran’s Affairs</td>
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<td>Close Operations Support Survey</td>
<td>Australian Federal Police (AFP)</td>
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<td>Work and Career in Australian Universities (University Workforce Survey/Gender Equity Survey)</td>
<td>POLSIS, UQ</td>
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<td>Aviation Consumer Confidence Survey</td>
<td>Australian Federal Police</td>
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<td>Minor Injuries Study - CONROD</td>
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<td>Gambling Longitudinal Survey Wave 3 2010-2011</td>
<td>Victorian Government</td>
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<td>Women’s Survey 2011</td>
<td>Commonwealth Public Service Union</td>
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<td>The beliefs and experiences of language students in their early years of transition to university-level study</td>
<td>UQ, School of Languages and Comparative Cultural Studies</td>
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<td>Prevalence of Wills survey</td>
<td>UQ, School of Social Work &amp; Human Services</td>
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<td>Chinese Business Development Survey</td>
<td>UQ, Social Research Centre</td>
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<td>LEAD Social Marketing Campaign Survey</td>
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<td>Living in Queensland – Disaster Follow-up Survey</td>
<td>UQ, ISSR, internal project for CEPS</td>
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<td>Rangeland Management Survey</td>
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<td>ECQ LGA Survey</td>
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<td>Public Policy Survey</td>
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<td>Growing Australian Business 2011</td>
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<td>Business Satisfaction Survey</td>
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Books


Book chapters


Baxter, Janeen (2011). “Gender”. In Oxford bibliographies online - Sociology (pp. online-online) Oxford, United Kingdom: Oxford University Press.


Corcoran, Jonathan, Higgs, Gary and Higginson, Angela (2011) Fire incidence in metropolitan areas: A comparative study of Brisbane (Australia) and Cardiff (United Kingdom), Applied Geography, 31 1: 65-75.


Conference papers


Parsell, Cameron (2010). “This is not my home, this is council land”: The meaning and aspirations of home for those without one. In: William Randolphp, Terry Burke, Kath Hulse and Vivienne Milligan, Refereed papers presented at the 4th Australasian Housing Researchers Conference. 4th Australasian Housing Researchers Conference (AHRC 2009), Sydney, NSW, Australia, (1-19), 5-7 August 2009.


Reports


Fisher, Steve, Elvin, Ruth, McFallan, Stephen, Memmott, Paul, O’Rourke, Tim, Peter, Sonja, Porter, Rae, Stanley, Owen, Sullivan, Patrick, Tedmanson, Delire and Young, Metta (2011) Desert services that work: Demand responsive approaches to dessert settlements Alice Springs, Australia: Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre; Ninti One Limited

Gary LaFree, Lorraine Mazerolle, Rebecca Denning, Erin Miller, Gentry White and Sue Ming Yang (2011) Modeling the Effectiveness of Counter-Terrorism Strategies in Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand.


Milligan, Vivienne, Phillips, Rhonda, Easthope, Hazel, Lui, Edgar and Memmott, Paul (2011) Urban social housing for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait islanders: Respecting culture and adapting services Melbourne, Australia: AHURI

Phillips, Rhonda and Parsons, Tony (2011) Homelessness in Mareeba: The nature of the problem and what can be done about it: Final report Mareeba, QLD, Australia: Financial Services, Mareeba


