



TOURISM RESEARCH CLUSTER NEWSLETTER APRIL-JUNE 2011

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CBS LAUNCHES TOURISM RESEARCH CLUSTER



Last month Professor Tony Travaglione, Head of the School of Management at Curtin Business School launched Curtin's new Tourism Research Cluster at an event which saw tourism stakeholders ponder the future of shack settlements in Western Australia.

An 80 strong crowd spanning the spheres of academia, government, industry and the community turned out to attend the launch of this new Curtin Business School initiative, the Tourism Research Cluster, which is aimed at delivering innovative research partnerships that ultimately contribute to the advancement of tourism knowledge, practice and understanding in the sector.

This first event of the Cluster addressed the topical issue of shack settlements in Western Australia, recently the subject of a Parliamentary Inquiry, the report of which was released the week after the launch. To view the Parliamentary report [click here](#).



PROFESSOR MARGARET DEERY APPOINTED AS TOURISM ADJUNCT



In a great coup for the Tourism Research Cluster, Professor Margaret Deery recently joined Curtin Business School, School of Management as an Adjunct Tourism Professor. Professor Deery was previously the Director and Professor of the Centre for Hospitality and Tourism Research at Victoria University in Melbourne and Professorial Research Fellow with the Australian Government funded Sustainable Tourism Co-operative Research Centre (STCRC).

As part of her appointment to Curtin, Professor Deery will participate in Tourism Research Cluster activities, bringing over 18 years of experience in tourism, hospitality and human resource management research to the network. Professor Deery plans to visit the Tourism Research Cluster at Curtin later this year and will participate in the planned Health and Wellness Symposium to be held at the University in early 2012.

Professor Deery's research expertise is in the areas of:

- Social impacts of tourism and events
- Volunteer management
- Human resource management issues including employee turnover and work-life balance
- Business event industry development

Professor Deery has over 100 peer reviewed publications and has written for academic and industry audiences. She is the Co-editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management and the Regional Editor for the International Journal of Event and Festival Management. She is on the editorial board of a number of other international journals. She has been the recipient of a large number of funding grants including ARC and industry funded grants.

The Tourism Research Cluster is proud to welcome Professor Deery to the network.

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM PROFESSOR'S BOOK PUBLISHED



Co-Director of [Curtin Sustainable Tourism Centre](#), Professor Jack Carlsen's latest research publication has been released by [CABI](#) in the UK, a book entitled *Island Tourism: Sustainable Perspectives*. The book was co-edited with pre-eminent tourism professor, Richard Butler, from the University of Strathclyde and includes contributions from 24 island tourism researchers around the world.

Islands represent some of the most vulnerable and fragile tourism destinations and experience huge pressures from the combined impacts of economic, social and environmental

change. The insular nature of islands enables researchers to isolate the immediate and enduring effects of tourism development and study them in a level of detail that is not possible in most other tourism destinations. *Island Tourism: Sustainable Perspectives* provides background and research insights on a range of issues impacting the social, cultural, environmental and economic sustainability of island tourism. In addition, the authors describe cases where islands are confronting the challenges of tourism development and are responding in ways that place them on a path towards sustainability.

As the tourism industry continues to develop, this book provides a sustainable perspective, detailing how best to manage these ecologically fragile, socially sensitive and economically vulnerable places. It contains essential information for tourism students, academics, policy makers, planner, researchers, managers and operators within the tourism industry.

CURTIN HEALTH AND WELLNESS TOURISM SYMPOSIUM DATES ANNOUNCED

On Monday 13 February 2012 Curtin University's Tourism Research Cluster will hold a Health and Wellness Tourism Symposium in Western Australia. The Symposium will follow on from the [CAUTHE](#) National Conference to be held in Melbourne 6-9 February 2012.

The Symposium will provide a forum to share research insights on health and wellness as it relates to tourism, discuss sector-related challenges and opportunities and identify future research needs. The Symposium will provide professional development and networking opportunities, foster academic discourse and encourage ongoing joint research activities.

Further details on the Symposium including a program and speaker list will be distributed in the coming months.

DR DIRK REISER UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA VISITS CURTIN BUSINESS SCHOOL

Dr Dirk Reiser from the University of Tasmania visited Curtin University's School of Management for two days in April and gave a guest lecture to Tourism and Event Management students on 'TOURISM DEVELOPMENT, THE DEVELOPING WORLD AND SUSTAINABILITY – IS THERE A MATCH?'



UNIVERSITY OF SA AND CURTIN UNIVERSITY COMPARE NOTES ON TOURISM AND EVENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

In a continued effort to strive for excellence in the delivery of the Tourism and Event Management program at Curtin University, staff recently participated in a benchmarking exercise with the University of South Australia. The meeting formed part of an ongoing exchange between the two Schools of Management, aimed at sharing areas of strength both within the teaching and learning programs, and in the field of research. Both Curtin University and the University of South Australia achieved a three in the recent Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) ratings for their tourism

research output.

Topics discussed at the meeting included the undergraduate and post-graduate degree structure, student recruitment and retention strategies, teaching modes and methods as well as the impact of the ERA initiative on their School's operation and strategies to increase effectiveness for the next round of ERA.

Both parties found the information exchanged both enlightening and useful for application within their own programs and it is likely that the sharing of knowledge will continue.



The University of South Australia team's visit to Western Australia also took in some of the Perth International Arts Festival events, dinner at the Blue Water Grill and culminated with their attendance at the Australian Tourism Awards held at Burswood Entertainment Complex.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: RIGHT TO ROAM - OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACCESS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

As part of an ongoing research partnership with the WA Department of Sport and Recreation, Curtin Researchers, Dr Michael Hughes and Prof. Marian Tye recently completed the first phase of a project reviewing international legislative, policy and management regimes employed to manage public outdoor recreational walking access to land of varying tenure and how it relates to Western Australia. The 'right to roam' is an increasingly important issue in Australia with a growing population and the associated increasing pressure on limited natural resources to provide a range of services and needs. In these circumstances, outdoor recreation access is often given a low priority by land managers and policy makers despite its documented significant social and economic benefits. The issue of recreation access is exacerbated by often complex legislative, policy and management regimes, particularly when access ranges across land management jurisdictions. Subsequent project phases will focus on development and management of walking trails and will form part of an ARC linkage project proposal. This includes a review of recreational walk trail management regimes across Australian states, gathering anecdotal and historical examples of walking trail development and management and expert workshops to identify good practice in walk trail policy and management. This research aims to inform and improve policy and management regarding public recreational access to land in Australia.

The project is an initiative of the Centre for Sport and Recreation Research in partnership with the Curtin Sustainable Tourism Centre at Curtin University. The WA Department of Sport and Recreation co-funded this project as an industry research partner with the 2009 Curtin University internal linkage grant scheme. The WA Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) supported the project, providing data and advice regarding land tenure, management and mapping information. [Click here](#) to access a copy of the report.

COMING EVENTS

2011

July 13	Curtin Researcher Networking Event
August	Research Seminar with Professor Margaret Deery
September 13-16	FACET Conference: Health, Heritage and Nature: The Importance of Reconnecting with our Parks, Yanchep Inn, Yanchep National Park, WA
September	Invitational Seminar via video link with Dr Richard Butler, Emeritus Professor in the Business School of the University of Strathclyde, Scotland
October	Invitational Lecture from Emeritus Professor Brian Osborne, Queens University Canada

2012

February 6-9	CAUTHE Conference hosted by LaTrobe University, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Melbourne, VIC
February 13	Curtin Health and Wellness Tourism Symposium, Curtin University, Bentley Campus, Perth, WA

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