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AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS

National Conference 2016

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SCHEDULE

Schedule

Time	Session
10:00-11:00	Registration, morning tea and networking at Room 360, QUT. Browse the conference bookshop courtesy of QUT Bookshop.
11:00	ASC welcome and Conference opening, Professor Joan Leach
11:10	Australia's Chief Scientist Address: Dr Alan Finkel AO
11:35	The Future of Science Journalism (and why science journalists are the best people to get stuck next to at dinner parties) Producer: Bianca Nogrady Proudly sponsored by COSMOS Magazine
12:30-13:45	Lunch, networking and bookshop browsing including a short lunchtime talk by Robyn Williams followed by a book signing.
13:45	How can we understand and respond to people's rejection of science? Producers: Ruth Neale , Joan Leach Proudly sponsored by the Global Change Institute , the University of Queensland
14:40	The cultural value of science communication Producer: Lisa Bailey , RiAus Proudly sponsored by RiAus , Australia's Science Channel
15:35-16:05	Afternoon tea
16:05	New narratives in Science Communication Producer: Heather Catchpole , Refraction Media Proudly sponsored by Refraction Media & Nova
17:05	Keynote: Christine O'Connell , Associate Director of the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science
17:35	Plenary and day wrapup
18:15-20:15	Evening event at The Cube



Conference hashtags:

Add [#ASC2016](#) and [#scicomm](#) on all your tweets to join the conversation.



Wifi info:

To access the conference wifi please use your eduroam account if you have one, or use the following details:

Network: **Events@QUT**
Password: **Qwhyfi01**

AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS

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SESSIONS

The Future of Science Journalism (and why science journalists are the best people to get stuck next to at dinner parties)

This plenary proudly sponsored by:

THE SCIENCE OF EVERYTHING

COSMOS

Time

11.35am

Producer / Chair

[Bianca Nogrady, freelance science journalist, broadcaster and author and VP of the Australian Science Communicators](#)

Speakers

[George Musser, contributing editor at Scientific American](#)

[Elizabeth Finkel, science journalist and Editor-in-Chief of Cosmos Magazine](#)

[Genelle Weule, editor of ABC Science Online](#)

Abstract

The landscape of science journalism is changing. From the heyday when every newspaper had a science editor, health editor, environment editor and technology editor, the numbers of dedicated in-house STEM/health journalists in the mainstream media is dwindling. At the same time, traditional advertising-funded print media is on the ropes and no one quite knows if it will ever get off them.

But science journalism is far from dead; it's alive and well, working the online/digital media night shift and waiting for its chance to reclaim its rightful place as the most interesting part of the newspaper you'll ever read. Why? Because more than ever, this world needs good science journalism and because, well, face it ... science journalists are the most interesting people you'll ever get stuck next to at a dinner party.

How can we understand and respond to people's rejection of science?

This plenary proudly sponsored by:



Time

1:30pm

Producers

[Ruth Neale, SE-QLD Australian Science Communicators President](#)

[Joan Leach, President, National Australian Science Communicators and Director, Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science](#)

Chair

[Joan Leach, President, National Australian Science Communicators and Director, Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science](#)

Speakers

[Associate Professor Kelly Fielding, Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland](#)

[Mr John Cook, Global Change Institute, The University of Queensland](#)

[Mr Bob Bruce, President of the Queensland Skeptics Association Inc](#)

[Professor Bernard Schiele, Researcher at the Centre for Interuniversity Research on Science and Technology \(CIRST\), and Professor Communications of Université du Québec à Montréal \(UQAM\)](#)

Abstract

Some of the most burning questions in science communication arise when science is outright rejected—Is this a problem? What is an appropriate response? Hear from experts facing the reality of science skepticism. In Ted-talk style – Kelly Fielding presents her research exploring some of the social and psychological grounds for rejecting science. John Cook, creator of the skeptical science website and author of *Climate Change Denial: Heads in the Sand* talks about what he has learned and what needs to happen now.

After the Ted-style talks the speakers are joined by Bob Bruce and Bernard Schiele, for a Q&A session with the audience.

The cultural value of science communication

This plenary proudly sponsored by:



Time

2:25pm

Producer / Chair

[Lisa Bailey, Program Manager, RiAus](#)

Speakers

[David Throsby, Distinguished Professor of Economics, Macquarie University](#)

[Julian Meyrick, Professor of Creative Arts, Laboratory Adelaide](#)

[Tully Barnett, Research Fellow of Creative Arts, Laboratory Adelaide](#)

Abstract

Science communication is a cultural good or service in that it tries to convey meaning or message through it's content, and requires creativity in it's production. Viewed in this way, there is much we can learn from the extensive work done in cultural studies on measuring value of the creative industries and cultural organisations and outputs. While there has been a trend in recent years to focus on the economic impact of the cultural sector to the macro-economy, this misses other dimensions of value that communities place on cultural activities.

"Laboratory Adelaide: The Value of Culture" ARC funded project, from Flinders University, is trying to address this, where for the first time, researchers are developing a set of tools that events and organisations can use to assess the total cultural value of South Australia's arts calendar and its contribution to the life of the State beyond the economic dollar. The project is working with organisations like the Adelaide Festival and the State Library of South Australia. This session will cover the rationale and methodologies used.

New narratives in Science Communication

This plenary proudly sponsored by:



Time

3:50pm

Producer / Chair

[Heather Catchpole, Refraction Media](#)

Speakers

[Allan Bishop, Software Engineer, The Cube QUT](#)

[Eugenie Lee, Artist, 2015 Synapse resident artist](#)

[Kylie Walker, Director, Communications and Outreach, Australian Academy of Science](#)

[Mischa Andrews, Digital Producer, Australian Academy of Science](#)

[Skye Doherty, Journalism academic, School of Communication and Arts at the University of Queensland](#)

Abstract

In a relatively short time, science communication has transformed from an informed, traditional communicator talking from a position of knowledge (scientist giving a public lecture or trained journalist/broadcaster) to one in which informal, rapid-pace information is delivered through new mediums, from social media to YouTube. In addition, a variety of people from many walks of life are communicating science – including artists, technologists, amateur bloggers and more. So, what is the narrative of 'science' in this new science communication? How do we judge quality, and soundness of information? Is it still science communication? Join us to run through novel case studies with speakers who have developed a new narrative without following a deficit model of communication from a 'top-down' model, including the recently awarded "Careers with Code".

AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS

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SPEAKERS

Australia's Chief Scientist Dr Alan Finkel AO

Opening address: 11:10 [Conference schedule.](#)

Dr Finkel commenced as Australia's Chief Scientist on 25 January 2016. He is Australia's eighth Chief Scientist.

Dr Finkel has an extensive science background as an entrepreneur, engineer, neuroscientist and educator.

Prior to becoming Chief Scientist, he was the Chancellor of Monash University and President of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering (ATSE).

Dr Finkel was awarded his PhD in electrical engineering from Monash University and worked as a postdoctoral research fellow in neuroscience at the Australian National University.

In 1983 he founded Axon Instruments, a California-based, ASX-listed company that made precision scientific instruments used at pharmaceutical companies and universities for the discovery of new medicines. After Axon was sold in 2004, Dr Finkel became a director of the acquiring company, NASDAQ-listed Molecular Devices.

In 2006, he returned to Australia and undertook a wide range of activities. He led the amalgamation that formed the Florey Neuroscience Institutes; he became Chair of the Australian Centre of Excellence for All-Sky Astrophysics (CAASTRO) and was a director of the ASX-listed diagnostics company Cogstate Limited. He was Executive Chair of the educational software company Stile Education, Chair of Manhattan Investment Group, Chief Technology Officer of Better Place Australia and Chair of Speedpanel Australia.

Committed to science education, Dr Finkel co-founded Cosmos Magazine, which in addition to magazine publishing operates a secondary schools science education program. At ATSE, he led the development and implementation of the STELR program for secondary school science, which has been adopted in nearly 500 Australian schools. Dr Finkel also established the Australian Course in Advanced Neuroscience to train early career neuroscientists.

Allan Bishop

Session: 16:05 [New narratives in Science Communication](#)

Allan Bishop is a Software Engineer working in The Cube studio at QUT. The Cube studio team produces educational interactive applications for display in The Cube — one of the world's largest digital and interactive learning display spaces.

Most recently The Cube team released Dino Zoo, a life-sized, scientifically accurate portrayal of dinosaurs. This follows up their previous project, Chem World, which provides a hands-on experience of chemistry and its fundamentals.

Prior to working at QUT, Allan worked for the Queensland Department of Education and Training. In this role he developed web based eLearning applications for use by teachers and students in Queensland state schools.

See also: [Talking science and technology with Allan Bishop](#)

Bernard Schiele

Session: 13:45 [How can we understand and respond to people's rejection of science?](#)

Professor of Communications, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM); Researcher, Centre interuniversitaire de recherche sur la science et la technologie (CIRST) (Montréal, QC)

Bernard Schiele is a Researcher at the Centre interuniversitaire de recherche sur la science et la technologie (CIRST), and Professor of Communications at the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM).

Professor Schiele frequently teaches and lectures in North America, Europe, and Asia. He has been working for a number of years on the socio-dissemination of science and technology. He played a significant role in the creation of the master's program in museology at UQAM as well as the development of an international PhD in museology in partnership with the Université d'Avignon et des Pays de Vaucluse (UAPV). Professor Schiele is a member of several national and international committees and is a regular consultant on scientific culture matters to governmental bodies and public organizations. He is a founding and current member of the scientific committee of the International Network on Public Communication of Science and Technology (PCST). He has chaired the International Scientific Advisory Committee for the China Science and Technology Museum in Beijing and the scientific committee for the 2012 International Conference on Science Communication in Nancy, France.

In 2012, Professor Schiele was recognized with the Annual International Achievement Award from the International Council of Museums Canada (ICOM).

Find out more about Professor Schiele in [this interview with the ASC](#).



Bianca Nogrady

Session: 11:35 [The Future of Science Journalism \(and why science journalists are the best people to get stuck next to at dinner parties\)](#)

Bianca is a freelance science journalist, broadcaster and author, who is yet to meet a piece of research she doesn't find fascinating. In more than a decade of freelance reporting, she has written for publications and websites including *Scientific American*, *Nature*, *Australian Geographic*, *Ecos*, *Medicine Today*, *Frontline Medical News*, *BBC Future*, *ABC Science* and *ABC Health and Wellbeing*.

She is also author of [The End: The Human Experience Of Death](#), editor of [The Best Australian Science Writing 2015 anthology](#), and co-author of [The Sixth Wave: How To Succeed In A Resource-Limited World](#).

Bianca is Vice President of the Australian Science Communicators.

Twitter: [@biancanogrady](#)

Bob Bruce

Session: 13:45 [How can we understand and respond to people's rejection of science?](#)

Bob Bruce is a retired industrial engineer who has worked widely in government and private enterprise. He currently works as an IT Orange Card with Education Qld. He holds a double major in Psychology. He has been President of the [Queensland Skeptics Association Inc](#) since the turn of the century. Bob was also 'the Skeptic' on 4BC's Paranormal Panel for over five years. His philosophy is based on the rules of science and believes that science should step beyond its advisory capacity and assume a more determinate role in decision making.

See also: [Interview with Bob Bruce](#)

Christine O'Connell

Keynote address: 17:05 [Conference schedule.](#)

Dr. Christine O'Connell is the Associate Director of the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science and a faculty member in the School of Journalism at Stony Brook University. As a scientist with an extensive interdisciplinary background in policy, outreach and communication, she brings a unique perspective to the Alda Center. She received her Ph.D. in Marine and Atmospheric Sciences at Stony Brook University, and her B.S. in Natural Resources from Cornell University. Christine teaches and develops curriculum for graduate and undergraduate courses in science communication and speaks at national and international workshops for the Alda Center. She was part of the original group of graduate student scientists trained by Alan Alda in improvisation back in 2009, and manages The Flame Challenge, an international contest that asks scientists to communicate complex science in ways that would interest and enlighten an 11-year-old.

Christine has organized collaborations across academia, government, and the community – including an initiative between the humanities and sciences at Stony Brook called The Coastlines Initiative. Prior to her time at Stony Brook, Christine worked in the fields of environmental advocacy, community organizing, and public policy. She has been involved with organizing national environmental and political campaigns, and teaching community groups in New York City how to refine their message to talk to politicians, raise money, and organize their communities. She is experienced in scientific outreach, government relations, coalition building, campaign planning, social marketing, coaching, and facilitation. Christine's scientific research involves the connections between science and society, with a focus on marine spatial planning, ecosystem-based management, waste management, conservation planning, and ecosystem services.

Find out more about Christine in [this interview with the ASC.](#)

David Throsby

Session: 14:40 [The cultural value of science communication](#)

David Throsby is Distinguished Professor of Economics at Macquarie University in Sydney.. He holds a Master's degree from the University of Sydney and a PhD from the London School of Economics. He is internationally recognised for his research and writing on the economics of art and culture. His current research interests include the economic circumstances of creative artists, culture in sustainable economic development, heritage economics, the creative industries, and the relationships between economic and cultural policy. His recent books include *Economics and Culture* (2001), which has been translated into eight languages, and *The Economics of Cultural Policy* (2010), both published by Cambridge University Press.

Elizabeth Finkel

Session: 11:35 [The Future of Science Journalism \(and why science journalists are the best people to get stuck next to at dinner parties\)](#)

Elizabeth Finkel is a one-time biochemist who took up science journalism. Now the editor-in-chief of *Cosmos Magazine*, her work has appeared in publications ranging from the US journal, *Science* to *The Age* as well as on ABC radio's *Science Show*. She is the author of *Stem Cells: Controversy on the Frontiers of Science*, which won a Queensland Premier's Literary Award in 2005; and of *The Genome Generation* published in 2012. Her work for *Cosmos Magazine* has snapped up four Publishers Australia Excellence Awards. In 2011 she was named the National Press Club's Higher Education Journalist of the Year. And in 2013 her *Cosmos Magazine* story "Fields of Plenty" won the Crawford Prize for agricultural journalism. In the year 2015, Elizabeth won the Department of Industry and Science Eureka Prize for Science Journalism for her article "[A Statin a day](#)" – the first print article to win the award in 11 years, a triumph for long-form journalism.

Eugenie Lee

Session: 16:05 [New narratives in Science Communication](#)

Eugenie Lee is an emerging interdisciplinary artist with a focus on medical science and her own chronic pain disease. Her works convey the bio-psycho-social experiences of pain-related illness through visual metaphor.

Lee communicates her narratives through sculptures, installations and paintings. Her works explore both the subjective experience of patients and the impersonal clinical methodologies of modern science. Fascinated by the complexities of chronic pain, the artist interlaces imaginative psychodramas with the latest medical research into formats that can be grasped and shared by others.

Over the past few years Lee has been involved in a number of innovative collaborative projects, working with some of the world's leading scientific pain researchers. These explorations not only broaden Lee's search for ways to better promote understanding of this silent yet surprisingly widespread illness, but also expand upon an area of medicine that science itself is still learning to fathom – the workings of the human brain and mind.

See also: [Communicating pain science through art with Eugenie Lee](#)

Web: www.eugenielee.com, Twitter: [@lee_eugenie](#), Instagram: [eugenie_lee_artist](#)

Facebook: [Eugenie Lee](#), Sydney college of the Arts, University of Sydney

Eugenie would like to thank her sponsors, including: [Synapse Residency at Australian Network for Art and Technology](#), [AccessibleArts](#), [Body In Mind at University of South Australia](#), [Neuroscience Research Australia](#), and [Charles Perkins Centre, University of Sydney](#)

Genelle Weule

Session: 11:35 [The Future of Science Journalism \(and why science journalists are the best people to get stuck next to at dinner parties\)](#)

Genelle Weule is a journalist, editor and producer at *ABC Science*. She has worked in print and online media for over 18 years including *The Eye*, *Choice*, *Medical Observer* and *ABC Health & Wellbeing*. Over this time she has won and been nominated for several awards for online projects she has produced. Before becoming a journalist she was an occupational therapist.

George Musser

Session: 11:35 [The Future of Science Journalism \(and why science journalists are the best people to get stuck next to at dinner parties\)](#)

George Musser is a science writer and editor focusing on space science and fundamental physics. He is a contributing editor at *Scientific American* magazine, a Knight Science Journalism Fellow at MIT for 2014–2015, and the author of *Spooky Action at a Distance* (2015) and *The Complete Idiot's Guide to String Theory* (2008). He has won numerous awards for his writing, including the 2011 Science Writing Award from the American Institute of Physics and 2010 Jonathan Eberhart Planetary Sciences Journalism Award from the American Astronomical Society. Musser was the editor of the *Scientific American* single-topic issue "Crossroads for Planet Earth" (Sept. 2005), which was a National Magazine Award finalist.

Heather Catchpole

Session: 16:05 [New narratives in Science Communication](#)

As Co-founder and Head of Content at [Refraction Media](#), Heather oversees production and runs a team of passionate science communicators, designers, and developers. She created *Careers with Code*, supported by Google and mailed to 175,000 Australian high school students, the [sciencemeetsbusiness.com.au](#) website and has created custom publications for Australia's Chief Scientist, the Australian Academy of Science, ANSTO, the Co-operative Research Centres Association, University of Melbourne and many more. She is an award-winning editor, journalist and author, and prior to founding *Refraction Media* was the Managing Editor of *COSMOS*, Australia's leading popular science magazine. Heather's passions lie in making STEM careers appealing to a generation of future creatives and continuing to demonstrate the value of science to the broader population through quality writing, animation, audio and film. *Refraction Media* was awarded Small Publisher of the Year by Publish Australia in 2015.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/heathercatchpole>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/hcatchpole>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/refractionmedia.com.au>

Joan Leach

Session: 13:45 [How can we understand and respond to people's rejection of science?](#)

Dr Joan Leach completed a BSc honours (Biology) and BA honours (English Literature) at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (USA) and a PhD (Rhetoric and History and Philosophy of Science) at the University of Pittsburgh (USA). Her research areas are the rhetoric of science, technology and medicine (argumentation practices in STEM disciplines), social epistemology (how knowledge is disseminated in society), and science communication. She lectured at the Science Communication Group at Imperial College, London, from 1996-2001 and convened the Science Communication Program at the University of Queensland from 2004-2015. She begins as Director of the Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science in January 2016. She was Executive Editor of the international journal *Social Epistemology* from 1998-2011 and serves on the editorial boards of 8 international journals.

After moving to Australia in 2004, she was awarded the prestigious UQ Research Excellence Award (2005), was elected President of Australian Science Communicators (2013) and Chair of the National Committee for History and Philosophy of Science (2014). She took two career breaks for the birth of her children in 2005 and 2010. She has contributed to the national policy strategy for science communication, *Inspiring Australia*, which has guided public engagement with the STEM disciplines. She supervises 6 PhD students and one postdoctoral fellow. She is currently the recipient of ARC Discovery funding for her project on the role of science popularisation in Australia since 1960 and has completed an ARC linkage (2011-2013) that funded an APAI student.

John Cook

Session: 13:45 [How can we understand and respond to people's rejection of science?](#)

John Cook is the Climate Communication Fellow for the Global Change Institute at The University of Queensland. He created the website SkepticalScience.com, which won the 2011 Australian Museum Eureka Prize for the Advancement of Climate Change Knowledge.

John co-authored the college textbook [Climate Change Science: A Modern Synthesis](#) and the book [Climate Change Denial: Heads in the Sand](#). His writing was included in [The Best Australian Science Writing 2014](#), a collection of Australia's finest science writing of the year.

In 2013, he published [a paper analysing the scientific consensus on climate change](#) that gained worldwide media attention, being tweeted by President Barack Obama. The paper was awarded [the best paper of 2013](#) published in *Environmental Research Letters* and is the most downloaded paper in the 80+ journals published by the [Institute of Physics](#).

Twitter: [@skepticscience](https://twitter.com/skepticscience)

See also: [Interview with John Cook](#)



Julian Meyrick

Session: 14:40 [The cultural value of science communication](#)

Professor Julian Meyrick is Strategic Professor of Creative Arts at Flinders University in South Australia. He is a theatre historian and a cultural policy analyst, as well as an award-winning theatre director. Previously he was Associate Director and Literary Advisor at Melbourne Theatre Company, where he was responsible for establishing Hard Lines, a new play development programme. Professor Meyrick has published widely on the Australian theatre, performance theory and practice, contemporary dramaturgy, and cultural policy. He is currently Chief Investigator on two ARC Linkage Projects: AusStage and Laboratory Adelaide: The Value of Culture. Professor Meyrick is Artistic Counsel for the State Theatre Company of South Australia.

Kali Madden

Conference Director

Email: asc2016@asc.asn.au

Kali has been immersed in all things sci tech for some fifteen years or more, having had a blessed journey through industry IT, collaborative scientific research centres and not for profit industry associations.

She has been fortunate to have a variety of stimulating roles that involve gathering people together to play, create, learn and grow as well as a strong focus on national projects, online collaboration, communication and education tools.

A sampling of projects include setting up a world class research facility; developing a benchmark national outreach program for collaborative research; creating and managing online communities, websites and digital spaces for teaching, training and professional development; and directing the last four transnational convergences for all those who make science accessible (ASC2010, ASC2012, ASC2014, ASC2016).

Mostly she is grateful for the opportunity for continual learning in all things!



Kelly Fielding

Session: 13:45 [How can we understand and respond to people's rejection of science?](#)

Kelly Fielding is a Vice Chancellor's research and teaching fellow at The University of Queensland. Her broad research focus is understanding environmental decision-making and how to communicate to increase knowledge and change attitudes and behaviour.

Her research has identified ways to communicate to increase domestic water conservation, public place recycling, acceptance of recycled water and, more broadly, actions to reduce individual environmental impact. She is currently conducting research that seeks to understand the roots of rejection of science and how we might communicate to overcome these. She takes an interdisciplinary approach to her research and has worked with local council, State Government, and catchment management authorities to undertake this research.

See also: [Interview with Kelly Fielding](#)

Kylie Walker

Session: 16:05 [New narratives in Science Communication](#)

Kylie Walker is Director of Communications and Outreach at the Australian Academy of Science, in which role she has the pleasure of working with Australia's most accomplished research scientists to raise the national media profile of science, stage public events and coordinate public education initiatives. Over her 20 year career Kylie has covered science and medicine from the federal press gallery, and coordinated media and political advocacy strategies to propel national science and medicine advocacy groups to prominence and influence. She's created popular and influential public education programs and PR campaigns, won government and philanthropic support for research infrastructure and public awareness projects, and influenced federal health and social justice policy. She's a founding member of the National Science Sector Group, has chaired National Science Week in the ACT, and is a proud member of the board of the ACT Domestic Violence Crisis Service.

Twitter (AAS): [Science Academy](#)

Twitter (Nova): [Novacurious](#)

See also: [Our chat with Kylie Walker](#)



Lisa Bailey

Session: 14:40 [The cultural value of science communication](#)

[Lisa Bailey](#) is Program Manager at RiAus, Australia's Science Channel. Starting out in research she obtained her PhD in biochemistry at the University of Adelaide. She has worked as a science communicator at The University of Adelaide, with Bridge8 and with the Royal Institution of Great Britain. In 2009 she joined the brand new RiAus in Adelaide, where she now manages a varied science engagement program of online content, events and art exhibitions. Lisa was the the Inspiring Australia Manager for South Australia 2013-14.

Mischa Andrews

Session: 16:05 [New narratives in Science Communication](#)

Mischa Andrews is a Digital Producer at the Australian Academy of Science, focusing on the Academy's science outreach website, Nova. Her work includes the design and development of infographics, interactive diagrams, animations and other multimedia to present scientific concepts in innovative ways. She draws on her background in web design, programming, user research and digital communications, and has a Bachelor of Science (Computer Science and Psychology), Bachelor of Arts (Philosophy), and diploma of game development (Software Development). Mischa is an avid consumer of popular science books and documentaries, and believes that the best pieces of science communication engage everyone regardless of age, expertise or learning preferences.

Robyn Williams

Lunchtime talk followed by a book signing.

Science journalist and broadcaster Robyn Williams presents Radio National's The Science Show and Ockham's Razor.

Although he graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in England, Robyn admits to spending as much time acting as studying. Early in his career he made guest appearances in The Goodies, Monty Python's Flying Circus and Doctor Who, and stood in for Tom Jones for four months in his TV series.

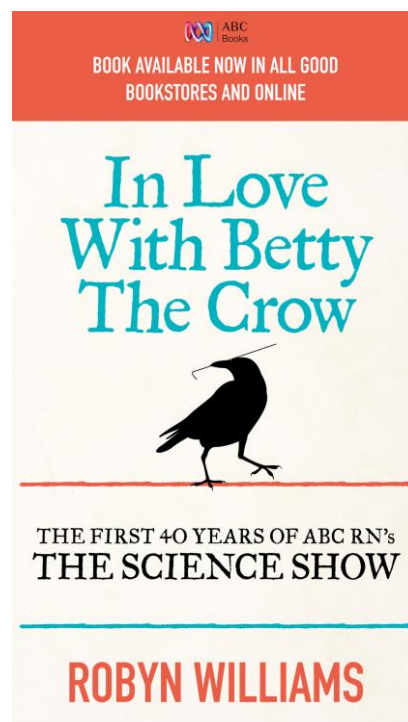
He has conducted countless interviews with scientists on ABC TV on programs such as Quantum and Catalyst, narrated the Nature of Australia series and appeared in World Safari with David Attenborough.

Outside the ABC, Robyn has served in various capacities, including president of the Australian Museum Trust, chairman of the Commission for the Future, and president of the Australian Science Communicators. In 1987, he was proclaimed a National Living Treasure.

In 1993, Robyn was the first journalist elected as a Fellow Member of the Australian Academy of Science. He was appointed AM in the 1988 Australian Bicentenary honours list and in the same year received honorary doctorates in science from the University of Sydney and Macquarie and Deakin Universities. The ANU awarded him a doctorate of law, and he is a visiting professor at the University of NSW and an adjunct professor at the University of Queensland.

A Reuters fellowship at Oxford University allowed him time to write his autobiography, And Now for Something Completely Different. He was a visiting fellow at Balliol College Oxford in 1995-96.

Robyn has written more than 10 books, the latest being a novel, In Love With Betty The Crow: the first 40 years of RN's The Science Show.



Ruth Neale

Session: 13:45 [How can we understand and respond to people's rejection of science?](#)

[Ruth Neale](#) completed a Masters in Chemistry (MChem) and Honours degree in Medicinal and Biological Chemistry from the University of Edinburgh in 2011. Ruth has four years' experience working in marketing and communications for professional and not-for profit scientific organisations in Australia and the UK. She has worked at the Royal Society of Chemistry (UK) as a science executive in the Life Sciences team. After moving to Australia in 2013 Ruth has led marketing campaigns, communications and media at The University of Queensland. Since 2015, Ruth has worked for the [Community for Open Antimicrobial Drug Discovery \(CO-ADD\)](#) a not-for profit antibiotic drug discovery project. Ruth is the South-East Queensland Australian Science Communicators President.

Twitter: [@ruthneale](#)

Skye Doherty

Session: 16:05 [New narratives in Science Communication](#)

Skye Doherty is a journalism academic and former practitioner. Her research straddles journalism and interaction design, with the aim of showing how one can help the other innovate. Her PhD project, the NewsCube, won an industry grant for journalism innovation. She teaches digital journalism and journalism design at the School of Communication and Arts at the University of Queensland.

Twitter: [@skyedoherty](#)

Web: [skyedoherty.com](#)

Tully Barnett

Session: 14:40 [The cultural value of science communication](#)

Dr Tully Barnett is a Research Fellow in the School of Humanities and Creative Arts at Flinders University in South Australia where she works where she works on the ARC- funded Linkage project Laboratory Adelaide: the Value of Culture developing methodologies for the reporting of cultural value. She is Associate Director for the Australasian Consortium of Humanities Research Centres and on the Executive Board of the Australasian Association of Digital Humanities. Dr Barnett also conducts research around the future of reading, book digitization projects and e-reading devices.