

5 – 7 February 2020
Deakin Downton,
Downtown, Tower 2, Level 12,
727 Collins St, Melbourne



Development Studies: Research, Debates & Trajectories Conference

The Development Studies Association of Australia (DSAA) was officially registered in March 2019, to represent Development Studies researchers, scholars and practitioners engaged in research, teaching and training across Australia. This inaugural conference seeks to re-examine debates in light of the contested nature of Development Studies, explore trajectories in the field in light of the formation of the association, and consider new research from around Australia and beyond.

What is Development Studies? What are the emerging directions, trends, trajectories? What is its contemporary relevance in light ongoing decolonisation, funding cuts and the rise of the global south? Is Development Studies even still relevant, or should part of our purpose be to make ourselves, our courses and even our agencies redundant? How does Development Studies relate to Indigenous and community development? Where are the boundaries and relationships with anthropology, politics, economics, geography, and so on? Is there a unique contribution for Australia to make to Development Studies? This conference will explore these big questions about the field as a whole, as well as profiling the diverse work of individual researchers and teams doing new things across the field.

What we do know is that Development Studies is a diverse, interdisciplinary field that takes ‘development’ as its central concern. It addresses processes of social, cultural, ecological, economic and political change, and also the people, organisations, practices and knowledges that engage in related processes. It focuses not only on contemporary human well-being, but also animals, the environment and intergenerational concerns.

- Papers/panels/roundtables/practice workshops are welcome across any aspect of Development Studies, including (but not limited to)
- Economics of development
- Socio-economic development
- Development cooperation
- Political economy and social change
- Poverty, inclusivity and well-being
- Gender and development, intersectionality
- Humanitarian disasters, conflict and peacebuilding
- Rural development / urban development
- Labour and migration
- Law and human rights
- Environment /environmental sustainability
- Anthropocentrism
- Indigenous development, community development and the shift to global development
- Information, communication, education for development
- The role of universities in Global Development
- Development Studies teaching and pedagogy, including decolonising the curriculum.

Separate PhD candidate; early career researcher (ECR) half-day day workshops precede the conference on 5 February, offering opportunities to workshop papers or grant applications, and focus on strategic research planning and career pathways.

For more information email: conference@developmentstudies.asn.au

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Keynote Speakers



Uma Kothari

Uma Kothari is Professor of Migration and Postcolonial Studies in the Global Development Institute, University of Manchester. She is the co-founder of the Manchester Migration Lab and is currently Vice-Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Melbourne. Her current work includes research on humanitarianism, development and solidarity, mobilities and borders and, cultural geographies of seafarers. She has published numerous articles and her books include *Participation: the new tyranny?*, *Development Theory and Practice: critical perspectives*, and *A Radical History of Development Studies*. She is the principal investigator on an ESRC funded project on Environmental Change and Everyday Lives and on an Australian Research Council Discovery Project on Everyday Lives in Small Island States. She is the Vice President of the European Association of Development Institutes and is on the advisory board of In Place of War, a support system for community artistic, creative and cultural organisations in places of conflict. She is a Fellow of the UK Academy of Social Sciences and was conferred the Royal Geographical Society's Busk Medal for her contributions to research on global development.



**Yvonne Te Ruki-Rangi-O-Tangaroa
Underhill-Sem**

Yvonne Te Ruki-Rangi-O-Tangaroa Underhill-Sem is an Associate Professor of Gender and Development at The University of Auckland, feminist geographer of Cook Island/New Zealand heritage. She was the Director of Development Studies at The University of Auckland (2008-2014), and Director, New Zealand Institute for Pacific Research (2017-2018). She is currently co-chair of the Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development Advisory Research Group and a member of the International Geography Union's Gender and Geography Commission. She is involved in the governance of Oxfam in the Pacific, a former board member of Oxfam NZ, and was co-chair of Oxfam NZ 2015-2018. One of her key current research projects is working towards a feminist post-colonial development of the Pacific.