

CHASS Newsletter May 2017

In this issue: Message from the Patron of the CHASS Australia Prizes, CHASS ECR event in August, HASS Your Say: 'Smellbourne' by Dr Ben O'Mara

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2017 CHASS
Australia Prizes

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Message from Emeritus Professor Steven Schwartz AM, the Patron of our annual Australia Prizes

[Nominations are open for the 2017 CHASS Australia Prizes.](#) Now in their fourth year, the Australia Prizes honour distinguished achievements by Australians working, studying, or training in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS) sectors, including academics, practitioners, philanthropists, policy makers, and students.

You may wonder why CHASS seeks to honour people who are performing well and, in some cases, may already be famous. The answer is simple. The Australia Prizes are not just a way of

rewarding achievement, they are also CHASS's way of reminding the public, both here in Australia and internationally, of the value and importance of the humanities, arts and social sciences. The prizes help to promote nominated books, performers and leaders while the prize giving ceremony is a chance to have fun, make contacts, learn about new work, and make deals.

There are Australia prizes for students as well as professionals, and leadership is recognised in its own prize. The prizes will be awarded at a gala event on 10 October in Melbourne. There will certainly be a terrific party, but more importantly, there will be an opportunity to celebrate, promote and recognise the work of artists, humanists and social scientists—those indispensable people who help us to understand ourselves and our place in the universe.

CHASS Early Career Researcher event, August 2017, Melbourne

CHASS is organising an event for Early Career Researchers (ECRs) in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences in Australia. The proposed theme is **HASS Careers 'Where do you want to go and how will you get there'** and topics for discussion will include *Employment, Applying for Funding, Publishing, and Engagement*.

This half-day event will present participants with the opportunity to meet representatives and leading academics from the HASS sector, explore current issues, and participate in discussions around best practice related to research outcomes.

We would like to ensure this event meets current needs as closely as possible for ECRs. To help us with our planning, please [complete this quick survey](#) and share your comments with us.

Registrations will open shortly, watch this space for more.

HASS Your Say: What do common perceptions of smell say about living in Melbourne? And do experiences of smell match Melbourne's reputation as the world's most liveable city?

Dr Ben O'Mara, writer and bicycle rider, is sniffing out what Melbourne means to its residents through a study of their sense of smell.

Since winning the 'Speed Dating for Sociology Researchers' competition at the 2016 TASA Successful Cities Conference with my pitch for 'Smellbourne', a project that explores how the smells of Melbourne have changed over time, I have been using my improved spruiking skills to help conduct my research.

Interest in my project is growing. Promoting my research to local libraries and councils has proven effective, and they have become important sources of advice, historical records and potential participants: [Smellbourne - writer 'nose' Melbourne is worth every scent.](#)

Drawing on Sliwa and Riach's [method for exploring people's lived, sensually embodied](#)

[experience of transition](#) to conduct my qualitative research, I plan on translating the findings into a narrative non-fiction book that is a kind of immersive history on social change in Melbourne. I hope that my research will help create a different perspective of Melbourne – one that may not be present in liveability surveys, and that re-creates, through smell perception, stories of how different people have experienced the social, political and environmental challenges of our times.

[Click here for more information](#) and to learn more about Smellbourne.

Image credit: Flinders Street Station, Melbourne (2000), by Debra McFadzean, is from the State Library of Victoria (copyright holder)



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2017 CHASS Australia
Book Prize

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A promotional graphic for the 2017 CHASS Australia Book Prize. On the left, there is a stack of three books with green, blue, and brown covers. To the right, the text 'APPLY NOW!' is written in large, bold, black letters. Below that, '2017 CHASS Australia Book Prize' is written in a smaller, black serif font. In the top right corner, the CHASS Australia Prizes logo is displayed, consisting of the text 'CHASS Australia Prizes' and a circular graphic of green dots. At the bottom, there are three social media icons: a Facebook icon followed by '/CHASSAustralia', a Twitter icon followed by '@CHASS_Aus', and a hand cursor icon followed by 'chass.org.au'.

This Prize is for a non-fiction book/e-book in any HASS area published between 1 January and 31 December 2016. Books should be by a single author or, at most, two authors. Edited collections are not eligible. Books are not required to deal solely with Australian topics. For example, biographies of non-Australians and books about events that took place outside of Australia are acceptable.



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**2017 CHASS Australia
Distinctive Work Prize**

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This Prize is for a performance, exhibition, research project or a specific advance in policy development in any HASS field. Performances or exhibitions must have been open to the public between 1 January and 31 December 2016. Policy work and research may have commenced earlier, but must have been completed during 2016. Nominees should provide sufficient evidence to allow judges to assess the impact of the nominated work. Performances, exhibitions or policy work may have taken place abroad.



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**2017 CHASS Australia
Future Leader Prize**

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This Prize is for an early career professional in any HASS discipline. It recognises the nominee's professional achievements and contribution to the advancement of the HASS sector. Nominees must be 30 years or under as at 31 December 2016. Nominators should provide a copy of their updated CV outlining their professional history and showing professional achievements and contribution in their functional/specialist area, and sufficient evidence to allow judges to assess their leadership. The work may have taken place abroad.



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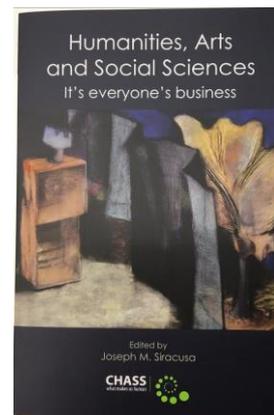
2017 CHASS Australia Student Prize

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This Prize is for a student essay, project, performance or exhibition that best exemplifies the contribution of HASS to our understanding of our nation and us. The nominated work must have been completed between 1 January and 31 December 2016. Students enrolled at any level in any Australian educational institution are eligible. Nominators should provide sufficient evidence to allow judges to assess their work.

CHASS Book - Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences *It's everyone's business*

Published by Routledge with essays collated and edited by CHASS President Professor Joseph M. Siracusa, [Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences: It's everyone's business](#) is a must-read. In producing this pocket book featuring a range of essays by prominent Australian and international researchers, CHASS's goal is to illustrate the diverse ways in which the humanities, arts and social sciences provide essential services to all citizens in all walks of life.



The book was officially launched by our distinguished dinner speaker Robyn Archer AO at the 2016 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner in October 2016 in Melbourne. Robyn has also written the book's Foreword. We have distributed over 1500 copies nationally since the launch. If you haven't received a copy, [please download it here](#).

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If you are submitting your 2017 CHASS Australia Prizes nomination via post, please send it to: CHASS, Building 37/Level 5, RMIT University City Campus, 411 Swanston Street, VIC 3000

All other correspondence should be sent to: CHASS, PO Box 12226, Franklin St Post Shop, A'Beckett Street, VIC 8006

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