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A U S T R A L I A N S T U D I E S B U L L E T I N

Welcome to the Australian Studies Research Network

Bulletin March 2025

Profile - Associate Professor Yu Tao



Yu Tao is an Associate Professor in Asian Studies at the University of Western Australia, where he leads the Chinese Studies program and coordinates the honours training within the School of Social Sciences. Trained in political science and sociology at Peking, Cambridge, and Oxford, Yu's research explores how globalised forms of Chineseness are expressed and perceived across diverse contexts—including religion, migration, education, and heritage, especially in Australia. Yu currently co-leads the *Two Centuries of Chinese Heritage in Western Australia* project, which investigates the historical presence, cultural contributions, and evolving identities of Chinese communities in the state, fostering deeper public understanding of Australia's multicultural past and present. A recipient of multiple teaching awards, including a national Citation for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning, Yu also contributes to

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Some of Yu Tao's recent publications in Australian Studies (all in open access) include:

- Tao, Y. (2025). Mismatch and Detachment: Chinese International Students' Campus Electoral Participation in an Australian University. *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1111/apv.12437>
- Tan, X., & Tao, Y. (2024). COVID-19, Perceived Foreign Interference, and Anti-Chinese Sentiment: Evidence from Concurrent Survey Experiments in Australia and the United States. *Journal of Intercultural Studies*, 45(3), 433-451. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07256868.2024.2307956>
- Tao, Y., Smith, B., Mosmann, P., Poon, K., & Walker, B. (2023). Searching for Moon Chow: A Joint Journey. *Life Writing*, 20(1), 217-236. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14484528.2022.2120593>

Events - Western Australia

2025 State Heritage Conference

12th-13th May 2025, The Esplanade Hotel

The 2025 State Heritage Conference, hosted by the Heritage Council of Western Australia, the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Committee and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, will take place at The Esplanade Hotel, adjacent to Fremantle's historic West End precinct. The conference theme, The Heritage Ecosystem, highlights the evolving values of Western Australia's cultural heritage. Attendees will have valuable opportunities to network and discuss emerging trends and future projects in the sector.

[Further Information](#)

Lotterywest Boorloo Heritage Festival

1st-30th April 2025

The Festival is a month long celebration of the built, cultural and natural heritage of Boorloo (Perth). Hear untold or little-known stories of the city through a range of experiences – from walks and talks to exhibitions, performances and open houses. Check out the weekly Festival highlights or download the month-long program and plan your journey into our City's remarkable history.

[Further Information](#)

Inaugural Southern Forests & Valleys Heritage Festival

19th April-4th May 2025

A celebration of the region's diverse natural, cultural, and historical heritage. This exciting festival offers a rare opportunity for the community and visitors to explore and engage with the rich history that has shaped the Southern Forests & Valleys region.

[Further Information](#)

Australian Heritage Festival 2025, Western Australia

18th April-18th May 2025

The Australian Heritage Festival is an annual community-driven event that connects country by immersing you into the rich and diverse heritage our country has to offer. For more than 40 years, Western Australians have taken part by hosting special exhibitions, tours, talks, workshops, food fairs, ceremonies,

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a celebration and reflection on the natural and cultural heritage of the state, taking place during April and May each year. In April and May 2025, the festival will return with the theme ***Unearthed*** – revealing the past, bringing to light lesser-known histories and stories, and unearthing knowledge to empower younger generations as custodians of culture and tradition.

[Further Information](#)

Royal Western Australian Historical Society Annual Book Sale

4th-7th April 2025, Stirling House, Broadway

Funds raised will go towards completing the fit-out of new RWAHS premises on Stirling Highway.

[Further Information](#)

Royal Western Australian Historical Society Talk

Matthew Wrigley, "Aboriginal people and water during colonisation, 1865-1896"

15th May 2025, 5:30pm

[Further Information](#)

Two Centuries of Chinese Heritage in Western Australia public event

5th April 2025, 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Join UWA researchers Yu Tao, Benjamin Smith and Lucy Hair from the 'Two Centuries of Chinese Heritage in Western Australia' project to explore the contributions of the early Chinese community in Western Australia. Learn more about this exciting project and the early Chinese connections that shaped the State's multicultural heritage. Hear about Café Canton, one of the early Chinese restaurants in Perth operated by the Wong family.

[Further Information](#)

Jobs and Opportunities - Western Australia

Research Fellow, Centre for Social Impact

University of Western Australia

The Centre for Social Impact (CSI) is a national research and education centre dedicated to catalysing social change for a better world. CSI is built on the foundation of four of Australia's leading universities: UNSW, The University of Western Australia (UWA), Swinburne University of Technology and Flinders University.

About the opportunity:

- Provide strategic planning and direction for CSI UWA's research initiatives.
- Design and implement research studies, collaborating with industry partners and contributing to academic and industry reports.
- Play a key role in advancing research capabilities, supporting funding applications, and enhancing the Centre's overall impact.

Closing date 10th April 2025

[Further Information](#)

About the opportunity:

- Exploration of the potential economic and social value for Indigenous Australians from revegetation of damaged lands
- Exploring the potential for resilient Indigenous Australian-owned businesses derived from engaging with the carbon economy, honey production, seed supply, cultural species development and restoration services.
- Full-time appointment on a fixed term basis for 2.5 years.
- Base salary range: Level B, \$113,934 - \$134,824 p.a plus 17% superannuation.
- Well-suited to an Indigenous Australian who has previous experience working with Indigenous communities and industry professionals.

Closing date 8th April 2025[Further Information](#)

Events

AHA Workshop: Engaging with the Media**17th April 2025, 4pm AEST via Zoom**

Chaired by President Michelle Arrow, the AHA is delighted to present this workshop, covering topics such as how to reach out to the media (and why it's way easier than you might think), the challenges and tensions of working in a media environment, managing and framing your expertise, knowing your interviewer, and negotiating feedback.

[Further Information](#)**Australian Historical Association Annual Conference 2025****James Cook University, 30th June - 4th July 2025**

Historians engage in many forms of looking up. The popular image of a historian is a person with their head down in the depths of an archive or library looking up books and documents. However, historians are at their most impactful when they also look up at the world around them and connect their work to contemporary issues. The first historians and custodians of what is now Australia literally looked up to the stars that served as calendars and markers of the passage of time. From ancient times to the present, historians have looked up at the power structures that shape society. In Australia, the phrase "looking up" also has a significant geographical dimension. Most of Australia's population (and most of its historians) work in the southeast corner of the continent, even while nearly half the continent lies in the tropics. Periodically policy makers have looked up to northern Australia and the nations of the 'near north' and seen both threats and opportunities. In 2025 the AHA offers historians an opportunity to engage with the scale and place of the Australian continent and its history.

[Further Information](#)**Graduate Oral History Intensive****2nd–3rd, 16th–17th May 2025, 9.30am–4.30pm AEST, online via Zoom**

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historians (Carla Pascoe Leahy, Sarah Rood and **Alistair Thomson**) and offered in partnership with [Oral History Victoria](#), the course will teach how to plan an oral history project and apply for ethics approval, explore different analytical approaches, and consider how to write a thesis using oral history and to create other types of oral history productions, and more.

Participants will develop a peer support group of graduate oral history researchers from around Australia, New Zealand and Southeast Asia. Each day school will be taught online via Zoom, from 9.30am-4pm Australian Eastern Standard time. The course will be limited to 18 participants.

[Further Information](#)

2025 Australian Heritage Festival

Registrations are now open for the 2025 Australian Heritage Festival with the theme: ***Unearthed – Revealing the Past, Empowering the Future***. “Your event doesn't need to be big or fancy or boast of famous connections (although that's always good!) it just needs to be a heritage event related to our 2025 theme, ***Unearthed***.

[Further Information](#)

Jobs and Opportunities

Cabinet Historian, National Archives of Australia, 2005 Cabinet Release

National Archives of Australia (National Archives) is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from suitably qualified and experienced researchers, academics and historians for the role of Cabinet Historian. This role will support the release of the 2005 Cabinet records, with options to extend to the 2006 and 2007 annual Cabinet releases.

EOIs close 4th April 2025, 5pm AEDT, to patrick.ferry@naa.gov.au

[Further Information](#)

National Library of Australia 2026 Fellowships

Applications are now open for the 2026 Fellowships offered by the National Library of Australia.

Researchers are encouraged to apply for the philanthropically funded Fellowships offered by the National Library of Australia in 2026. This year, the amount of financial assistance has increased, with a total of \$315,000 of funding available. Successful applicants will each receive \$35,000 to support a sustained residency at the National Library in Canberra, as well as supported access to the Library's collections, increased borrowing privileges, a dedicated desk in the Library's Petherick Reading Room, and an allowance for high resolution digital copies of collection materials.

Applications due 5th May 2025

[Further Information](#)

Graduate Oral History Intensive

2nd–3rd, 16th–17th May 2025, 9.30am–4.30pm AEST, online via Zoom

In May 2025, three of Australia's leading oral historians, in partnership with Oral History Victoria, are teaching this popular oral history intensive course aimed at university research students. We will teach you how to plan an oral history project and apply for ethics approval. You'll learn how to create excellent

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create other types of oral history productions.

The course will be limited to 18 participants.

[Further Information](#)

History Australia Book Reviewers

Interested candidates should provide their name, position, and areas of expertise to Elizabeth Roberts-Pedersen (elizabeth.roberts-pedersen@newcastle.edu.au) or Mirela Cufurovic (mcufurovic@csu.edu.au).

Editor-in-Chief, Australian Journal of Politics and History

Interested candidates should submit their CV and a cover letter to jganibegov@wiley.com as soon as possible.

Honours Scholarship, University of New South Wales

The purpose of this \$15,000 scholarship is to support an Indigenous student to conduct Honours research that contributes to the theory and practice of Aboriginal self-determination policy. The student will have the opportunity undertake research with the support of experienced Indigenous scholars and allies, while also developing knowledge and workforce skills relevant to the public sector. This scholarship is part of an ARC Discovery Indigenous Grant awarded to Professor Heidi Norman, which examines how Aboriginal Affairs governance has operated in the era of self-determination since 1980 to today.

[Further Information](#)

Calls for Papers

Conference, Professional Historians Association, 'Hot Histories'

25th – 26th October 2025, Darwin

PHA members around Australia are invited to submit proposals for papers to be delivered at the forthcoming national conference held in collaboration with the annual history colloquium History Talks in Darwin on Larrakia Country.

We are seeking papers and presentations along the theme of Hot Histories and invite members to share insights from their work on passion projects, hot topics, controversial histories, stories from the 'steamy' north (of Capricorn), professional challenges, love in the archives and any history-related work that has raised your temperature.

Call for Papers closes 4th April 2025

[Further Information](#)

Studies in Oral History, Issue No. 47

The Power of Oral History – Risks, Rewards & Possibilities

Oral history presents many possibilities; yet these possibilities come with risk as well as reward – recording sensitive subjects is never easy. Creating an oral history production takes time, skill and care, and sometimes goes wrong. Imaginative re-uses of oral history recordings can raise ethical and legal complexities. And oral histories that disrupt accepted narratives can generate pain and conflict in families,

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2025 Australasian Mining History Conference

1st–6th September 2025, Broken Hill, NSW

Abstracts will soon be open for the 2025 Australasian Mining History Conference.

[Further information](#)

Special Issue, The Great Circle

The oceans are rapidly changing around us, as exploration and exploitation of the subsurface realm is accelerating. Coastlines are under threat, challenging maritime cultural landscapes, while both offshore energy generation and illegal salvage threaten underwater cultural heritage sites. Museums large and small face changing demographics, shifting visitor expectations and ongoing commercial pressures. What are the other issues facing maritime heritage in today's environment? Edited by Professor Rod Mather, Dr John Jensen and Dr Peter Hobbins, this special issue of The Great Circle seeks to survey contemporary maritime heritage in the Indo-Pacific region. Contributions are welcome on diverse topics: archaeology and heritage regulation; museums and collections; places and spaces; communities and controversies. Peer-reviewed research articles of up to 10,000 words (including endnotes) and non-peer reviewed research notes of up to 3,000 words (including endnotes) are both welcomed.

Call for Papers closes 1st August 2025

[Further information](#)

'Current Debates' Section, Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History

We are happy to announce that from January 2025 the Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History (JICH) will feature a section devoted to current debates. This will include opinion pieces and commentary on issues pertaining to imperial history, colonialism, imperialism, the legacies of empire and its associated historiography, in a broad sense. We welcome contributions on current affairs and contemporary discussions in these and related fields.

[Further Information](#)

Conference, Australian Society of Archivists, "Telling Our Stories: Community, Connection, Resilience"

10th–12th November 2025, Sydney

The conference aims to bring together a wide range of perspectives and stories on our profession and practice by showcasing what archives mean to communities, institutions and individuals. It is also a space to explore where we have been, are, and want to develop as a sector.

Call for Papers closes 28th April 2025

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