EVENT MANAGEMENT

Monday 20 April 2026 | 1-2 pm online (Melbourne time)

Reimagining Events for Social Value: Belonging and Social Transformation

Co-chaired by Dr Effie Steriopoulos and A/Prof Cliff Lewis

Register your interest here
https://bit.ly/4qh9t52



Prof Judith Mair

Professor Judith Mair is Academic Director and Associate Dean (Education) at The Hotel School Australia, Southern Cross University. Judith's research aims to understand and enhance the positive impacts of tourism and events on the communities and societies which host them. Her research expertise lies in fields including mega-event legacies, the future of events, the links between events and social connectivity, and the potential impacts of climate change on the events sector. She has published over 60 refereed articles in international journals and has worked with the International Olympics Olympic Committee and the Queensland Government on projects including event legacies, understanding social impacts of tourism and events, and assessing the impacts of climate change on the sector.
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Dr Faith Ong

Dr Faith Ong is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Business at The University of Queensland. Her research focus lies in the role of events as tools of social change. Her work explores how different forms of festivals, community gatherings and targeted events impact the social inclusivity of places. Faith is interested in enabling full and inclusive participation of communities across a broad spectrum of events and travel. In particular, her work has focused on communities that are sexually and culturally diverse, as well as people with disabilities.
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Garth Lategan

Garth Lategan is a learning technologist, educator, and event professional with experience in higher education, vocational training, and large-scale community events. He works at Swinburne University of Technology, specialising in inclusive learning design, educational technology, and the application of Universal Design for Learning principles to curriculum and assessment. With a strong practice-based background, Garth has led diverse public, cultural, and advocacy events, including community festivals and social impact initiatives. His expertise includes event design, risk and safety management, stakeholder engagement, and participant experience, with a focus on how events can promote belonging, wellbeing, and meaningful community connection.



Dr Mike Duignan
Editor-In-Chief



Dr Effie Steriopoulos
Regional Editor



Associate Professor Cliff Lewis
Regional Editor