Thematic Groups

Coveners' eManual

Details of the current Thematic Group (TG) Portfolio Leader, including contact details, are available on the TG overview page of TASAweb at: https://www.tasa.org.au/thematic-groups/

Contents

1.0 Thematic Groups

TASA Executive introduced Thematic Groups in 2005. The groups are designed to facilitate communication and collaboration between TASA members working in similar areas. They are also intended to provide a vehicle for the organisation of the annual conferences. Since 2005 twenty-five Thematic Groups have been established with 24 groups currently in operation (3 have been established in the last 12 months). More information about the Executive's original discussion and design of TGs can be found in *Nexus* March 2005.

1.1 The aims of Thematic Groups

- build discipline depth and, support the development of emerging areas, of sociological inquiry
- facilitate communication and collaboration between members working in similar areas
- provide a basis for streams within conference programs.

1.2 To support the aims TASA will:

- have a designated concurrent time slot at the annual conference for thematic group members to come together;
- provide a presence on TASAweb (see individual thematic group pages) & offer interested groups a TASAweb subsite like the Economic Sociology one. See: http://economicsociology.tasa.org.au/;
- provide two rounds of competitive funding to support thematic group activities;
- formally recognise each thematic group for a period of three years (groups can then be reformed, or restructured where appropriate)
- encourage new areas of disciplinary inquiry to establish a thematic group.

2.0 Thematic Group Governance

As from July 2012, every group will be up for renewal at the same time. Groups will be renewed every 3 years with the next review in December, 2016.

2.1 Terms of Reference

1. Preamble

TASA Executive introduced TGs in 2005. They are designed to facilitate communication and collaboration between TASA members working in similar areas. They are also intended to provide a vehicle for the organisation of the annual conferences. More information about the Executive's original discussion and design of TGs can be found in *Nexus* March 2005.

2. Establishment

The initiative to establish TGs lies with the TASA membership. Members usually canvas amongst existing TASA membership to ascertain interest informally among their own networks, and then, if needed, through a Call for Expressions of Interest in the TASA e-list. Once proposers have established that the proposal for a new TG meets the eligibility requirements (min. 15 financial TASA members), formal proposals are then submitted to the Executive. Proposals for TGs should include the following information:

- TG title;

- Brief description of aims and objectives (suitable for the website and other publicity);
- Names of a Convener and any Co-Conveners;
- Names of a minimum of 15 current financial TASA members (including Conveners), who endorse the proposed TG and propose to belong to it.

3. Membership

Rules for membership are as follows:

- Membership of TGs is confined to current financial TASA members;
- Membership of TGs must be maintained at a minimum of 15 current TASA members per year. TASA members may belong to a maximum of FOUR thematic groups (this maximum was increased from 3 to 4 groups for a 2 year trial period, 2015-2016);
- New and existing TASA members who wish to join thematic groups do so through their TASA membership application/renewal form or through the 'My Account' section of their profile page in the members' section of TASAweb;
- The Executive Officer will provide Conveners with up-to-date membership lists *upon request* (admin@tasa.org.au). Depending on the level of contact, conveners are encouraged to request an updated list prior to each contact with members. Thematic group members who do not renew their TASA membership will automatically be removed from published membership lists, and Conveners must remove them from their personal mailing lists.

4. Governance

Rules for governance of TGs are intended to strike a balance between autonomy and democracy, as follows:

- Conveners are to be determined by the membership of TGs, either through meetings at the TASA Annual Conference or through email communication with all TG members;
- The position of Convener will automatically fall vacant at the time of review (see Clause 7), and is subject to review;

- If a convener needs to step down from the role, during their 3 year term, all TG members need to be consulted and a volunteer/s replacement needs to be sought.
- No person can remain Convener for longer than three consecutive years

5. Obligations

TGs have the following obligations to TASA:

- To maintain a presence on TASAweb. Some groups also establish their own websites. Where this is the case, TGs should place the following statement: 'The information provided on this site does not imply any official endorsement by The Australian Sociological Association or the opinions, ideas or information contained therein, nor guarantee the validity, completeness or utility of the information provided. Reference herein to any products, services, processes, hypertext links to third parties or other information does not necessarily constitute or imply endorsement, sponsorship or recommendation.';
- The support of TASA should be acknowledged on materials relating to all activities where funds are disbursed; and
- Groups who receive funding from TASA for activities must provide a brief report of the activity that was funded and account for monies received. This report is to be sent to the TASA Executive Officer within one month of the activity.

6. Disestablishment

TGs may be disestablished by the Executive in the following circumstances:

- Where the membership falls below 15 persons at 1 April of any year and is not raised to 15 persons by 1 April of the following year.
- Where there are serious concerns about the conduct of the TG.
- Where the current Convener has served a three-year term and no other person is willing to take on that role.
- Where the current Convener needs to step down and no other person is willing to take on that role.

Groups that are disestablished have the right to appeal through TASA grievance procedures.

7. Review

TGs are subject to review by the TASA Executive every 3rd year (2013, 2016, 2019 etc). Renewal is not automatic. It is contingent upon the following:

- Adherence to the terms of reference (including membership), as specified in this document
- Application to the Executive for renewal.

2.2 The Role of Conveners

The role of thematic group conveners is to facilitate communications within the group and between the group and the TASA Executive. Conveners also arrange for group members to referee relevant papers and organise session schedules for the TASA conference. Prior to the TASA conference each year, thematic group conveners will receive a list of refereed paper submissions. Conveners are responsible for organising blind referring submissions. Blind referring involves a) forwarding submissions to two referees with appropriate experience and expertise, b) sending Refereeing guidelines and Referees Review Form' to referees and c) forwarding referees reports to conference organisers. From the 2015 conference, full papers are only accepted from postgraduate students and those members who are required to submit a full paper to secure conference funding from their institution.

Conveners can facilitate group communications by:
- using a group email list to keep members informed of activities, events, conferences, workshops, publications and calls for papers;

- organising group meetings or dinners at the TASA conference;

- putting up a plenary panel at the TASA conference;

- contributing to an issue of *Nexus*;

- developing a group website and or/blog within TASAweb;

- applying for group funding to run workshops, seminars and mini conferences of relevance to the group (see Major Support Scheme heading below);

- providing *Nexus* editor with a report/feedback about the TASA funded activities of the thematic group;

To ensure you receive all TG related communication, please keep your email address up-to-date Advise the TASA Office & the TG Portfolio Leader of your correct email address. Double check that your correct email address is on the TG conveners list and on the TG TASAweb page. Please contact the TASA Office if you find your email address listed incorrectly. Instructions for updating your membership profile are located on the FAQ page of TASAweb at: https://www.tasa.org.au/about-tasa/faq/

2.3 TG Convenor Renewal

As from July 2012, every group will be up for renewal at the same time. Groups will be renewed every 3 years with the next review in December, 2016.

2.4 Formal Recognition of the Convener Role

Thematic Group Conveners are welcome to request a written itemisation of their role and responsibilities at the end of their term. Please send your request with the following details to the TASA Thematic Group Portfolio Leader; name of group, length of term, and tasks conducted.

2.5 International Convenors

The inclusion of a TASA offshore member as a co-convenor has the potential to expand the international profile of the Thematic Group and its membership. The following working principles are to be applied to inform the proposal to include a TASA offshore member as a co-convenor of a TG:

- One of the co-convenors is a local onshore convenor for the TG;
- Onshore TG co-convenor/s have agreed that this will be a viable option for their role;

- A distribution of workload is discussed and agreed as a means to alleviate potential issues in the future.

2.6 Conveners' list

Please contact the TASA Office for an up-to-date TG conveners mailing list.

2.7 Co-Convenor Grievances

TASA recognises that there are some circumstances where co-convenors may have differences that require assistance to advance a fair and equitable resolution for all parties. Largely, these are mostly resolved at the local level with little or no intervention. However, on the rare occasion where this does not appear likely, TASA encourages the convenors to:

- contact the TASA Office in the first instance to raise the substantive issues at hand. The TASA Office can advise if the issue should be a) resolved at the local level between the two convenors; or b) elevate the issue to the TG National Portfolio Leader;
- if elevated, then the presiding TG National Portfolio Leader will work with each of the convenors to explore potential processes of resolution in a way that maintains cohesion and collegiality amongst the co-convenors minimising any disruption to the TG members for that group;
- where it is not possible to resolve the issue at hand, the presiding TG National Portfolio Leader, will invite the co-convenors to lodge a formal grievance via the TASA National Grievance Policy: https://www.tasa.org.au/about-tasa/grievance-procedures/

3.0 Establishing Groups & Formation Submissions

TASA members are invited to submit proposals for new Thematic Groups. Proposals must:

- specify a thematic group's title;

- have a short description of the group's aims and objectives (suitable for TASAweb and other publicity);

- list the names of a Convener and any Co-Conveners;

- identify a minimum of 15 TASA members (including the convenors) who are members of the groups;

- be endorsed by all members of the proposed thematic group.

Submissions will be considered at Executive Committee meetings. Please email them to the Thematic Group Portfolio Leader and cc the TASA Office.

The TASA executive make decisions regarding Thematic Group formation at their quarterly meetings. For consideration in the first-round decisions, please have your application submitted by February 28th. Subsequent deadlines are June 29th, September 20th, & November 8th.

4.0 How to become a member of a thematic group

The Executive increased the number of groups a TASA member can join, from 3 to 4, for a 2 year trial period (2015-2016). If you are a TASA member, you can join thematic groups via your 'My Account' section of your membership profile. Your selections can be amended at any time throughout the year.

5.0 Sub-Site Policy

5.1.   Overview

The Australian Sociological Association (TASA) has a strong web presence, both through our main site (tasa.org.au), social media (AustSoc on Twitter and Facebook), and through a range of websites and blogs maintained by Thematic Group Convenors. This is an important part of our mission to showcase the work of our members and to raise the profile of the discipline of sociology in Australia.

In 2014 the TASA Executive invested in an upgraded website and hosting package that allows us to create 'sub-sites' that are hosted through our main web hosting package, attached to the tasa.org.au identity, for example: conference.tasa.org.au and postgraduates.tasa.org.au.

5.2 Thematic Group sub-sites

Thematic Group Convenors (TGCs) are able to run their own sub-sites at no cost. The URL and the hosting are supported by TASA. The advantages to using a TASA sub-site over another free platform (like Blogger or WordPress) include:

- No advertising
- A host of back-end content management tools, powered by WordPress
- A short URL that ties into TASA's central website
- Easy transfer of control between TGCs when terms end

TGCs should not feel the need to create a sub-site for their Thematic Group (TG), but this option is available to them if they feel it would be beneficial. There is no formal requirement for TG websites to be hosted as an official TASA sub-site, but it is our preferred approach.

5.3 Requirements

Where sub-sites are created for TGCs, we require the following:

5.3.1   TGCs are responsible for the maintenance of sub-sites.

5.3.2   At a minimum, TG sub-sites should include:

a) A clear description of the TG
b) Contact information for TGCs
c) A link back to the main site, tasa.org.au
d) News and up-to-date (revised at least annually) information on the TG, including events and information on the annual conference

5.3.3   TG sub-sites can also include, but are not limited to, the following:

a) A blog

b) Information on members (where consent is given)

c) Longer profiles on TGCs

d) A link to or a copy of a TG newsletter

e) Calls for Papers

f) Relevant resources and links

g) Teaching materials

5.3.4   Sub-sites should meet the overall professional image of TASA, including:

a) High quality images, hosted on the sub-site directly (not linked from off-site)

b) Text that meets basic language conventions (spelling, grammar, etc.)

c) Language that is appropriate for a public-facing professional association

d) The official and current TASA logo

e) Disability accessibility as per the TASA disability web access policy: https://www.tasa.org.au/about-tasa/tasa-disability-access-inclusion-and-participation-guidelines/

f) We encourage TGCs to use the same WordPress theme as the main site (currently 'Canvas') to create some stylistic consistency, but this is not strictly required

5.3.5   Where sub-sites include a 'blog' or a news feed, this information should be relatively current. Old and out-of-date content where the last post was from more than six months ago gives the impression of a disused, abandoned site. The minimum standard for a blog would be at least one post every three months. Blogs are not required.

a) Where possible and appropriate, blog posts should be cross-posted to the main website – tasa.org.au – in consultation with the Blog Editor (blogeditor@tasa.org.au).

5.3.6 Where a list of members is displayed, members will need to consent to having their name and any contact information listed publicly.

5.3.7 The design and colour scheme of the sub-site can vary from the main site, but should where possible retain some stylistic consistency with the main site to link them together.

5.3.8 Concerns and complains about content:

   a) TG Members, broader TASA Members, or members of the public can raise concerns about content on sub-sites. In the first instance, concerns should be directed to the TGCs running the sub-sites.

   b) If concerns or complaints are not resolved, the TASA Executive Officer (admin@tasa.org.au), Multimedia Portfolio Leader, and the Thematic Group Portfolio Leader may be contacted, at which point they will attempt to resolve the concern with the relevant TGCs.

   c) If concerns or complaints cannot be resolved at this level, the wider TASA Executive may become involved.

   d) TASA's grievance policy also applies: https://www.tasa.org.au/about-tasa/grievance-procedures/

5.3.9 The TASA Executive reserves the right to exercise editorial control over any content contained within the Association's various sub-sites. This right will only be exercised in extreme circumstances where more collaborative resolutions cannot be reached.

5.3.10 To request the creation of a sub-site, please contact admin@tasa.org.au. All TGCs of a TG will be provided with login details for the sub-site. The TASA Administrator will also have access.

   a) TGCs can nominate a preferred URL, with the shortest appropriate URL being preferred (ie youth.tasa.org.au rather than sociologyofyouth.tasa.org.au)

6.0 Funding

The **Thematic Group Support Scheme** allows for groups to apply for up to $2,000 for activities that support their thematic area. A budget is allocated to this scheme in July for the following financial year. There are two submission rounds each year; March 1st (for activities between June 30th and December 31st of the same year) and September 1st (for activities between January 1st and June 30th the following year). **Please note:** *Examples of funding applications are located at the end of this manual.*

Grants may be used to fund costs such as postgraduate student attendance, fees for venue hire, advertising, and speaker travel and accommodation. Funding approval is dependent upon the merit of the application, the number of applications received and TASA's financial position at the time of the application round.

Please note:

- Applications including a catering component need to include an attendee fee to cover the catering. Group organisers can arrange for the TASA Office to collect the attendance fees via an events page on TASAweb.
- Funding is not available for conference plenaries including paying travel costs for invited speakers. Conveners can approach the conference local organising committee directly to inquire about the availability of plenary funding.

No granted funds can be carried over into a new financial year for uses other than the fund was intended for. Applications should be between 3-5 A4 pages. They should include:

1. Name of the thematic group
2. Name of convener(s)
3. Proposed activity
4. Evidence of support and/or involvement
5. Expected outcomes
6. Budget and justification
7. Timeline

Note that it is NOT necessary to provide a literature review in support of the proposed topic

Submissions
Applications should be submitted as an email attachment to the Thematic Group Portfolio Leader, ccing the TASA Executive Officer (admin@tasa.org.au). The Executive retains the right to deal with applications at other times if the applicants can convince the Executive of the need for this.

Criteria
Funds will be allocated on a competitive basis, as judged by the TASA Executive. The Executive will disburse funds according to the merit of the applications with the intention of distributing the funds equitably. It reserves the right to make no disbursement of funds if the applications are not of sufficient merit. Criteria will be as follows with suggested weighting for each:

1. Viability of proposed activity 20 %
2. Contribution to the vitality of the thematic group including the potential for members of the group, and other TASA members, to participate and / or benefit from the activity 20%
3. Contribution to sociological research and teaching 20%
4. Generations of outcomes suitable for TASA publications 20%
5. Extent of previous support (a group who has never received funding may be given priority over another group) 20%

Conditions
The following conditions will apply:

1. Grants will be made available in the form of payments on invoices from suppliers, or reimbursements of monies spent, after the event has occurred. Groups who are funded under the Support Scheme are strongly advised to discuss payment matters with the TASA Executive Officer to ensure that all statutory and taxation obligations are met;

2. Applications should identify a person responsible for compiling all funding claims. That person is required to submit a single claim, after the event, to the TASA Office, which can have several different recipients listed for reimbursement. Bank details of each reimbursement recipient need to be recorded on the claim form and submitted with the accompanying receipts being claimed;

3. Only those items explicitly listed in the budget at the time of approval will be covered by the funding. If your funding application is approved to the amount of $1000, for example, and your expenses total $949, the unspent $51 will remain with TASA. TASA will only process reimbursement requests for items listed in the budget section of the funding application. For this reason, it is important that you list all expected expenses in your funding application.

5. TASA will not make funds available to pay research assistants to prepare content for publication/s.

6. If your funding is to be used for the expenses of an invited speaker/s, please advise the speaker/s, before they book their travel requirements, the limit of funding available to them (ie. if TASA have agreed to fund your group $400 for an invited speaker, inform the speaker that you will be able to arrange for the reimbursement of up to $400 on the presentations of their Tax Invoices and receipts etc). TASA will not reimburse amounts greater than those agreed to;

7. Postgraduate scholarships to attend Thematic Group events are only available to **TASA members**. It is the responsibility of the organisers to check the membership of scholarship applicants, via the TASA Office;

8. The support of TASA must be recognised on materials related to the activity (eg. advertising, brochures, programs etc.);

9. Permission must be sought from TASA for the use of the TASA logo and other registered material;

10. Events must meet requirements for disability access and participation (see TASA website: https://www.tasa.org.au/about-tasa/tasa-disability-access-inclusion-and-participation-guidelines/;

11. Participants must be charged a fee to cover costs if catering is provided and funding is not available from other sources. This condition may be waived by the Executive for activities where students are the principal participants;

12. A report (1000 words) must be provided to the TASA Executive Officer within four weeks of the completion of the activity. This should be suitable for publication in *Nexus/TASA blog;*

13. If the proposed activity generates output in print, electronic or other forms, the copyright of such material remains with the authors/creators; and

14. All funds should be claimed within 12 months of notification of award and within 1 month post the event.

15. Groups report to the TG National Portfolio Leader the outcomes of the funded event as outlined below.

Reporting

All TG groups awarded funding are required to report on the activities funded within 6 weeks of the completion of the event, symposium, seminar etc. Areas of reporting need to include in no more than a single A4 page:

- One paragraph description including identifying any differences between initial proposal and the actual event;
- Involvement of TASA Post Grads including allocation of scholarships, participation and any post-event initiatives of which they will benefit;
- Total expenditure for the event identifying clearly the allocation from TASA funding and any returns from initial funding awarded;
- Media coverage generated by the event including radio, the conversation, online blogs etc.

- Research and / or publication outcomes targeted for the future as a direct result of funded event.

As stated in point 12 above, all TG funded groups are required to submit an A4 single page equivalent report about the event, within four weeks of the funded activity, to admin@tasa.org.au. for publication in either *Nexus* or TASA's blogsite: https://www.tasa.org.au/

6.1 Promotional Material

- Email the TASA Office for the TASA logo

- Suggested text for fee/registration: TASA post grads, full time students, low income earners and concession card holders are free, however, registration is still required due to limited places.

- From time to time, you could remind your group members about the various ways they can promote their publications/key reports (signature of their email, TASA Members' Newsletter, Twitter, and TASAweb publications pages such as New Books, Articles, Blogs, Podcasts & *Nexus*.

Funding Examples

Example 1:

Application for Major Support Scheme

1. Migration, Ethnicity and Multiculturalism Thematic Group
2. Conveners: Dr Martina Boese, Dr Shanthi Robertson (interim)
3. Symposium 'Temporary Migrants in Australia: Work, Networks, Belonging and Agency'

Paradigms of permanent settler migration are being overturned in Australia with the rapid increase in the number of temporary migrants entering under a range of visa schemes. The largest component of Australia's migration program consists of the 400 series of skilled visas, many of which are currently under review by DIBP. Within the category of skilled migration, temporary visas such as the 457 scheme are in

particular highly politicized and repeatedly reformed. Temporary visas are, however, also held by working holiday visa holders and international students, who form an important part of the labour force, often in low paid sectors characterized by high levels of undocumented work and low levels of unionization.

Temporariness engenders particular forms of precariousness in the labour market and the workplace, and particular types of power relations between temporary workers, employers and local workers. However, temporary status impacts not only on migrants' labour market positionings and experiences but shapes migrants' agency as residents and as workers, their social relations and their forms of belonging, both in the workplace and in relation to existing ethnic and migrant communities, the wider local community, and the nation-state. This workshop investigates how social relations more broadly intersect with and shape labour relations, by focusing on how forms of belonging are implicated in labour practices and migrants' exercise of their rights.

Drawing on policy maker and advocate perspectives as well as on academic research, this workshop asks: What existing social networks and communities do temporary migrants fit in to, which relationships do they bring with them and what new networks and structures do they create? How do these networks, relations and communities shape temporary migrants' experiences as workers? How do social and family relationships and interactions (with co-ethnic, local and other migrant peers, colleagues and family) have bearing on migrants' ability to access work and workplace and social rights? What are the particular challenges faced by secondary visa holders (spouses and children)? How does the workplace function in relation to the family, the community and the nation-state in temporary migrants' sense of belonging and agency? How are professional identities connected to broader senses of local, national and postnational belonging?

This event builds on a workshop on the rights of migrant workers hosted by the Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law at the University of Melbourne in August 2014, which brought together stakeholders from government, unions, legal services and academia to discuss gaps in services and advocacy for migrant workers. A central finding of the day was the recognition that migrant workers often lack the

knowledge, connections and means to address breaches of their rights as workers and that better communication between different stakeholders would help to address these gaps. By shifting focus on the relationship between social relations, belonging and (labour) agency, our proposed workshop explores important social issues that have received less attention in this debate but will be of high relevance to government and community sector stakeholders as well as researchers working in this area. It will highlight the distinct contribution that sociology can make to understanding and addressing the different dimensions of precariousness experienced by temporary migrants in Australia.

Structure

The event takes an innovative format recognizing the distribution of MEM expertise in the area across Australia. It will take place simultaneously in Melbourne and Perth with live streaming of panel sessions via Skype or a teleconferencing platform. The panels will partly take place at the University of Melbourne, partly at UWA.

The workshop presentations will include invited speakers from government, the community sector and academia. Instead of extended academic presentations, each 1 hour session consists of a three person panel. Each panelist speaks briefly for 10 minutes on their particular area of knowledge in relation to temporary migration, labour, social relations and belonging, leaving 30 minutes for Q and A and discussion per session. The final session is a directed Q and A to draw together major themes of the day and to discuss further possibilities amongst stakeholders for engaged and collaborative research.

Preliminary Schedule

9am-15am Welcome and Overview

9.15-10. Keynote

Morning Tea

10.30-11.30 Policy Panel (Department of Immigration and Border Protection/ DIBP, Migration Council, Fair Work Ombudsman)

Speakers (tbc):

- Brigitta Rudnicki- Skilled Visa Review and Deregulation Taskforce, DIBP;
- Henry Sherrell- Migration Council of Australia;
- Lyn Barnett, Director Community Engagement, Fair Work Ombudsman OR Linda Dobson –Community Engagement, FWO

11.30-12.30 Advocacy Panel (NGOs, Union)

Speakers (tbc):

- Lucy Larkins - Federation of Community Legal Centres and member of Migrant Worker Campaign;
- Stephen Kang- Know Your Rights (Melbourne);
- Union representative

Lunch

1.30- 2.30 Industry Spotlights: mining, nursing, horticulture and food processing, hospitality, IT

Suggested speakers:

- Iain Campbell/ Martina Boese – RMIT/ Melbourne University research on temporary migrants in hospitality, nursing and horticultural sectors
- Susanne Bahn/ Ghialy Yap/ Llandis Barratt-Pugh – ECU research on 457 visa holders in resources sector
- Selvaraj Valyutham – Macquarie University research on Indian workers on 457 visas in IT

2.30- 3.30 Research Directions: temporary mobilities, social relations and belonging

Speakers:

- Loretta Baldassar (UWA)
- Donella Caspersz (UWA)
- Farida Fozdar (UWA)
- Shanthi Robertson (UWS)

Afternoon Tea

4-5pm. Final directed Q&A with expert panel (academics and Migration Council, chaired by Peter Mares)

4. Evidence of support and involvement

The following scholars have already indicated their availability for participation:

- Associate Prof Loretta Baldassar, UWA
- Associate Prof Farida Fozdar, UWA
- Dr Donella Caspersz, UWA
- Dr Shanthi Robertson, University of Western Sydney
- Dr Iain Campbell, RMIT University
- Dr Martina Boese, RMIT University

The Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law (CELRL) at Melbourne Law School will support the event by hosting it. Assoc Prof Joo Cheong Tham from the CELRL indicated this support.

Based on both conveners' current and previous research on temporary migrants as well as Martina Boese's affiliation with the Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law and the Migrant Workers Campaign which was formed after last year's workshop at the Melbourne Law School, we can draw on extensive networks in academia and both the government and non-government sector to secure speakers and participants.

5. Expected outcomes

The symposium will raise the profile of TASA across the two states where it is being held, as well as Australia-wide, through advertising. The symposium will benefit members of the Thematic Group, in particular researchers of migration and ethnicity, and other TASA members, in particular members of the Thematic Groups of Work, Employment and Social Movements and Economic Life. There is also a benefit from the opportunity for interstate collaboration between TASA members. By facilitating a

dialogue between representatives of government, the community sector, unions and sociologists on a key area of migration, the event will contribute to knowledge transfer in a domain of policy, social practice and sociological theory that is highly politicized in the public domain; as well as raising awareness in these sectors of TASA's existence. For migration sociologists, the event will contribute to the cross-fertilisation of ideas in an area of scholarship, which is comparatively young but fast growing and highly policy relevant.

In terms of concrete outcomes, a key projected output is a Special Issue of the Journal of Sociology or the Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies.

6. Budget and justifications

The following items would be funded through the TASA Thematic Group Major Support Scheme:

- 1 return airfares Sydney – Melbourne (Selvaraj Velayutham)
  $290.00
- 1 return airfare Sydney – Perth (Shanthi Robertson)
  $450.00
- 2 nights accommodation (Selvaraj Velayutham, Shanthi Robertson)
  $380.00
- Venue hire $500.00
- Catering
  $300.00
- Printing, photocopying
  $80.00
  TOTAL $2,000.00

The Melbourne-based event will be hosted by the Centre of Employment and Labour Relations Law at Melbourne Law School in Carlton, Melbourne. The Perth-based event will be held at the UWA business school, which has excellent internet linking facilities.

There will be a nominal registration fee of approximately $20.

Co-convenor Dr Martina Boese will be the person responsible for compiling all funding claims.

7. Timeline.

The proposed symposium/ workshop is scheduled to take place on August 21st at the Melbourne Law School and at the Business School, UWA.

A proposal for a Special issue for the Journal of Sociology or the Journal Ethnic and Migration Studies will be prepared by 15th October.

Example 2:

CO-CONVENORS
Mr Luke Gahan, La Trobe University, L.Gahan@latrobe.edu.au
(N.B. Luke Gahan will be responsible for compiling funding claim)
Dr Yarrow Andrew, Flinders University, yarrow.andrew@flinders.edu.au

TRACK RECORD & REASON FOR PROPOSAL
The Sociology of Families, Relationships and Gender (FRG) Thematic Group was established in March 2008 to provide a forum to showcase sociological research on Australian families and relationships and the opportunity to bring theoretical insights, empirical research and policy discussions together in conversation and debate. The Thematic Group currently has 162 members and at the 2014 Adelaide conference FRG was one of the largest streams with 46 papers presented.

At the most recent TASA conference FRG members, particularly student members, voiced their desire for a FRG event where they could have an opportunity to present their work. Similarly, at the past two TASA conferences FRG members have said they would like to have a gathering similar to the Health Thematic Group event but held at a different time to the annual conference.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

The proposed activity includes a one and a half day symposium at Bouverie Centre, Victoria's Family Institute, La Trobe University, as well as a public event at the Wheeler Centre.

Symposium: The Changing Face of Families and Relationships
The symposium will take place on a Friday and Saturday in October (dates to be confirmed) and will be opened by the Victorian Minister for Families (in principle agreement, subject to availability). The symposium will feature two keynote speakers as well as paper presentations related to the symposium theme, allowing family and relationships students, researchers and academics opportunities to present their sociology work, particularly work in progress.

A call for papers will go out to TASA members as well as being promoted through our links with the International Sociological Association RC06 Committee of Family Research, and Australian University Sociology and related discipline faculties and departments. TASA's online registration and payment system would be used to process participants registration.

The keynote speakers will include one international and one local family and relationships academic (see below). Keynote Speakers will be recorded and uploaded to the TASA YouTube channel to allow wider access as well as promoting the activities of TASA and our thematic group.

Paper Sessions will follow keynote sessions allowing participants the opportunity to share their sociology of family and relationship research. In the current schedule, 22 papers will be presented. If there are more submissions than this allocation we will hold a poster event during the lunch on day one.

Symposium Keynote Speakers:
Stephanie Coontz
How Love Conquered Marriage
Evergreen State College, Olympia (USA)
Director of Research and Public Education for the Council of Contemporary Families

Stephanie Coontz teaches history and family studies at The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington, and is Director of Research and Public Education for the Council on Contemporary Families.

Coontz is the author of the award-winning "A Strange Stirring": The Feminine Mystique and American Women at the Dawn of the 1960s (2011) and Marriage, A History: How Love Conquered Marriage (Viking Press, 2005). She has also written a variety of other books including; The Way We Never Were: American Families (1992), The Nostalgia Trap (2000), The Way We Really Are: Coming to Terms with America's Changing Families (1997), and The Social Origins of Private Life: A History of American Families 1600-1900(1988). She also edited a collection of writing called, American Families: A Multicultural Reader (Routledge, 2008).

A former Woodrow Wilson Fellow, Coontz has taught at Kobe University in Japan and the University of Hawaii at Hilo. In 2013 she received the Work-Life Legacy Award from the Families and Work Institute. In 2004, she received the Council on Contemporary Families first-ever "Visionary Leadership" Award. In 1995 she accepted the Dale Richmond Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics for her "outstanding contributions to the field of child development." She also received the 2001-02 "Friend of the Family" award from the Illinois Council on Family Relations. She served as a marriage consultant to The Ladies Home Journal from 2006-2009 and consulted with the Pew Research Center in developing their questionnaire for their 2010 report on the state of marriage and family life in America, as well as with Match.com for its 2011 survey on singles.

Prof Michael Gilding
The Changing Australian Family
Swinburne University of Technology
Executive Dean, Faculty of Business and Law

Professor Gilding is an economic sociologist who specialises in innovation, family business, and the social dimensions of economic behaviour. He has written three books, and more than 30 journal articles and book chapters. Professor Gilding's books include: 'Australian Families: A Comparative Perspective' (1997) and 'The Making or Breaking of the Australian Family' (1991).

Free Public Event: What is the future of family, marriage and relationships?

The public event will be held at Wheeler Centre at the State Library of Victoria on the Friday evening of the Symposium. As with the TASA event in 2014, the FRG event will feature a panel of speakers and aims to take sociology of Families and Relationships to the community as well as to academics and students.

The event will be recorded by the Wheeler Centre as a part of the venue hire and will be uploaded to the TASA YouTube Chanel following the event.

This event complements the symposium and will maximise the benefits of this gathering of Family and Relationship scholars in Melbourne that evening.

The panel participants have been chosen to balance academic and non-academic speakers to appeal to a wider and more public audience.

Proposed panel participants:
Stephanie Coontz
The Future of Marriage
Evergreen State College, Olympia (USA)
Director of Research and Public Education for the Council of Contemporary Families

Fiona Patten MLC
Sex and Relationships
Member for Northern Metropolitan
Victorian Parliament – Legislative Council

Dr Raelene Wilding
Transnational Families
La Trobe University

Anne Hunter
Polyamorous Families and Relationships
PolyVic Founder
Relationship Educator and Coach

Panellists will speak for 15 min each followed by questions and answers from the audience. Readings Bookshop has agreed to host a bookshop table at the event to sell and promote books that the speakers have appeared in or written.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday	Symposium Day 1	
9:30	Registration and Morning Tea	
10:00	Welcome, housekeeping	
10:10	Welcome to Country - Bouverie Indigenous Team	
10:15	Opening - Minister for Families (VIC)	Chair: Luke Gahan
10:30-11:30 Questions: 11:30-12:00	Keynote: How love conquered marriage Stephanie Coontz, The Council of Contemporary Families (USA), Evergreen State College	
12:00	Lunch	
13:00	Paper Session 6 x 10min papers + 5min of questions each	Chair: Dr Yarrow Andrew
14:30	Short break	
14:40	Paper Session 4 x 10min papers + 5min of questions each	Chair: Dr Kay Cook
15:40	Afternoon tea	

16:00	Paper Session 6 x 10min papers + 5min of questions each	Chair: Dr Yarrow Andrew
17:30	Close of Day 1	
	Public Event	
19:00	Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country	Chair: Luke Gahan
19:05	Panel Speakers 4 Speakers 15 min each	
20:05	Audience Questions	
20:35	End - Readings Book sales take place as people leave	
21:00	All out of Venue	

Saturday	Symposium Day 2	
9:00	Welcome, housekeeping	Chair: Yarrow Andrew
9:10-10:10 Questions: 10:10- 10:40	Keynote: The Changing Family in Australia Prof Michael Gilding, Swinburne University of Technology	
10:40	Morning Tea	
11:00	Paper Session 6 x 10min papers + 5min of questions each	Chair: Luke Gahan
12:30	Lunch	
13:30	Close of Symposium & Farewell	

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The symposium will provide family and relationship academics, early career researchers, PhD researchers, and honours students with the opportunity to collaborate, network and share their research at a dedicated Australian gathering within their sub-discipline of sociology.

The Wheeler Centre event will create wide public exposure for TASA and includes an opportunity for TASA to engage with public policy makers and community groups, responding to the increasing attention being given to sociological work outside of academia.

Speakers and paper presenters will be encouraged to submit their work to the Journal of Family Studies perhaps organised around a special edition. We will also be submitting photos and a report to *Nexus*, and edited versions of the keynote speaker presentations will be submitted to *The Conversation* for publishing and further promotion of TASA.

The two events will have a social media presence (YouTube, Facebook, Twitter) allowing for greater reach of Australian sociology in this area.

SUPPORT
An email indicating our intent to submit this proposal was sent to FRG Thematic Group members, as well as presenters at last year's TASA conference in Adelaide at the FRG paper sessions. Twenty-seven people responded saying that they were interested in attending including one student who replied saying she was thrilled with the idea and joined TASA and FRG as a consequence of our proposal.

The two keynote speakers are fully supportive of the event, as is the Director of the Bouverie Centre, Dr Jeffrey Young, and the four panellists for the public event. Readings Books have said they will support the event by attending the Wheeler Centre to sell the speakers' books and the lobby group Australian Marriage Equality has said they would encourage their members to attend the public event as have PolyVic (Polyamoury Victoria).

BUDGET AND JUSTIFICATION

COSTS	$	Justification
Symposium Room Hire - Bouverie Centre	$0.00	No cost
Catering for 50 Morning tea x 2, Lunch x2 Afternoon tea x 1 Approx. $29 per head.	$1,450.00	RECOVERED BY REGISTRATION COST Quote obtained by Bouverie Centre from their regular caterers. $16 per person for Day one and $13 per person for Day 2.
Flights for International Speaker:	$2,000.00	Return ticket from Seattle, USA. This works out to approx. $1500USD and speaker is happy to top up this amount herself as it is unlikely to cover full fair due to current fair prices and exchange rate.
PhD Student Scholarship	$500.00	A scholarship for a PhD member of TASA to attend the symposium. Reimbursement up to $500 for flights and accommodation.
Accommodation for International speaker	$300.00	2 nights accommodation at $150 a night. Symposium begins 9:30am
Wheeler Centre Venue Hire	$907.50	Venue Hire for Public Event. Includes audio-visual equipment, digital video recording. 2.5hours
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	$5,157.50	
INCOME	$	
20 full reg. @ $95	$1,900	
30 student reg. @ $45	$1,350	
TASA TG grant	$2,000	
TOTAL INCOME	$5,250	

TIMELINE

March	15th Decision made on TASA funding
	22nd TASA to send invitation on FRG behalf to Thematic Group Members about the symposium, including invitation to Postgrad students about scholarship
April	8th Finalise dates for workshop depending on speaker availability.
May	15th: Deadline for postgraduate student scholarship applications
	29th: Decision made on postgrad scholarship and applicants notified
June	12th June: Registration deadline, with submitted abstracts (500 words).
	30th: Assess symposium viability based on registrations received (after extension)
July	1st: Confirm room booking at Bouverie, deposits to caterer and Wheeler Centre
	20th: Arrange transport & accommodation for international speaker.
	24th: Reviewed abstracts returned with brief feedback
August	Confirm arrangement with Readings book store.
September	14th: Confirm arrangement with caterer and finalise menu.
	29th: Prepare conference publicity materials
October	2nd-3rd (nominal dates): Symposium and Public Forum held
	9th: Reimbursement documentation to TASA
November	2nd: 1000 report to TASA, for NEXUS & articles submitted to Conversation