



Future Waterloo Station, On Aboriginal Land

Common Infrastructure

In urban policy and scholarly arenas, there has been an ‘infrastructural turn’. This is evidenced by a growing global emphasis on financing, building and maintenance of the physical systems that enable flows of people and things in cities, and research about their political economy, social constitution and uneven outcomes. In this workshop we will explore ‘common infrastructure’. By this, we mean three things: first, the growing recognition of the interdependencies of physical and social forms of infrastructures; second, the blurring boundaries between state and market in producing and governing infrastructures, and; third, the relations between private and collective costs and benefits. This workshop will interrogate these intersections in order to produce insights into new hybrids, physical-social practices, and collective goods and services that seek a more progressive politics of urban infrastructure.

When

19-20 February 2020

Where

Sydney Microscopy and Microanalysis
Rm 236 Madsen Building F09
The University of Sydney
NB: Downstairs from the main level of
Madsen

Registration

Please register on Eventbrite to help us with catering and other admin by 14 February.
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/common-infrastructure-tickets-91086942497>

With support from

The Sydney Urban Crew
The Geographical Society of New South
Wales <https://www.geogsoc.org.au/>
Urban Geography
<https://urbangeographyjournal.org/>
The Henry Halloran Trust
<https://sydney.edu.au/henry-halloran-trust/>

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Keynote Lecture:

Commotion!

Dr Theresa Enright

Abstract: Transit networks are objects of intense political contestation and are key terrains of struggle in cities around the world. Essential to contemporary urbanization, transit networks are strategic links in the interrelated crises of urban poverty, social reproduction, security, racism, democracy and climate. In this paper, I consider transit as a critical infrastructure of oppression and resistance and as a key platform for political and social change. Drawing on transit-oriented mobilizations in several North American cities, I argue that practices of commoning transit hold much potential for instituting more just and sustainable urban futures.

Bio: Theresa Enright is an Assistant Professor of Political Science and Senior Fellow at the Global Cities Institute at the University of Toronto. Her research examines urban and regional politics with a focus on transportation and mobility. Enright is the author of *The Making of Grand Paris: Metropolitan Urbanism in the Twenty-first Century* (MIT 2016) and editor (with Ugo Rossi) of *The Urban Political: Ambivalent Spaces of Late Neoliberalism* (Palgrave 2017). She is currently working on a book titled *Art in Transit: The Cultural Politics of Mobility*.

Discussant

Professor Jago Dodson

Bio: With a wide interest in theoretical and applied urban questions, Professor Jago Dodson has an extensive record of research into housing, transport, urban planning, infrastructure, energy and urban governance problems. He has contributed extensively to scholarly and public debates about Australian cities and has advised national and international agencies on urban policy questions.

NB: Lecture to be held in Wilkinson Lecture Theatre 250 (Arch LT 1)
Wilkinson Building G04, 148 City Road, The University of Sydney



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Workshop program

Wednesday 19 February	
1:30-2:00pm	Registrations
2:00-2:30pm	Welcome to Country Welcome to workshop
2:30-4:10pm	Power, Mee & Wiesel "Shadow care infrastructures: sustaining life in the post-welfare city"
Session 1 Infrastructures of care and neglect Chair: Elizabeth Duncan	Yarker "Critical social infrastructure for ageing in place: understanding the experience of urban regeneration for older people through shared spaces"
	Schloffel-Armstrong "Flagship public libraries as future-facing social infrastructure: A case study of Tūranga, Christchurch"
	van Holstein "Exclusion and disablement through the digitization of common infrastructure"
	McNeill "Global cities, health infrastructure and the bioeconomy"
4:10pm-4:45	Please join us for refreshments prior to the keynote
4:45-6:15pm	Keynote Lecture: Dr Theresa Enright
NB: Refreshments and lecture to be held in Wilkinson Lecture Theatre 250 (Arch LT 1) Wilkinson Building G04, 148 City Road, The University of Sydney	Commotion! Discussant: Professor Jago Dodson



Workshop program

Thursday 20 February	
8:30-8:45	Registrations
8:45-9:00am	Opening Dodson 'The Infrastructural Turn'
9:00-10:40am	Lopes, Healy, Power, Crabtree, Gibson, Tonkinwise & Armstrong "Cooling the Commons: commoning infrastructures in Western Sydney"
Session 2 Governing Infrastructures I: nature, crisis, adaptation	Steele "Wild Infrastructure"
Chair: Nicola Perry	Larder & Hamilton "Figuring soil and water as common infrastructure"
	Marvin "Cooling the City"
	Chandra-Shekeran "Reimagining the electricity grid"
10:40-11:00	Morning tea
11:00-12:40pm	O'Neill "New modes of governance for urban infrastructure?"
Session 3 Governing Infrastructure II: planning and financializing	Lyons "Infrastructure, scale, and territory: the privatisation of Port Kembla and the reorganisation of everyday life in the Illawarra"
Chair: Alistair Sisson	Duncan ""Thanks Sydney we'll take it from here": the responsibilities of public versus private cleansing and waste operators"
	Grealy (online) "Drinking in New Orleans"
	Webber & Bryant "Making reparative infrastructures"
12:40-1:40pm	Lunch



Workshop program

Thursday 20 February continued	
12:40-1:20pm	Lunch
1:20-3:00pm	von der Tann & Melo Zurita "Shifting focus: the underground as a commons"
Session 4	Jerrems "Transient Common Spaces: People as Infrastructure in Assembly Movements"
Publics and spaces	Thorpe "Paint, posts and productive polities: (re)constructing city-citizen relationships in the street"
Chair: Pratichi Chatterjee	Sheffi "Internet Explorers"
	Coyne & Melo Zurita "Beyond the pipes: a political ecology of stormwater infrastructure in Sydney's Georges river"
3:00-3:30pm	Afternoon tea
3:30-5:00pm	Liunga Palu, The Sydney Alliance
Activist and practitioner panel	David Babineau, Rail, Tram and Bus Union
Chair: Naama Blatman-Thomas and Kurt Iveson	Colin Long, Cooperative Power
	Leo Patterson-Ross, Tenants Union
	Stephen Wright and Graham King, Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council

