Prof. Damian Schofield, Director of Human Computer Interaction, State University of New York (SUNY),

Dr. Patrick Murphy, Director of the Graduate English Program, State University of New York (SUNY)

Dr. Lisa Dethridge, Senior Lecturer School of Media and Com, RMIT
This presentation will address:

1. Collaborative Online Learning
2. Innovative Assessment
3. Multi-disciplinarity
4. Study Abroad
5. Mixed-Delivery
RMIT GLOBAL PASSPORT:

- Partnerships with professions, industry and organisation
- Focus on Sustainability
- The education of active global citizens

Global boundaries in education and research are dissolving - new solutions to global problems

People work with complex knowledge and tools

Global/urban futures – architecture and applications; technology and design

Work-integrated learning
RMIT School of Media and Communication

• Documentary produced by students about the project
  • http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Ck099o2eok

• Short intro to School of Media
  • http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Ry5J3us23Q
### RMIT Three Colleges, 23 schools

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Design and Social Context</th>
<th>Science, Engineering and Health</th>
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</table>
| • Accounting  
• Business IT and Logistics  
• Business TAFE  
• Economics, Finance and Marketing  
• Graduate School of Business and Law  
• Management | • Architecture and Design  
• Property, Construction and Project Management  
• Art  
• Education  
• Fashion and Textiles  
• Global, Urban and Social Studies  
• Media and Communication  
  ____ Advertising  
  ____ Graphics  
  ____ Animation  
  ____ screen  
  ____ Creative Writing  
  ____ Music Industry  
  ____ Photography | • Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering  
• Applied Sciences  
• Civil, Environmental and Chemical Engineering  
• Computer Science and Information Technology  
• Electrical and Computer Engineering  
• Engineering TAFE  
• Health Sciences  
• Life and Physical Sciences  
• Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences  
• Medical Sciences |
School of Media and Communication

Program Offerings

- Vocational Education Training
- Bachelors
- Honours
- Graduate Diploma
- Masters
- PhD
Vocational Education and Training Programs

• Advanced Diploma
  – Screen and Media
  – Screenwriting
  – Sound Production

• Certificate IV
  – Audiovisual Technology
  – Photo Imaging
  – Screen and Media (TV Production)
  – Sound Production

• Diploma
  – Audiovisual Technology
  – Interactive Digital Media
  – Photo Imaging
  – Professional Writing and Editing (Business)
  – Screen and Media

School of Media and Communication

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Undergraduate programs

• Associate Degree
  – Professional Writing
  – Screen and Media Production

• Bachelor of Communication
  – Advertising
  – Journalism
  – Media
  – Professional Communication
  – Public Relations

• Bachelor of Arts
  – Creative Writing
  – Music Industry
  – Photography

• Bachelor of Design
  – Animation & Interactive Media
  – Communication Design
  – Digital Media
  – Games

• Bachelor of Media and Communication (Honours)
Postgraduate programs (Coursework)

- **Graduate Diploma**
  - Communication Design
  - Graphic Design
  - Journalism
  - Media
  - Public Relations
  - Publishing and Editing

- **Master of Advertising**
- **Master of Communication**
- **Master of Communication Design** (FTF & Online)
- **Master of Creative Media**
  - Animation & Interactive Media
  - Film and Television Production
• Research Clusters
  – Design futures
  – Games
  – Nonfiction
  – Place and placemaking

• Postgraduate degrees by research
  – Masters
  – Doctor of Philosophy
    – Research thesis
    – Creative practice
Industry contacts/partners

• The Age
• Artisan
• ATOM
• Australian Publishers Association
• The Bundy Agency

• Canon
• The Edge
• Haystac

• The Herald and Weekly Times
• House Communications
• IMMEDIA
• Institute of Photographic Technology
• Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance
• Metropolis Bookstore

• Mitchell & Partners
• Network Ten Limited
• The Nine Network
• Nulab
• Olympus
• Penguin Books
• Private Media Partners
• Professional Public Relations
• Public Relations Institute of Australia (Victoria)
• RACV
• Radio Australia
• Radio 3AW
• San Pellegrino
• Society of Editors (Victoria)
• SunStudios
• Ted’s cameras
RMIT Graduates work globally

Media
Wall Street Journal • The Age • ABC International • Vietnam News • StarTV (HK) • Network 10 • Al Jazeera • CNBC Asia

Corporate
Disney • Apple • Nokia • Ericsson • Edelman • Mercedes Benz Australia/Pacific • National Australia Bank • ANZ • QS * Morgan Stanley (NY) • Exxon •

Not for profit
World Vision • United Nations • Plan International

Government
Australian Department of Education & Early Childhood Development • Melbourne Major Events • Melbourne Water • Department of Premier & Cabinet • Transport Accident Commission • Australian Embassy (Thailand)
International activities

• Research project collaboration
• Student exchange
• Global teaching projects
• Work integrated learning & internship placements
• Study tours
International exchange partners

Asia
- Chulalongkorn University (Thailand)
- City University of Hong Kong
- University of the Philippines

Americas
- City University of New York (Staten Island)
- State University of New York
- Parsons School of Design (US)
- Pennsylvania State U (US)
- Ryerson (Canada)
- University of Florida

UK & Europe
- Danish School of Media & Journalism (Denmark)
- Salford University (UK)
- University of Amsterdam (Netherlands)
- Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (Spain)
• A Multidisciplinary Approach

• 2 instructors from SUNY Oswego HCI/Lit, 1 from RMIT – Media/Comm; 30 Oswego students, 10 Australian students

• 3 instructors - topics in computer science; interaction design, literature, media, psychology, artificial intelligence, philosophy, robotics, computer programming, screenwriting, film production.

• Outputs include blogs, discussions, screenplays and 3 short science fiction films using student-programmed robots as characters.

• Shirley consoles Jen after the loss of her husband and is confronted with the robot husband Jen built as his replacement.

• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SFPS3ootLo
Innovative content

• Multi-disciplinary student groups discuss and write about a selected topic online

• Students examine debates around medical science, genetics and biology

• TRANSHUMANISM - human life may be enhanced by research into technologies based on the bleeding edge

• Biotechnology, artificial intelligence, genetic engineering may perhaps contribute to the erasure of disease

• The development of artificial forms of intelligence and life.
• Often transhumanists may be neo-conservatives who fail to acknowledge the potential for DISASTER?

• Students then developed screenplays for film production and programmes for robot scripts

Insert films here
Mixed Delivery Methodology

Students collaborated online in discussion to break the ice and develop themes –

• Online synchronous video conferencing, asynchronous discussion and international travel

• We explored the utopian and dystopian scenarios which emerge from both science and science fiction.

• Online forum and emails fed discussion to identify questions for research

• Five SUNY students arrived in RMIT Melbourne in Summer to meet us in-person for further discussions which formed the basis of film screenplays

• The range of outputs including essays, blogs, screenplays, science fiction movies; robotic programmes and a documentary.
• KEY POINTS – all relate to FUN activity!

1. Using multimedia tools such as cameras, robots and film-making to produce tangible outputs (movies) as part of an online collaboration – highly innovative pedagogy and assessment.

2. Multi-disciplinarity: How to handle disparate disciplines and theoretical conflicts. No “right” answers; much debate!

3. Integrating a Study Abroad component into a Collaborative Online Learning experience.
THANKYOU SUNY COIL!
Lisa.dethridge@rmit.edu.au