



Research Week Presentation

Voicing Rivers Launch

Date: Tuesday 27th September 2022

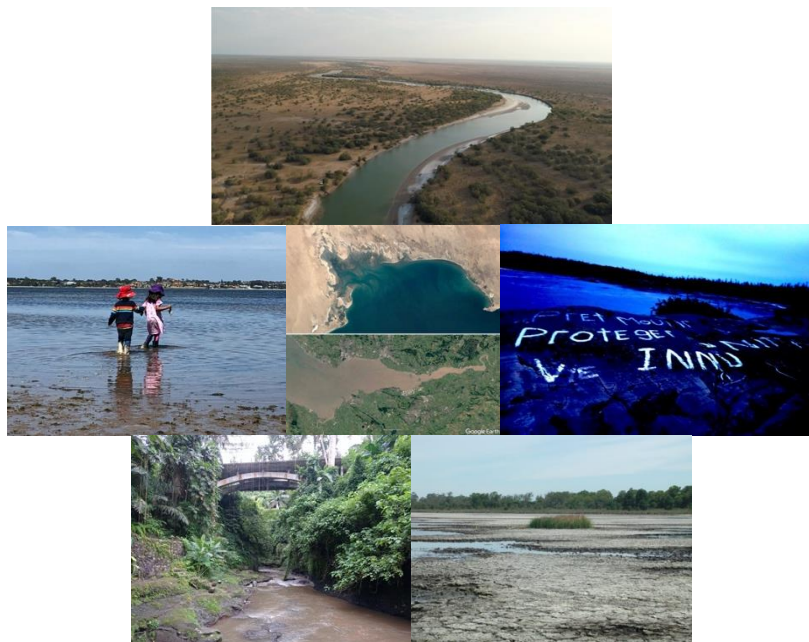
Broome AWST Time: 19:00 – 20:30

Sydney AEST Time: 21:00 – 22:30

London BST Time: 12:00 – 13:30

Presenters:

Anne Poelina, Sandra Wooltorton, Laurie Guimond, Peter Reason,
Pierre Horwitz and more (see overleaf)



Abstract & Presenters on the back of this page



Abstract

This session aims to celebrate Rivers through a special issue recently published in the journal [River Research and Applications](#) (Vol 38/Issue 3), entitled *Voicing Rivers*. This collaborative project involves nearly 20 rivers and over 50 people. During this session we will hear excerpts of River narratives and share the creative work and collective wisdom behind them.

The stories offer alternatives to the prevailing business-as-usual view. In differing ways, authors asserted that rivers are living, culturally and socially engaged beings. Authors suggested they hold songs, stories, histories, health or illness, emotions, ecosystem complexity and animate spirits. These perspectives challenge persistent, dualist and Cartesian thinking that contributes to conceptions of rivers as denatured, denuded water delivery mechanisms separate from people. The papers celebrate the integrity and authenticity of rivers as living beings, with the right to live and flow. The aim was to illustrate the relational interdependence among humans, non-human beings, river systems and waterways, showing that land, water, people and all beings intrinsically entwine in complex and intricate situated ways.

Presenters

Anne Poelina, The University of Notre Dame Australia

Peter Reason, University of Bath

Jacqueline Kurio, California Institute for Integral Studies

Sandra Wooltorton, The University of Notre Dame Australia

Laurie Guimond, University of Quebec at Montreal

Len Collard, The University of Notre Dame Australia

Pierre Horwitz, Edith Cowan University

Mindy Blaise, Edith Cowan University

Owain Jones, Bath Spa University

Heather Green, Arizona State University

John Ryan, Southern Cross University & The University of Notre Dame Australia

Helen Moore, British ecopoet, socially engaged artist