

Regimes of Truth and Other Revelations: Editorial, Volume 5, Part 2

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Introduction

Welcome to the tenth edition of *Exchanges: The Interdisciplinary Research Journal*. As those of you who follow the Exchanges' blog will already be aware, my recent arrival as the new Senior Editor has heralded a few changes for the journal, not least of which being a revision to its full title. When it launched in 2013, *Exchanges* contained material sourced largely from the University of Warwick's early career researcher (ECR) community. However, over the years our contributors, reviewers and Editorial Board membership have increasingly trended towards embracing a greater internationalisation. This has served to benefit the journal's research community prestige, and in turn increasing the value to authors of choosing to publish with *Exchanges*.

Yet, while *Exchanges* continues to be managed by Warwick based scholars, increasingly the journal's subtitle no longer reflected the title's authentic scope and future direction as much as it once did. Hence, to reflect this evolution and growth, the time was ripe for a soft relaunch under a revised title. Naturally though, *Exchanges'* commitment to disseminating original, exciting and quality assured interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research, especially from emerging experts and ECR scholars, continues. We hope our readers feel the new title better represents the journal as it appears today.

Readers might also like to visit our twin new social media presences. Firstly, there's the [editorial blog](#), where I'll be writing about various issues relating to our continued development. This is complimented, alongside regular tweets from our [Twitter account](#). Please do come and join in the conversation.

Conversations

Now onto the main content of this issue, which opens with *Roca Lizarazu* and *Vince's* interview with *Stef Craps* of Ghent University. Craps, who directs the Cultural Memory Studies Initiative alongside his English literature academic role, talks extensively with them about the current and indeed future directions in memory and trauma studies, among other

engaging topics. The piece also provides a rather valuable reflection of the current state of the art within memory studies, which scholars new to this may well area find this a valuable source of literature and insight alike (1).

Then *Georgia Wall* provides an elegant bridge to our themed section, with her interview with *Marion Demossier* and *Margaret Hills de Zárate*. In a topic close to the Editor's heart, Demossier and de Zárate offer some broad perspectives on how ethnography can expose underlying and contextualised meanings. Wall moves this enticing discussion on to explore some of the challenges faced in embracing ethnographic methods as a research tool (16).

Featured Section: Truth & Evidence

'Truth' is to be understood as a system of ordered procedures for the production, regulation, distribution, circulation and operation of statements. 'Truth' is linked in a circular relation with systems of power which produce and sustain it, and to effects of power which it induces, and which extend it. A 'regime' of truth. (Foucault in Rabinow, 1984: 74).

Following on this issue, we're delighted to present a selection of articles from authors who chose to engage with our themed topic of *Truth and Evidence*. Each of the authors have tackled this topic from within disparate disciplinary frameworks and epistemologies, making for a wonderful *mélange* of inspections and perceptions.

Our exploration begins with *Daisy Richards* tackling the idea of truth through introducing a fascinating discourse on the use of re-enacted sequences within the world of documentary filmmaking. Illustrated through Morley and Barnard's seminal works, *Dreams of a Life* and *The Arbor* respectively, the article examines how re-enactments within otherwise authentic film narratives effectively draw attention to these elements of artifice. Yet, seemingly such measures of artifice actually serve to enhance audiences' engagement, demonstrating the benefit through utilising these recreated forms within such works (26).

Constance de Silva develops our theme in another direction, by tackling that often subtly deceptive media form: consumer advertising. Making use of the five social functions of language, along with Jakobson's communication language model, de Silva investigates the idea of meaning creation within press advertisements. This handsomely illustrated paper goes on to consider what these research tools can expose about the hidden and persuasive meanings within such pervasive and quotidian constructs (44).

Then *Martine Barons* and *Rachel Wilkerson* take a refreshingly mathematical dive into the realm of truth, in their paper examining proof and uncertainty within causal claims. Adopting a social science perspective, they examine the role of mathematical proof, and particularly how important it is to account for uncertainty within observational data. Excitingly they challenge the predominant models in use to account for these issues, alongside reviewing some of disparate disciplinary techniques and methodologies in use for determining cause in three dissimilar scholarly fields (72).

Subsequently, *Sara Marzana* continues our themed section by uniting a surprising trio of seekers after ‘universal truths’ as she brings Friedrich Nietzsche and William Blake to dine with Jane Austin. In a piece, which intriguingly resonates with de Silva’s earlier article, Marzana takes a literary approach to considering what lessons fiction can lend in comprehending the role of truth and subjectivity within the perception of our everyday world (90).

Finally, for this section, Brian O’Shea considers the contribution implicit social cogitation has made to psychological approaches to understanding individuals’ attitudes. Examining its origins and subsequent development, the paper considers the relationship between implicit and explicit measures, and the differing values adopting these disparate approaches confers for researchers in seeking an authentic appreciation of attitudes (106).

Critical Reflections

Rounding out the issue, *Sean Mulcahy* provides a critical reflection on the Conference of the Law, Literature and Humanities Association of Australasia (2017). In a valuable critique, the piece explores the various panels as they unveil topics around the evolutionary progression of law as a mirror to societal developments (132).

Acknowledgements

As always, many thanks to our authors and reviewers for the vital and continued contribution of their intellectual labour in the creation of this latest issue. Without you, the ability to produce a quality, peer-reviewed, scholar-led publication such as this would, quite simply, not be possible. Thanks also to our reader community, who play a key role in developing the debates and insights raised in each issue. I hope you find this issue as stimulating, thought-provoking and perhaps challenging as previous volumes.

As incoming Senior Editor, I'd be remiss if I didn't extend my thanks to my predecessor, Dr Yuexi Liu, and highlight her many efforts in shepherding the title over the preceding few years. I look forward to building and expanding on your legacy. Thanks also to Kay Doncom, Daniel Silva and Farah Elahi, outgoing members of the Editorial Board, for their input to this volume and kind words of support.

Thanks also to Yvonne Budden and Rob Talbot from the University of Warwick's Library, for their continued invaluable advice, guidance and technological support for Exchanges. I look forward to our future interactions, as we move into a new phase for the journal.

Finally, my thanks to my Editorial Board, partly for their forbearance with my own learning curve and the advice they've each proffered, but also for their dedication, focus and commitment they each bring to producing a quality-assured, interdisciplinary research organ.

Next Issue

In another change to tradition, we've two future volumes of Exchanges currently at various stages of development for publication in 2018. For a start this summer will see the publication of Volume 6(1) which alongside a few items which didn't make the cut-off date for Volume 5(2), will include a special section around the theme of Narrating, Nation, Sovereignty and Territory. Articles here are drawn from an interdisciplinary research symposium hosted by the Institute of Advanced Study at Durham University. Following that, we reach Vol 6(2), which will include a themed section on Autonomy, along with our regular selection of conversations with key thinkers, critical reflections and original articles.

Finally, watch out for our call for papers for Volume 6(3), Spring 2019, on a topic that's still under discussion among the Editorial Board. It will however be, I strongly suspect, fairly topically coterminous.

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