

ECU_AIESEP Specialist Seminar 2025: Body Politics in and through Movement



Introducing our Keynote Speakers

Monday 8 December 2025

Distracted Bodies: Physical Imagination as a practice for moving responsively in unstable times



Dr Jo Pollitt, Vice Chancellor's Research Fellow, Edith Cowan University is a dancer by trade who lives on Whadjuk Noongar Country.

In a time of unrelenting distraction and environmental instability, Jo's presentation proposes physical imagination as a feminist, affective, and embodied practice for cultivating responsive and responsible bodies. Positioning the sensorial body as a site of political and poetic activation, physical imagination reframes distraction not as deficit, but as material for improvisation and generative creative response. Addressing physical educators, artists, and researchers, this talk offers a reimagining of distraction as a dynamic, relational force, and an invitation toward embodied listening and more responsive ways of being with the world, in and through movement.

Tuesday 9 December 2025

Plus ça change...? Revisiting the body politic(s) in and through movement in a multipolar political landscape

Professor David Brown, Cardiff Metropolitan University/Prifysgol Metropolitan Caerdydd is a professor in the Sociology of Sport and Physical Culture. He is internationally recognised for his contributions to the interpretive and critical sociology of sport, education and physical culture.

David's presentation highlights how educational developments can be re-imagined using social theory to interpret and respond to changing social phenomena and processes. David will challenge and support delegates to use social theory to examine their understandings of bodies and movement and explore professional practices, values and identities. With recognition that political expression is inherently embedded in and through the moving body, David will introduce concepts and processes that enable us to better connect with and leverage the possibilities of 'body politics' in contemporary times.



Wednesday 10 December 2025

Moving Oceans: Swimming and surfing as world making practices'



Dr Rebecca Olive, Vice Chancellor's Senior Research Fellow, RMIT University in the Centre for Urban Research.

Rebecca will engage us with more-than-human encounters, their meanings and significance. From stinging tentacles to sharp rocks and branches, to itchy skin, and the threat of shark bite, swimming and surfing encounters have many possible sensations and outcomes beyond stoke and awe. Thinking about experiences of

relationality, vulnerability and accretion, and drawing on the work of ecofeminists, this discussion will explore how sports and physical activities like ocean swimming and surfing act as 'world making' practices that bring people, ecologies, technologies, geographies, and histories into new relational possibilities.

Further Information

Please register below to attend the specialist seminar. All keynote presentations will be held at the **ECU South West Campus**, Bunbury, Western Australia.

[Register Here](#)

To learn more about the specialist seminar, check out the [AIESEPConnect: Body Politics in and through Movement video](#).

For all enquiries, please email SHEdRC@ecu.edu.au.