

Re-Orienting Whiteness

Conference: Melbourne, 3-5 December 2008

Keynote Speakers:

Ann Laura Stoler, New School for Social Research

Aileen Moreton-Robinson, Queensland University of Technology

Lynette Russell, Monash University

Patrick Wolfe, La Trobe University

Matt Wray, Harvard University



Following the success of the *Historicising Whiteness* conference of 2006, *Re-Orienting Whiteness* continues the critical engagement with whiteness studies. This time in conjunction with the Australian Critical Race and Whiteness Studies Association, *Re-Orienting Whiteness 2008* invites scholars to explore the potential, or otherwise, of 'whiteness' to analyse the operations of 'race', past and present.

Our central aim is to bring whiteness studies into a closer conversation with other approaches to 'race', particularly those which have emerged from studies of colonialism and postcolonial theory. There has been remarkably little cross fertilisation between these areas of scholarship, despite the many obvious synergies between them. We seek to foreground this tension as a fundamental challenge for the field. We envision the conference traversing a variety of countries, periods, methodologies and theoretical concepts, bringing together scholars of diverse backgrounds and interests. Broadening out from the (settler colonial) context of the United States, we wish to explore how whiteness operated in colonial and non-colonial contexts across the globe.

Possible themes include:

Indigenous perspectives on whiteness

The politics of apology/assimilation/sovereignty/restitution/power

Whiteness in the colonial/settler colonial encounter

Whiteness in non-colonial contexts

The gendered privileges of whiteness

The chronology of whiteness: visibility/invisibility

Cultures, representations, borderlands, bodies, transformations

Refugees, asylum, immigration, inclusion/exclusion

Does whiteness even matter?

Proposals for 20 minutes papers, or panels of up to three speakers, are most welcome. Please send a 200 word abstract, along with a brief half-page CV, by **29 August 2008**.

To submit a proposal, or to be placed on the conference email list, write to:
reorientingwhiteness@gmail.com

Website: www.arts.monash.edu.au/historical-studies/news-and-events/reorienting-whiteness-2008

Conference Convenors: **Leigh Boucher** (Monash University), **Jane Carey** (University of Melbourne), **Kat Ellinghaus** (Monash University).

This conference is supported by:

ACRAWSA
Australian Critical Race and
Whiteness Studies Association

 **MONASH** University
Arts
School of Historical Studies


THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE
School of Historical Studies