

# HUMANITIES CONFERENCE



2004

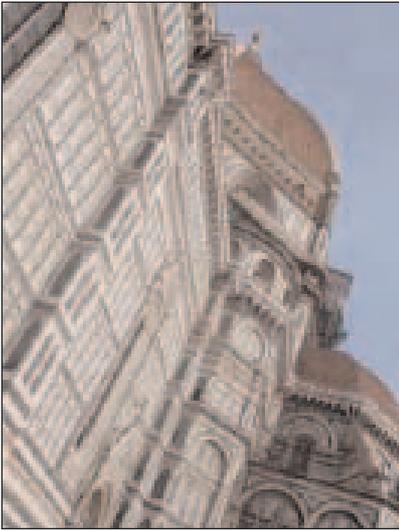
The Second  
International Conference on  
**NEW DIRECTIONS  
IN THE HUMANITIES**

Monash University Centre in Prato  
TUSCANY, ITALY

20-23 JULY 2004

[www.HumanitiesConference.com](http://www.HumanitiesConference.com)

Overall Theme:  
**FUTURE, HUMAN**



## THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NEW DIRECTIONS IN THE HUMANITIES

Held at the University of the Aegean in Rhodes, the First International Conference on the International Directions in the Humanities in July 2003, attracted 500 scholars from 15 countries. It is with great pleasure that we announce the 2004 Humanities Conference, to be held at the Monash Centre in Tuscany, Italy.

The Humanities Conference aims to develop an agenda for the humanities in an era otherwise dominated by scientific, technical and economic rationalisms. What is the role of the humanities in thinking the shape of the future and the human? The conference's conversations range from the broad and speculative to the microcosmic and empirical. Its over-riding concern, however, is to redefine the human and mount a case for the humanities. At a time when the dominant rationalisms are running a course that often seems to be drawing humanity towards ends that seem often less than satisfactory, this conference will reopen the question of the human—for highly pragmatic as well as redemptory reasons.

Anthropology, Archaeology, Classics, Communication, English, Fine Arts, Geography, Government, History, Journalism, Languages, Linguistics, Literature, Media Studies, Philosophy, Politics, Sociology or Religion—these are just some of the many disciplines represented at the Humanities Conference.

To the world outside of education and academe, the humanities seems at best ephemeral, and at worst esoteric. They appear to be of less significance and practical 'value' than the domains of economics, technology and science. This conference examines, and exemplifies, the inherent worth of the humanities.

In 2004 the Humanities Conference will be hosted by the Globalism Institute at RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia, in association with the Monash University Centre in Prato and the Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements.



## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Academics across the whole range of humanities disciplines.
- Research students.
- Educators.



## CALL FOR PAPERS

The proceedings of the Humanities Conference are published in electronic and print formats in the peer refereed International Journal of the Humanities. To be a part of this publication, you can register either for an In-Person Presentation or a Virtual Presentation. For your presentation paper to be included as part of the conference proceedings you must first submit a proposal to the conference review committee. This submission process is detailed at: [www.HumanitiesConference.com/ProposalSystem/](http://www.HumanitiesConference.com/ProposalSystem/)



## PRESENTATION FORMATS

**IN-PERSON PRESENTATIONS:** In-person Presentations: The conference organising committee is currently inviting proposals to present 30 minute, 60 minute workshops or jointly presented 90 minute colloquia. These might describe 'real world' initiatives or they might be academic research papers. Presenters may choose to submit their papers for refereeing and publication at any time before the conference, and up until one month after the conference. **Deadline: 31 October 2003**

**VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS:** If you are unable to attend the conference in person, a virtual registration provides you with the opportunity to submit a paper for peer refereeing and publication in the International Journal of the Humanities. Virtual registration also gives you access to the electronic version of the conference papers.

**DEADLINE:** for the first round call for presentations: **31 October 2003**. Submission and publication of papers is continuous, with a final deadline for submission of papers one calendar month after the end of the conference.

## MAIN SPEAKERS

Keynote addresses by some of the world's leading thinkers and innovators in the field of the humanities, as well as numerous parallel presentations by researchers and teachers. For regular updates, visit [www.HumanitiesConference.com](http://www.HumanitiesConference.com)

# THEMES

## Overall Theme: FUTURE, HUMAN



### THEME 1: BELONGING

- The dynamics of culture and identity.
- Globalism and localism; cosmopolitanism and backlash.
- The past and future of the nation.
- Place making in the humanities: geography and its sites.
- Past making in the humanities: reclaiming history and making futures.
- Immigration, minorities, refugees, diaspora.
- Citizenship: National and Global
- Languages: multilingualism, global English, international (Esperanto and others).
- Land and place: framing indigenous identities.
- Cities and regions: the dynamics of proximity and distance.
- Nationalism and racism.
- Differences: gender, sexuality, race, class, (dis)ability.
- Family and community.



### THEME 2: MEANING

- Philosophy's meanings.
- Semiotics: the modalities of meaning.
- The social mind: linguistics in theory and application.
- Rationality and faith.
- The role of religion in the twenty-first century
- Digital dilemmas: new means of production of meaning in the 'information society'.
- The literary and the less-than-literary: true stories and actual fantasies.
- Old forms and new agendas: the novel, poetry and other literatures.
- New media and new messages.
- The art of engagement and the interests of the aesthetic: music, visual arts, theatre.
- Wild World Web: content, culture and governance on the internet.



### THEME 3: KNOWING

- Knowledge as action and action as knowing.
- Research in the humanities: agendas and prospects.
- Matters of fact and matters of perspective: subjectivity and objectivity, truth and relativity.
- Science and humanity: the strained ties.
- The body examined: biotechnology, bioethics and other intrusions.
- Sustaining the human, ecological and culturally.
- Interdisciplinarity and multidisciplinary.
- Archaeologies of the material and the ephemeral.
- Museums and cultural heritage.
- Intellectual property: who owns knowledge?



### THEME 4: TRANSFORMATIONS

- Teaching humanities in testing times.
- Learning as an act of transformation.
- Violence and peace.
- Agency in the promised era of choice.
- Technology between humans and nature.
- The 'ism's of the humanities: feminism, multiculturalism ...
- The modern, the postmodern and their (traditional? classical?) others.
- The conservative agenda for a new world order.
- The 'new economy' and the 'knowledge economy' - where do the humanities fit?
- A third way? And the first or second futures of our recent past.
- Colonialism and neocolonialism.
- Terror and anti-terror.



## PUBLICATION

The proceedings of the Humanities Conference are published in the International Journal of the Humanities. All papers are fully refereed. To submit, at least one author of each paper must be registered to attend the Humanities Conference (to a maximum of one paper per registered author—which means, for instance, that two registered authors may submit two jointly authored papers). Registration may be for in-person presentation, or virtual presentation. Registration for a virtual presentation means that your presentation will be included in the conference program, your paper will be refereed for publication, and you will also be provided access to the full electronic version of that year's conference proceedings. Papers are published continuously, as soon as the publication process is completed for each paper. The conference proceedings for each year constitute one volume of the Journal.

### THE PUBLICATION PROCESS IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Submit a presentation proposal (in-person or virtual) at [www.HumanitiesConference.com](http://www.HumanitiesConference.com) before the next call for papers deadline—details on website.
2. If your proposal is accepted, you may then register for in-person or virtual presentation. You may submit your paper any time between registration and one calendar month after the closing date of the conference.
3. Once your paper is received, it is sent out to referees with your identity removed (maximum two week turnaround requested).
4. When referee reports are returned, they are sent back to you with the referees' identities removed (maximum two week turnaround requested). If full refereeing of your final paper is required before the conference in order to attend in-person, papers should be submitted more than three calendar months before the opening date of the conference.
5. Papers are published in print and electronic formats in the International Journal of the Humanities.

Humanities Conference Advisory Committee and Editorial Advisory Board of the International Journal of the Humanities.

- **PROF. TOM NAIRN**, The Globalism Institute, RMIT University, Australia.
- **PROFESSOR BILL KENT**, Director, Monash Centre, Prato, Italy.
- **PROF. PAUL JAMES**, Director, Globalism Institute, RMIT University, Australia.
- **PROF. MARY KALANTZIS**, Dean, Education, Language and Community Services, RMIT, Australia.
- **DR FELICITY RAWLINGS-SANAEI**, Research Associate, Monash Global Movements Centre, Monash University, Australia.
- **PROFESSOR CHRIS NYLAND**, Department of Management, Monash University, Australia.
- **DR CHRIS ZIGURAS**, The Globalism Institute, RMIT University, Australia.
- **ASSOC. PROF. ELENI KARANTZOLA**, Department of Mediterranean Studies, University of the Aegean, Greece.
- **PROF. GIORGOS TSIKALOS**, President, Nicos Poulantzas Society, Greece.
- **DR BILL COPE**, Common Ground, Australia.



## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE LOCATION

The Monash Centre in Prato is located 30 minutes by train from Florence, and 15 minutes from the Florence international airport. It lies within a region of Italian and international importance for its role in contemporary Europe and for its celebrated Renaissance past. The Monash University Prato campus is located in an eighteenth-century building, the Palazzo Vaj, in the historic centre of Prato.

## ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation packages will be available in hotels located at a convenient location from the venue. These can be booked through the registration area on the conference website.

## TOURS

Pre- and post-conference tours will cover points of interest in Florence, and around Northern Italy.

