
VITALITIES LAB

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

CENTRE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH IN HEALTH
SOCIAL POLICY RESEARCH CENTRE
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES



UNSW
SYDNEY

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University

THE VITALITIES LAB

The Vitalities Lab is a hub for interdisciplinary research that is lively, exciting, creative and novel. Under the leadership of SHARP Professor Deborah Lupton, the Vitalities Lab brings together researchers working on understanding human experience in the context of the more-than-human worlds in which they move and live.

The Vitalities Lab was launched by Deborah Lupton in February 2019, following her appointment to the Centre for Social Research in Health and the Social Policy Centre, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, UNSW Sydney. Other members of the team are postdoctoral fellows Dr Ash Watson (commencing July 2019), Dr Clare Southerton (commencing July 2019) and Dr Marianne Clark (commencing November 2019).



Left: SHARP Professor Deborah Lupton Top right: Dr Ash Watson and Dr Clare Southerton
Bottom right: Dr Marianne Clark

2019 WAS A BIG YEAR FOR THE VITALITIES LAB!



The Vitalities Lab published:

- 1 book
- 5 book chapters
- 19 journal articles
- 4 zines

The Lab hosted 7 visiting researchers!



The Vitalities Lab team members
gave 35 presentations + 2 given by
our visitors!

Lab members made media appearances,
comments or were mentioned in media
coverage 11 times!



RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED

2019-2021 The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences

Awarded for the project 'Re-humanising automated decision making' to fund an international network. **Deborah Lupton** is chief investigator, with Associate Professor Martin Berg (co-ordinator) and Professor Jakob Svenssen, both at Malmö University, Sweden, Professor Magnus Bergquist and Associate Professor Vaike Fors, both at Halmstad University, Sweden, Dr Debora Lanzeni and Professor Sarah Pink, both of Monash University, Australia, Associate Professor Bertil Rolandsson, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, Associate Professor Minna Ruckenstein and Dr Julia Velkova, both at University of Helsinki, Finland, and Associate Professor Rachel Smith, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Funds awarded: 410,000 Swedish krona.

2020-2026 Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence Grants

Awarded for the CoE for Automated Decision-Making and Society CE200100005, led by Professor Julian Thomas, RMIT University. **Deborah Lupton** is one of 18 Chief Investigators, leader of the UNSW node, leader of the Health Focus Area and co-leader of the People program.

Funds awarded: \$31.7 million (AUD)



Deborah Lupton at the launch of the CoE for Automated Decision-Making and Society

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- Lupton, D. (2019) *Data Selves: More-than-Human Perspectives*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Clark, M. (2020). Rethinking the ballet body with Barad. In Newman, J, Thorpe, H. and Andrews, D. (eds), *Sport, Physical Culture, and the Moving Body: Materialisms, Technologies, Ecologies*. Rutgers University of Press: New Jersey, pp. 209-229.
- Lupton, D. (2019) Vitalities and visceralities: alternative body/food politics in digital media. In Phillipov, M. and Kirkwood, K. (eds), *Alternative Food Politics: From the Margins to the Mainstream*. Routledge: London, pp. 151-168.
- Lupton, D. (2019) Digital sociology. In Germov, J. and Poole, M. (eds), *Public Sociology: An Introduction to Australian Society*, 4th edition. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin., pp. 475-492.
- Southerton, C. and McCann, H. (2019) Queerbaiting and real person slash: The case of Larry Stylinson. In Brennan, J. (eds.), *Queerbaiting and Fandom: Teasing Fans through Homoerotic Possibilities*, University of Iowa Press: Iowa, pp. 161-163.
- Southerton, C., Damkjaer, M.S. and A. Albrechtslund (2019) Photo sharing as participatory surveillance. In Eriksson, B., Stage, C. and Valtysson, C. (eds), *Cultures of Participation: Arts, Digital Media and Cultural Institutions*. Routledge: London. pp. 110-128.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Barbour, K., Clark, M., & Jeffrey, A. (2019). Expanding understandings of wellbeing through researching women's experiences of intergenerational somatic dance classes. *Leisure Studies*, online first. doi:10.1080/01490400.2019.1700573
- Clark, M., & Thorpe, H. (2019). Towards diffractive ways of knowing women's moving bodies: A Baradian experiment with the motherhood-Fitbit entanglement. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, online first. doi:10.1123/ssj.2018-0173
- Clark, M., Costas-Bradstreet, C., Holt, N. L., & Spence, J. C. (2019). Parental perceptions of a national program that funds sport participation for low-income children and youth in Canada. *Leisure Sciences*, 1-17.
- Fitzpatrick, K., Leahy, D., Webber, M., Gilbert, J., Lupton, D. and Aggleton, P. (2019) Critical health education studies: reflections on a new conference and this themed symposium. *Health Education Journal*, 78(6), 621-632.
- Lupton, D. and Maslen, S. (2019) How women use digital technologies for health: qualitative interview and focus group study. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 21(1), online, available at <https://www.jmir.org/2019/1/e11481/>
- Lupton, D. (2019) The thing-power of the human-app health assemblage: thinking with vital materialism. *Social Theory & Health*, 17(2), 125-139.

PUBLICATIONS

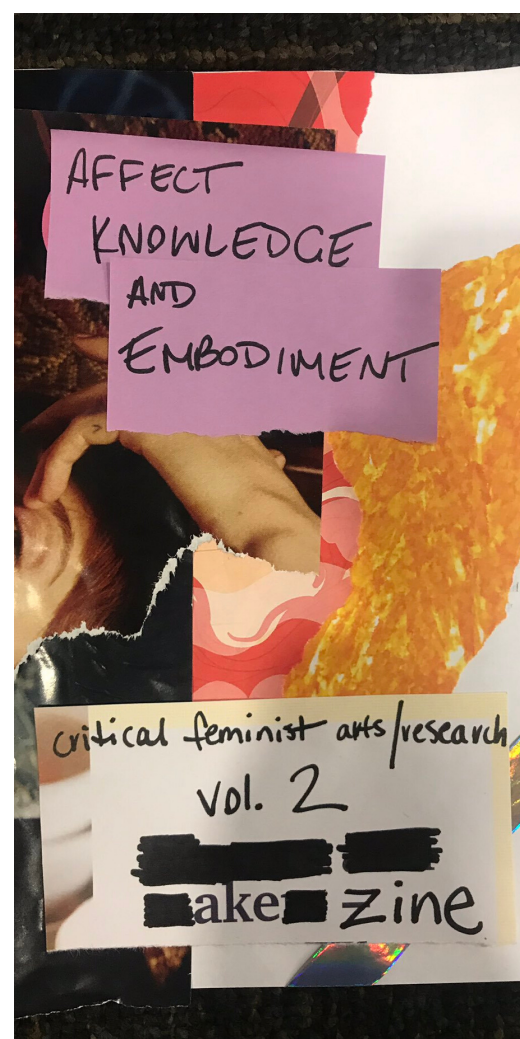
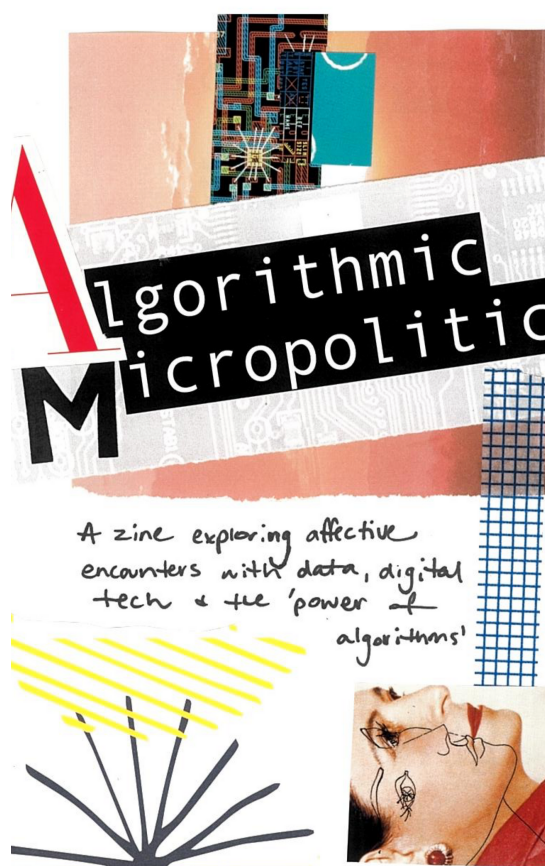
JOURNAL ARTICLES (CONT)

- Lupton, D. (2019) Towards a more-than-human analysis of digital health: inspirations from feminist new materialism. *Qualitative Health Research*, 29(14), 1998-2009.
- Lupton, D. and Leahy, D. (2019) Reimagining digital health education: the critical pedagogical and research possibilities of storyboarding. *Health Educational Journal*, 78(6), 633-646.
- Lupton, D. (2019) 'It's made me a lot more aware': a new materialist analysis of health self-tracking. *Media International Australia*, 17(1), 66-79.
- Lupton, D. (2019) 'I'd like to think you could trust the government, but I don't really think we can': Australian women's attitudes to and experiences of My Health Record. *Digital Health*, 5, online, available at <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2055207619847017>
- Lupton, D. (2019) Australian women's use of health and fitness apps and wearable devices: a feminist new materialism analysis. *Feminist Media Studies*, online first. doi:10.1080/14680777.2019.1637916
- Lupton, D. (2019) Towards a more-than-human approach to neurotechnologies. *American Journal of Bioethics Neuroscience*, 10(4), 174-176.
- Lupton, D. (2019) 'The internet both reassures and terrifies': exploring the more-than-human worlds of health information using the story completion method. *Medical Humanities*, online first. doi.org/10.1136/medhum-2019-011700
- Lupton, D. (2019) 'Things that matter': poetic inquiry and more-than-human health literacy. *Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise and Health*, online first. doi:10.1080/2159676X.2019.1690564
- Maslen, S. and Lupton, D. (2019) Enacting chronic illness with and through digital media: a feminist new materialist approach. *Information, Communication and Society*, online first. doi:10.1080/1369118X.2019.1602665
- Maslen, S. and Lupton, D. (2019) 'Keeping it real': women's enactments of lay health knowledges and expertise on Facebook. *Sociology of Health & Illness*, 41(8), 1637-1651.
- Salmela, T., Valtonen, A. and Lupton, D. (2019) The affective circle of harassment and enchantment: reflections on the ŌURA ring as an intimate research device. *Qualitative Inquiry*, 25(3), 260-270.
- Thorpe, H., & Clark, M. (2019). Gut feminism, new materialisms and sportswomen's embodied health: The case of RED-S in endurance athletes. *Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise and Health*, online first. doi: 10.1080/2159676X.2019.1631879
- Thorpe, H., Clark, M., & Brice, J. (2019). Sportswomen as 'biocultural creatures': understanding embodied health experiences across sporting cultures. *BioSocieties*, online first. doi: 10.1057/s41292-019-00176-2

PUBLICATIONS

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- *Algorithmic Micropolitics*, a Frances St Press zine. Published September 9, 2019. Ash Watson and the Vitalities Lab.
- *AKE Zine*, volume 3. A Frances St Press zine. Published November 21, 2019. Ash Watson, Laura Rodriguez Castro and Samantha Trayhurn with the AKE Collective.
- *FRG Zine*. A Frances St Press zine. Published November 29, 2019. Ash Watson and the TASA Families and Relationships Thematic Group.
- *So Fi Zine*, edition #6. A Frances St Press zine. Published December 11, 2019. Ash Watson is creator and editor.



VISITORS TO THE LAB

PAGE 07

- Dr Matthew Lariviere, University of Sheffield, UK, 25 February 2019
- Professor Stephanie Springgay, University of Toronto, Canada, 18 March 2019
- Dr Jens Lindberg, Umea University, Sweden, 1 October 2019 to 31 August 2020 (visiting fellow)
- Mr Jordan Maclean, University of Stirling, Scotland, 5 November to 16 December 2019 (student exchange)
- Professor Roger Burrows, Newcastle University, UK, 18 November 2019
- Associate Professor Minna Ruckenstein, University of Helsinki, Finland, 29 November 2019 to 22 January 2020 (visiting fellow)
- Dr Alexandra Ryborg Jonsson and Professor Susanne Reventlow, University of Copenhagen, 2 December 2019



Jordan Maclean, University of Stirling, with Vitalities Lab members Clare Southerton, Marianne Clark and Ash Watson at Coogee Beach, Sydney

PRESENTATIONS

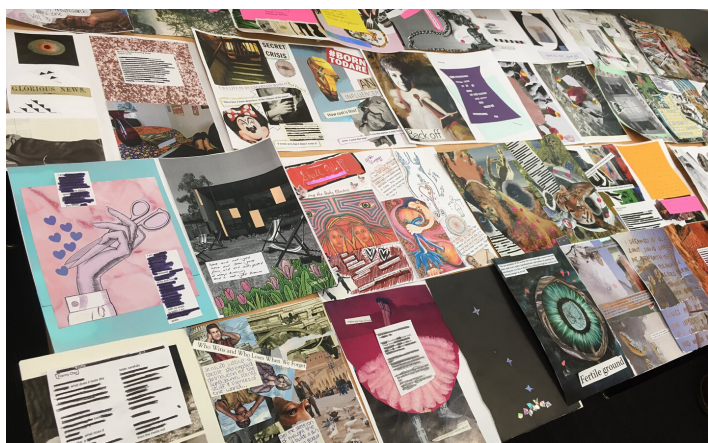
PRESENTATIONS, READING GROUPS AND WORKSHOPS FROM TEAM MEMBERS

- 'New Technologies, Weight Management and Good Health: Opportunities and Risks' – invited plenary presentation, National Obesity Summit, Canberra, 15 February: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'Design Sociology: Definitions and Directions' – invited presentation, Digital Design Ethnography: Technologies, People and Futures symposium, Monash University, 14 March: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- "'The Internet Both Reassures and Terrifies": Using the Story Completion Method for Health Research' – presentation, Centre for Social Research in Health seminar series, UNSW Sydney, 3 April 2019: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- "'Smart" Health Promotion: A Perspective from Digital Sociology' – invited sub-plenary presentation, International Union for Health Promotion and Education World Conference, Rotorua, New Zealand, 10 April 2019: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'The More-than-Human Worlds of Self-Tracking for Health and Fitness' – keynote, World Congress of the Sociology of Sport, Dunedin, New Zealand, 24 April: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'New Metaphors' – inspiration cards workshops, UNSW Sydney, 6 and 14 May: Deborah Lupton, convenor and presenter
- 'Increasing Your Academic Visibility' – invited presentation, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, UNSW Sydney, 7 May: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'Shaping Our Digital Future' – UNSW Sydney Grand Challenge event panel discussion, 13 May: Deborah Lupton, convenor and presenter
- 'A More-than-Human Perspective on Digital Health' – keynote, Digitally Engaged Patient conference, University of Copenhagen, 11 June: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'In Conversation with Deborah Lupton' – invited presentation at King's College, London, 13 June: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'Data Selves' – invited seminar presentation, London School of Economics, 13 June: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'More-than-Human Surveillance Worlds' – keynote, BSA Surveillance in the 21st Century early career workshop, Royal Holloway University of London, 14 June: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'Sociological Perspectives on Data Care' – invited panel presentation, Data Care: Renewing the Social Licence to Operate Smart Cities workshop, QUT, 27 June: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'Australians' Use of Digital Health' – invited presentation, UNSW School of Public Health & Community Medicine seminar series, 14 August: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'Using Social Theory' – invited workshop and lecture, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences HDR student conference, 14 August: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'Post-qualitative Research: An Introduction' – reading group, UNSW Sydney, 15 August: Deborah Lupton, convenor

PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATIONS, READING GROUPS AND WORKSHOPS FROM TEAM MEMBERS (CONT)

- 'Digital Health: Who Uses It and Where Does Their Data Go?' – invited presentation, UNSW Pioneers alumni association meeting: 19 August: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'Social Beings, Future Belongings Book Launch' – presentation on a chapter in the edited volume *Social Beings, Future Belongings* (Routledge) at the book launch, ANU, Canberra, 5 September: Clare Southerton, presenter
- 'Algorithmic Micropolitics' – zine-making workshop, UNSW Sydney, 9 September: Ash Watson, convenor and presenter
- 'Towards a More-than-Human Approach to Bioethics: The Example of Digital Health' – invited presentation, 'Bioethics Colloquium', UNSW Sydney and the South East Sydney Local Health District Clinical Ethics Service, 10 September: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'School Food Futures' – zine-making workshop, Little Food Festival, Melbourne, 26 September: Deborah Lupton, convenor, with Deana Leahy, Monash University
- 'Re/imagining Personal Data' – creative methods workshop #1, 1 October: Deborah Lupton, convenor, with Larissa Hjorth, RMIT University and Annette Markham, Aarhus University
- 'Relief from Communication: Parental Surveillance Technologies, Trust and Care' – presentation, AoIR Conference, QUT, Brisbane. October 1-6: Clare Southerton, presenter, with Maja Damkaer, Aarhus University and Anders Albrechtstlund, Aarhus University



Top left: Zines created at the 'Sociological fiction' zine-making workshop at ANU Bottom Left: Deborah Lupton with other speakers Sarah Pink, Matt Kearnes and Amanda Third at the UNSW Sydney Grand Challenge event Top right: Clare Southerton speaking at the *Social Beings, Future Belongings* Book Launch Bottom right: Ash Watson running the TASA Families and Relationships Day Zine-Making Workshop

PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATIONS, READING GROUPS AND WORKSHOPS FROM TEAM MEMBERS (CONT)

- 'Fangirls and Fake News' – presentation, AoIR Conference Conference, QUT, Brisbane. October 1-6: Clare Southerton, presenter, with Hannah McCann, University of Melbourne
- 'Re/imagining Personal Data' – creative methods workshop #2, UNSW Sydney, 18 November: Deborah Lupton, convenor
- 'Ethics of Care' – reading group, UNSW Sydney, 19 November: Deborah Lupton, convenor
- 'Digital Food Cultures' – keynote, 5th Australian Food, Society and Culture Network symposium, University of Sydney, 15 November: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'Sociological Fiction' – presentation, Affect, Knowledge and Embodiment: a feminist arts/research workshop, ANU, 21 November: Ash Watson, invited convenor and presenter
- 'Intimate Things: Rethinking Distraction in the 'Addictive' Reach for the Smartphone' – presentation, Dangerous Consumptions 17th Colloquium, UNSW Sydney, November 21: Clare Southerton, presenter
- 'Innovative Methods for Understanding the More-than-Human Worlds of Digital Health' – keynote presentation and workshop, TASA Health Day, University of Western Sydney, 29 November: Deborah Lupton, keynote presenter
- 'Creative Practices in Social Research: a History and Trajectory' – keynote presentation and workshop, TASA Families and Relationships Day, University of Western Sydney, 29 November: Ash Watson, keynote presenter
- 'Like and Subscribe: Intimacy and Queer Sex Education on YouTube' – presentation, TASA Health Day, University of Western Sydney, 29 November: Clare Southerton, presenter
- 'Data Selves' – invited presentation, 'Disrupting Data roundtable', Allens Hub for Technology, Law and Innovation and Data Justice group, UNSW Sydney, 2 December: Deborah Lupton, presenter
- 'Imagining the Futures of Personal Data: A Digital and Design Sociology Project' – presentation, 'Disrupting Data roundtable', Allens Hub for Technology, Law and Innovation and Data Justice group, UNSW Sydney, 2 December: Ash Watson and Deborah Lupton, presenters
- 'Research Creation Methods for Inquiries into Personal Data' – invited presentation, Re/humanising Automated Decision-Making Network symposium, Monash University, 13 December: Deborah Lupton, presenter

VISITOR PRESENTATIONS

- 'Walking Methodologies' – workshop by Stephanie Springgay, University of Toronto, 18 March
- 'Lost England? A Post-Brexit Sociological Travelogue' – presentation by Roger Burrows, Newcastle University, 18 November

MEDIA MENTIONS AND APPEARANCES

- Deborah Lupton published an article on Australian's use of Facebook in The Conversation and gave a follow-up interview on Drive program, ABC Sydney radio
- Deborah Lupton was quoted in a Government News article about her research on My Health Record
- Deborah Lupton was quoted in article about her research on fat politics in SBS 'The Feed' website
- Deborah Lupton was quoted in an article on fitness trackers in the New Zealand Listener news and current affairs magazine
- Deborah Lupton was quoted in an article on digital technology designed for women in Bustle website
- Deborah Lupton gave an interview for ABC Radio Gold Coast about her research on health and fitness apps and wearable devices
- Deborah Lupton wrote an article for The Conversation on gendered portrayals of heart disease in the popular media and gave follow-up interviews on Drive, ABC Sydney, Myf Warhurst Afternoons program, ABC Melbourne, Breakfast, ABC Bega
- Deborah Lupton was quoted in an ABC Life article about health apps
- Deborah Lupton was quoted in a Sydney Morning Herald article about mothers' use of smartphones and social media
- Deborah Lupton was quoted in an article for ABC Life website on fat stigma
- Clare Southerton was referenced in an article in the New York Times Parenting section, discussing parents taking photos of their children.

Parenting

Stages ▾ Life as a Parent ▾ All Topics ▾ Guides Milestones

ASK NYT PARENTING

Is It Bad to Take So Many Pictures of My Kid?

Take all the photos you want, experts say, but there are three things to consider as you document your child's life.

THE FEED

LATEST ISSUES PEOPLE COMEDY MARC MEETS INVESTIGATES ARTICLES EPISODES ON DEMAND | SBS NEWS | SBS HOME

MAN ASKED TO MOVE FROM EMERGENCY EXIT SEAT CLAIMS HE WAS 'FAT-SHAMED'

THE FEED

FAT NOT FAULT

THE CONVERSATION



Why are Australians still using Facebook?

Deborah Lupton, UNSW

February 7, 2019 12.16pm AEDT

OPINION

In defence of mothers on phones

EXTERNAL APPOINTMENTS

- Deborah Lupton was appointed as invited member of the Expert Working Group for the Australian Council of Learned Academies project 'Internet of Things: Maximising the Benefit of Deployment in Australia', commissioned by the Chief Scientist of Australia, Alan Finkel (March)
- Deborah Lupton was appointed as a Commissioner for the Commission on Governing Health Futures 2030: Growing Up in a Digital World (an initiative of The Lancet and Financial Times, funded by Fondation Botnar, Switzerland), June – first meeting was held in October



Deborah Lupton at the first meeting for the Commission on Governing Health Futures 2030 in Berlin

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Ash Watson is the elected TASA Secretary (2019-2020)
- Ash Watson is the invited inaugural Fiction Editor for The Sociological Review's short story series
- Clare Southerton is the Book Reviews Editor for the Journal of Sociology



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THE VITALITIES LAB, UNSW SYDNEY**

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