



Cognitive science and forensics – more than just bias and binding

Dr Kaye Ballantyne

Cognitive forensics is now becoming a mainstream area of research, with increasing acknowledgement of the important role human factors play in forensic decision making. Thus far, the focus has been on contextual biasing, with substantial debate and disagreement between commentators and practitioners as to the role context information has in varying forensic processes.

However, the fields of cognitive forensics and psychology can provide a vast amount of additional relevant information to inform forensic disciplines. Importantly, contemporary psychological experimental approaches can be used to determine the ‘how and why’ elements of practitioners approach to casework, their decision making processes, and even characterise behaviours that might lead to error. Kaye’s presentation will show how they used their research into biological examinations and DNA collection to demonstrate how observational and psychological studies can provide information about examiner behaviour, human factor predictors of examination success, and why context information is sometimes required for optimal performance.

WHERE: University of Technology, Sydney
Building 4, Level 3, Room 3.34
(Corner of Thomas & Harris St, Ultimo)

WHEN: Wednesday 18th March 2015, 6.00pm
refreshments for a 6.30pm start

COST: Free for members, \$5 for non-members

**For any enquiries
please contact the secretary:**

NSW Branch ANZFSS
PO Box K208
Haymarket NSW 1240

Email: nswbranch@anzfss.org



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Dr Kaye Ballantyne PhD

Kaye Ballantyne is the Senior Research & Development Officer within the Office of the Chief Forensic Scientist at Victoria Police Forensic Services Department, and an Adjunct Associate Professor with the School of Psychological Sciences at La Trobe University. She has published extensively in books and peer-reviewed journals in the fields of forensic science and molecular genetics, and provided seminars and workshops both nationally and overseas. Kaye's research interests include cognitive forensics, statistics, evidence interpretation, and applications of Y chromosome DNA profiling to genetics and forensics.

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Meeting Location



Nearby street parking is available on Thomas Street, and in a parking station in Building 10, off Thomas Street (note: this closes at 10.00 pm).

There is also a convenient car park in the Novotel Central Hotel in the section of Thomas Street behind the ABC.

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