

Paul G. Keil Ph.D.

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Research Overview

Keil is trained in social anthropology. Keil's research questions are guided by theories that understand cognition, action, culture, and landscapes as socio-ecological achievements emerging from organism-environment interactions. Subjects of study have included collaborative remembering, interspecies teamwork, and wild and domestic human-elephant relationships. Keil's expertise includes multispecies research, ecological anthropology, South Asian studies, cognitive sciences, and memory.

Education

- 2017 PhD, Anthropology (2017/09/26). *Macquarie University*.
Thesis Title - Living in Elephant Worlds: Human-elephant relations on the fringe of forest and village in Assam, Northeast India.
- 2011 Bachelor of Arts Honours, Anthropology. (2011/04/19) *Macquarie University*.
Dissertation title: Man-Sheep-Dog: Interspecies entanglements at sheepdog trials.
- 2010 Bachelor of Arts, Psychology. (2010/04/16). *Macquarie University*.
- 2002 Bachelor of Design Honours, Visual communication. (2002/10/02). *University of Technology, Sydney*.

Publications

Articles in peer reviewed journals

- 2017 **Keil, P.G.** (2017/09/02). Uncertain human-elephant encounters in North-East India. *Journal of Religious and Political Practice*, 3(3), 196-211.
- 2017 Harris, C.B., Barnier, A.J., Sutton, J., **Keil, P.G.**, & Dixon, A. (2017/09). "Going episodic": collaborative inhibition and facilitation when long-married couples remember together. *Memory*, 25(8), 1148-59.
- 2015 **Keil, P.G.** (2015/11/11). Human-Sheepdog Distributed Cognitive Systems: An analysis of interspecies scaffolding at a sheepdog trial. *Journal of Cognition and Culture*, 15(5), 508-529.
- 2014 Harris, C.B., Barnier, A.J., Sutton, J., & **Keil, P.G.** (2014/06/17). Couples as socially distributed cognitive systems: Remembering in everyday social and material contexts. *Memory Studies*, 7 (3), 285-297.
- 2014 Barnier, A.J., Priddis, A.C., Broekhuijse, J., Harris, C.B., Cox, R., Congleton, A.R., **Keil, P.G.** & Addis, D.R. (2014/07). Reaping what they sow: The benefits of remembering together in intimate couples. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*, 3(4), 261-265.
- 2011 Harris, C.B., **Keil, P.G.**, Barnier, A. J., & Sutton, J. (2011/04/29). We Remember, We Forget: Collaborative Remembering in Older Couples. *Discourse Processes*, 46 (4), 267-303.
- 2010 Sutton, J., Harris, C.B., **Keil, P.G.**, & Barnier, A. J. (2010/12/1). The psychology of memory, extended mind and socially distributed remembering. *Phenomenology of Cognitive Science*, 9 (4), 521-560.
- 2010 Harris, C. B., Barnier, A. J., Sutton, J., & **Keil, P.G.** (2010/02/01). How did you feel when "The Crocodile Hunter" died? Voicing and silencing in conversation influences memory for an autobiographical event. *Memory*, 18(2), 185-197.

Book Chapters

- 2016 **Keil, P.G.** (2016/11). Elephant-Human Dandi: How Humans and Elephants Move Through the Fringes of Forest and Village in Assam. In P. Locke & J. Buckingham (eds.), *Conflict, Negotiation, Co-existence: Rethinking Human-Elephant Relation in South Asia* (pp. 197-223). New Delhi: Oxford University Press, India. (citations = 5).

Manuscript draft in progress

Keil, P.G. Living in Elephant Worlds: Negotiating the domestic, the wild, and the in-between. *Working title for manuscript draft towards monograph publication.*

Book reviews

- 2019 **Keil, P.G.** R. Govindrajana 2018. Animal Intimacies: Interspecies Relatedness in India's Central Himalayas. *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*. DOI: 10.1080/00856401.2019.1608416
- 2016 **Keil, P.G.** Y. Musharbash & G. Henning Presterudstuen, 2014. Monster Anthropology in Australasia and Beyond. *The Australian Journal of Anthropology*, 27(3), 415-417.

Online essays

- 2018 **Keil, P. G.** Death of a hungry god. *SAPIENS, photo essay*. Retrieved from: <https://www.sapiens.org/culture/elephants-india-religion/>
- 2015 Locke, P. & **Keil, P.G.** Multispecies methodologies and human-elephant relations. *Engagement- A blog published by the Anthropology and Environment Society*. Retrieved from: <https://aesengagement.wordpress.com/2015/10/27/multispecies-methodologies-and-human-elephant-relations/>
- 2012 **Keil, P.G.** & Downey, G. Man-Sheep-Dog. Interspecies social skills. *Neuroanthropology, PLOS blogs*. Retrieved from <http://blogs.plos.org/neuroanthropology/2012/06/25/man-sheep-dog-inter-species-social-skills/>

Professional Research Experience

- 2019 **Postdoctoral Researcher Fellowship** (2019/02/07) *Institute of Ethnology, Czech Academy of Sciences.*
- 2017-18 **Research consultant.** *International Rivers (NGO), Thailand* (2017/09/01– 2018/12/20).
- Literature research and review for scientific studies related to river systems and livelihoods in South East Asia / Mekong region.
 - Assistance in grant writing and application for external funding.
 - Editing campaigns pieces for popular media.
- 2015-19 **Course tutor and assessment marking.** *Department of Anthropology, Macquarie University.*
- ANTH 151 (Semester 2) Human Evolution and Diversity (convenor: Prof. Greg Downey), and ANTH 106 (Semester 1) Drugs Across Cultures (convenor: Assoc Prof. Lisa Wynn).
 - 2015-2016 Tutored on average five hours per week during semester, plus student guidance. Head tutor role in 2015 and assisted with course administrative duties (ANTH 151).
 - 2015-2019 Assessment marking for an average 200 students each semester, per course.
- 2016 **Lecturer and course design.** *Department of Anthropology, Macquarie University.*
- ANTH 702: Core Issues in Anthropological Theory II (convenor: Dr. Jaap Timmer); ANTH 304: Ecological Anthropology (convenor: Dr. Eve Vincent).
 - Invited to lecture and lead theoretical discussion for a Masters level class on religion, wonder, and ontology (ANTH 702. 2016/05/05).
 - Course and assessment design; Delivered three two-hour lectures on conservation, the Anthropocene, and ecological theory for 3rd year undergraduate (ANTH 304. 2016/07/26– 2016/11/17).
- 2015-17 **Anthropology & Evolution online textbook** (2015/02/12 – 2017/04/30). *Innovation and Scholarship Program (Chief Investigator, Prof. Greg Downey), Department of Anthropology, Macquarie University.*
- Working with Prof. Greg Downey and Dr. Stef Savannah towards creating an innovative,

online, 12 Chapter, interactive textbook. Tasks involve researching and editing written content and designing interactive exercises and assessment tasks.

- 2007-12 **Research Assistant** (2007/07/01 – 2012/08/20). *ARC Collective Memory Grant (Dr Amanda Barnier & Dr John Sutton), MACCS, Macquarie University.*
- Qualitative and quantitative data collection: subject interviews, transcription, development of coding systems for data interpretation, the construction of interview schedules and questionnaires for target populations.
 - Quantitative (coding, SPSS) and Qualitative (grounded theory & discourse analysis) analysis of interview transcripts.
 - Co-authoring articles for international journals based on experimental research.
 - Copy edited six chapters from *Oxford Handbook of Hypnosis* (2008).
 - Range of tasks including the running of experiments, preparation of grants and ethics applications and administrative duties.
- 2009-10 **Research Assistant** (2009/07/20 – 2010/12/23). *NHMRC Project Grant (Dr. Robyn Langdon), MACCS, Macquarie University.*
- Running and managing the laboratory-based research of Dr. Langdon: aiding in experimental design, organising participants, collecting data, data entry, and data analysis.
 - Copy-edited 15-chapter volume: *Emotion, Imagination and Moral Reasoning* (2012).
- 2009 **Research Assistant.** (2009/07/12 – 2009/12/10). *Macquarie University Research Development Grant (Dr. Kerry Sherman), Department of Psychology.*
- Review of online resources for support partners of women going through cancer.
 - Involved in the preparation of grant and ethics application, the construction of interview schedules and appropriate questionnaires for varied target populations.

Presentations

Selected Conference Presentations

- 2019 Keil, P.G. (2019/06/22). *Scaffolding the Elephant: Becoming domestic and living by the norms of the human world.* School of Oriental and African Studies Elephant Conference II, SOAS, London.
- 2019 Keil, P.G. (2019/05/03). *Elephants Crossing with Care: Making Space for Local Ways of Life.* Arts of Coexistence: Care and survival in the Sixth Extinction. Oslo School of Environmental Humanities, University of Oslo.
- 2018 Locke, P. & Keil, P.G. (2018/11/15). *Beyond the Disciplinary Silo- Human-Elephant Interactions and The Imperative for Interdisciplinary Collaboration.* American Anthropological Association annual meeting, San Jose, California.
- 2018 Keil, P.G. (2018/01/15). *Humans and elephants, co-creating worlds in Assam.* Locating northeast India: Human mobility, resource flows, and spatial linkages. Tezpur University, Assam.
- 2016 Keil, P.G. (2016/12/13). *Hidden elephants and the problem of the wild in multispecies ethnography.* Anthropological Society Conference, University of Sydney.
- 2016 Keil, P.G. (2016/04/05). *Colonising in the footsteps of elephants.* School of Oriental and African Studies Elephant Conference, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
- 2015 Keil, P.G. (2015/12/02). *Uncanny human-elephant entanglements in Northeast India.* Australian Anthropological Society Conference, University of Melbourne.
- 2015 Keil, P.G. (2015/11/30). *Feeding a living god.* New Zealand Asian Studies Society Conference, Canterbury University.

Invited Seminars and Colloquia

- 2019 Keil, P.G. (2019/06/03). *Piggers, pigdogs, feral pigs*. Invited colloquium presentation at Institute of Ethnology, Czech Academy of Sciences.
- 2014 Keil, P. G. (2014/01/17). *Human and elephant pathways through the fringes of village and forest*. Invited colloquium presentation at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati.

Invited to reviewed articles for:

South Asia: Journal of South Asia; Environmental History; Behavioural Processes; Animal Cognition.

Research expeditions

- 2019 *New South Wales, Australia* (July-August). 6 weeks independently conducted pilot ethnographic research on pigdog hunting
- 2012-18 *Assam, India*. 18 months of independently conducted ethnographic research for doctoral degree in Assam (2012-2014), researching human-elephant relations in Chakardo village. I managed two research assistants in 2013 and 2014, who conducted archival research, collected survey data, and assisted with translation. In 2017, I conducted 3 months independent follow-up research on human-elephant relations and additional work on shifting socio-economic conditions in indigenous Karbi community at fieldsite.
- 2010 *New South Wales, Australia* (May-July). 3 months of independently conducted ethnographic fieldwork on sheepdog competitions and human-dog teamwork.

Conference Organisation

- 2019 Belonging, Prosperity and Security in a More-than-human world (2019/09/11-12). *Programme Committee*.
- 2009 Australian Anthropological Society Annual Conference (2009/12). *Support staff, assisting conference attendees and logistical organisation of presentations*.
- 2009 Australasian Society for Cognitive Science (2009/09). *Pre-conference preparations*.

Scholarships and Grants

Scholarships

- 2014 Prime Minister's Australia-Asia Endeavour Award Postgraduate Scholarship: *A prestigious award providing financial support for Australian students to undertake research in Asia. Mobility focused and fostering future academic and industry leaders. \$63,000AUD.*
- 2012 Australian Postgraduate Award: *A scholarship to undertake PhD research in Australia. \$24,000AUD p/a for four years.*
- 2010 Macquarie Higher Study Scholarship: *Awarded to students with strong academic merit. \$2,100AUD.*

Grants

- 2016 Keil, P. G. "Human-Elephant Entanglements" Postgraduate Research Fund (PGRF), Session 1. Macquarie University, **\$2,850AUD.**
- 2012 Barnier, G. Savage, D.R. Addis, R. Cox, J. Sutton, N. Bullot, C. Harris, M. Irish, E. Connaughton, A. Cordonnier, A. Selwood, M. Temler, K. Williamson, **P. Keil**, & A. Devitt. "Belief in memory". Macquarie University, CCD 2012 Cross Program Support Scheme, **\$40,000AUD.**

Selected Achievements and Prizes

- 2016 Australian Anthropological Society/ Australian Network of Student Anthropologists Photography Competition. *Highly Commended, photographic depictions of anthropology and ethnography.*
- 2011 Australian Anthropological Society Best Honours Thesis. *Awarded to the most outstanding honours thesis in anthropology within Australia.*
- 2010 University Medal: Macquarie University. *Bachelor of Arts, Honours, Anthropology.*
- 2009 300 Level Psychology Prize. *Meritorious performance in PSY340 Research Methods.*
- 2008 Chandra Jayawardena Memorial Prize. *Awarded for proficiency in 300-level Anthropology.*
- 2008 Hugh Owen Essay Prize. *National Prize for best undergraduate essay on South Asian Studies.*

External Positions

- 2017-21 Honorary Postdoctoral Affiliate. *Department of Anthropology, Macquarie University.*
- 2014-15 Affiliation. *Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Guwahati, India.*
- 2012-14 Editorial Board. *Student Anthropologist Journal.*
- 2011-14 Honorary Associate. *Macquarie Centre for Cognitive Science, Macquarie University.*

Science Communication and research-related volunteer work

- 2019~ *Elephant Collaborative Website (www.elephantcollaborative.org)*. Part of a broader collaborative project with elephant scientist, Dr Tarsh Thakekaera, I constructed this website to curate short-form essays from elephant experts, foster cross-disciplinary discussion, and introduce new ideas to the public on human-elephant relations. Submissions are ongoing.
- 2019 *Assam Tribune* (2019/06/29). "A double track multiplies the mistakes of the past at Deepor Beel" Opinion editorial piece on elephant conservation for respected regional newspaper, India.
- 2017 *Zoological Society London* (2017). Voluntary consultancy work for Thai elephant conservation project in Kanchanaburi.
- 2017 *Bangkok Scientifique* (2018/10/24). "Living in Elephant Worlds." Presentation on research to science café-type audience.
- 2016 *Current Conservation Magazine*, 10 (3). "Bridging the Gap Between Humans and Elephants: An interview with Piers Locke and Paul Keil."
- 2015 *Movies at Macquarie* (2016/08/26). "Whale Rider." Panel member; Discussing human-animal themes with a public audience.