



University of
Western Sydney

CENTRE FOR
CULTURAL RESEARCH

Date

Thursday August 26, 2010

Time

2pm - 4:30pm

Venue

The Boardroom
Superintendent Cottage
Building ET
Parramatta Campus
([view map](#))

RSVP

Christy Nguy
c.nguy@uws.edu.au

Apologies

Cameron McAuliffe
c.mcauliffe@uws.edu.au

Greg Noble
g.noble@uws.edu.au

[View 2010 Seminar
schedule](#)

CCR seminar series 2010

CCR Research Forum

The Urban Night-Time Economy: Cultures, Conflicts, Contradictions

In recent years, there has been heated public debate about urban night leisure and its impact on city living. In the United Kingdom, a mix of industrial closure and rapid deregulation of the liquor industry, and a poorly regulated private security sector and illegal activity in pubs and clubs, have contributed to the startling rise of a problematic night-time economy. These concerns have been echoed in Australian debates about urban safety, violence, drinking, illicit drug use, and the governance of licensed venues, as well as in conflicts over different modes of urban cultural consumption and rival claims on city space. In Sydney, in particular, there has been considerable disputation over the social and cultural implications of living in a '24-hour city', and the necessary responses by urban and cultural planning. At this CCR Research Forum, three prominent researchers on after-dark city life will address a range of issues concerning this controversial subject, before an open discussion on the cultures, conflicts, and contradictions of the contemporary urban night-time economy.

Speakers:

Dick Hobbs is Professor of Sociology at the London School of Economics. He has an international reputation for ethnographic research on the UK underworld and organised crime; violence, masculinity and policing in night economies; and other aspects of urban crime, disorder and culture. His publications include *Bouncers: Violence and Governance in the Night Time Economy* (with Hadfield, Lister & Winlow, Oxford University Press, 2003). Professor Hobbs is visiting the University of Western Sydney throughout August as a guest of the School of Social Sciences and the Centre for Cultural Research.

Kane Race is Chair of the Department of Gender and Cultural Studies at the University of Sydney. He has a research interest in the emergence of new modes of governmentality in relation to consumption, especially as these are being played out in sexual identity and disputes relating to the night-time economy. His publications include *Pleasure Consuming Medicine: The Queer Politics of Drugs* (Duke University Press, 2009).

Stephen Tomsen is Professor of Criminology at the University of Western Sydney. His research interests include violence, policing and urban order, crime and masculinities, hate crime and the politics of victimhood. Along with Deborah Stevenson and David Rowe he is a Chief Investigator on an Australian Research Council Discovery Project *The City after Dark: The Governance and Lived Experience of Urban Night-time Culture*. His publications include *Violence, Sexuality and Prejudice* (Routledge, 2009).

Chair: Professor David Rowe (CCR)