

School of Social Sciences (M257)  
The University of Western Australia  
35 Stirling Highway  
Crawley WA 6009 AUSTRALIA

Phone: +61 8 6488 2869  
Mobile +61 4 0679 8401  
Email: [debra.mcdougall@uwa.edu.au](mailto:debra.mcdougall@uwa.edu.au)

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**Current Position**

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Associate Professor, Anthropology and Sociology, University of Western Australia

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**Qualifications**

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PhD, Anthropology, The University of Chicago, 2004  
MA, Anthropology, The University of Chicago, 1997  
BA Honours, Magna Cum Laude, The Pennsylvania State University, 1993

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**Previous Academic Positions**

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2010-13 Assistant Professor, Anthropology and Sociology, School of Social Sciences, University of Western Australia  
2006-10 Postdoctoral Research Fellow (ARC Australian Postdoctoral Fellowship), Anthropology and Sociology, University of Western Australia  
2004-06 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN, USA  
2003-04 Preceptor, Program in International Studies, University of Chicago, USA  
2004 Lecturer, Social Science Collegiate Division, University of Chicago  
2004 Instructor, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago  
2003 Teaching Assistant (postgraduate level), Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago  
2002 Teaching Assistant (undergraduate), Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago  
2001-02 Course Intern, Social Science Collegiate Division, University of Chicago  
1998 Tutor, Writing Program, University of Chicago  
1997 Lector, Writing Program, University of Chicago

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**Prizes / Nominations**

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2009 Best postdoctoral publication in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, University of Western Australia (for 'Becoming Sinless' in *American Anthropologist*), 2009  
2008, 2010-3 Nomination, Faculty Teaching Award (Teaching Excellence)  
2003 Starr Prize Lectureship, University of Chicago

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**Grants/ Fellowships**

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2006 CI Debra McDougall, ARC Discovery Project, Christianity, conflict, and culture: an anthropological investigation of the political role of churches in Solomon Islands (Amount awarded: AUD \$281,000)  
2002 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship

- 1999 Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research Small Grant  
 1998 Social Science Research Council, International Dissertation Research Fellowship  
 1996 Center for Advanced Studies in Peace & International Cooperation, Summer Research Travel Grant, University of Chicago  
 2000-01 University Unendowed Fellowship, University of Chicago  
 1995-98 National Science Foundation (USA) Graduate Fellowship

#### Academic publications

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##### Books

- Forthcoming, *Engaging with Strangers: Love and Violence in the Rural Solomon Islands*, New York: Berghahn Books  
 2013. *Christian Politics in Oceania* (co-edited with Matt Tomlinson), New York: Berghahn Books.

##### Refereed journal articles

- Under review. 'Resilience, tenacity, frustration: Customary authority and state withdrawal in Solomon Islands,' in Special Issue: Solomon Islands in Transition, eds. Matthew Allen, Sinclair Dinnen, and Tarcisius Tara Kabutaulaka, *The Journal of Pacific History*.
2014. 'History and Anthropology during the last decade,' (co-authored with Mark Edele), *Antropologicheskoy Forum* (Forum for Anthropology and Culture) 20: 121-132. [published in Russian translation as История и антропология за последние десять лет]
2013. 'Spiritual "capacity"? Overseas religious missions in RAMSI-era Solomon Islands.' *State, Society, and Governance in Melanesia Project Discussion Paper Series*, Canberra: Australian National University. (<http://hdl.handle.net/1885/10702>).
2012. 'Stealing foreign words, recovering local treasures: Bible translation and vernacular literacy on Ranongga (Solomon Islands),' in Special Issue: Interlingual Articulations in Asia and the Pacific: Figuring Sociocultural Otherness through Otherness of Linguistic Codes, eds. Alan Rumsey and Rupert Stasch, *The Australian Journal of Anthropology* 23 (3): 318-339.
2009. 'Becoming sinless: Converting to Islam in the Christian Solomon Islands,' *American Anthropologist* 111 (4): 480-491.
2009. 'Rethinking Christianity and Anthropology: A Review Article,' *Anthropological Forum* 19 (2): 185-194.
2009. 'Christianity, Relationality, and the Material Limits of Individualism: Reflections on Robbins's *Becoming Sinners*,' *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology* 10 (1): 1-19.
2008. 'Religious Institutions as Alternative Structures in Post-conflict Solomon Islands: Cases from the Western Province,' *State, Society, and Governance in Melanesia Project Discussion Paper Series*, 2008/5, Canberra: Australian National University.
2006. 'New Interventions, Old Asymmetries: Australia & the Solomon Islands,' *The New Critic*, Issue 3, 2006, online ([http://www.ias.uwa.edu.au/the\\_new\\_critic](http://www.ias.uwa.edu.au/the_new_critic)).

2005. 'The Unintended Consequences of Clarification: Development, Disputing, and the Dynamics of Community in Ranongga, Solomon Islands,' in Special Issue: Outside Gods: History Making in the Pacific, ed. Martha Kaplan, *Ethnohistory* 52 (1): 81-109.
2003. 'Fellowship and Citizenship as Models of National Community: United Church Women's Fellowship in Ranongga, Solomon Islands,' in Special Issue: Women's Groups and Everyday Modernity in Melanesia, ed. Bronwen Douglas, *Oceania* 74 (1-2): 61-80. (Invited contribution).
2000. 'Paths of Pinazu: Captivity and Social Reproduction in Ranongga,' *Journal of the Polynesian Society* 109 (1): 99-113.

#### Book chapters

- Forthcoming, 'Saving states, saving souls: Australian interventions in Solomon Islands,' in *Conflicts and Convergences: Critical Perspectives on Christianity in Australia and the Pacific*, Fiona Magowan and Carolyn Schwarz, eds. Boston: Brill Publishers
- Forthcoming (2014), "Tired for nothing? Women, Chiefs, and the Domestication of Customary Authority in Solomon Islands," in *Divine Domesticities: Christian Paradoxes in Asia and the Pacific*, Margaret Jolly and Hyaewool Choi, eds. Australian. Canberra: The Australian National University Press.  
<http://press.anu.edu.au?p=292021>
2013. 'Introduction: Christian Politics in Oceania' (co-authored with Matt Tomlinson), in *Christian Politics in Oceania*, Matt Tomlinson and Debra McDougall, eds. New York: Berghahn Books, pp. 1-21.
2013. 'Evangelical Public Culture: Making Stranger-Citizens in Solomon Islands,' in *Christian Politics in Oceania*, Matt Tomlinson and Debra McDougall, eds. New York: Berghahn Books, pp. 122-145.
2011. 'Church, Company, Committee, Chief: Emergent Collectivities in Rural Solomon Islands,' in *Managing Modernity: Capitalism, Cosmology, and Globalization in the Pacific*, Mary Patterson and Martha Macintyre, eds. Brisbane: University of Queensland Press, pp 121-146.
2011. 'Christianity, Custom, and Law: Conflict and Peacemaking in the Post-Conflict Solomon Islands,' in *Mediating Across Difference: Indigenous, Oceanic and Asian Approaches to Conflict Resolution*, Morgan Brigg and Roland Bleiker, eds. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, pp 141-162.

#### Other articles, commentary, working papers, reports

2014. Sub-national governance in post-RAMSI Solomon Islands. *State, Society, and Governance in Melanesia Project Working Paper Series*, 2014/3, Canberra: Australian National University. (<http://ips.cap.anu.edu.au>)
2007. 'Dramatic tectonic uplift of fringing reefs on Ranongga Is., Solomon Islands,' (co-authored with S. Albert, J. Udy, G. Baines), *Coral Reefs* ('Online First' edition). (<http://www.springerlink.com/content/22v15n7k4225h182/fulltext.html>)
2006. (with Inia Barry and Silas Pio of Kastom Gaden Association) Disaster and recovery in Ranongga: Six months after the earthquake in the Western Solomons, Honiara Solomon Islands.

## Book Reviews

2011. Review of Judith Bennett, *Natives and Exotics: World War II and the Environment in the Southern Pacific* (Honolulu, Hawai'i, 2009). *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology* 22 (1): 136-137.
2010. Review of James F. Weiner and Katie Glaskin, eds., *Customary Land Tenure and Registration in Australia and Papua New Guinea: Anthropological Perspectives* (Canberra, ANU E Press, 2007). *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology* 11 (1): 90-92.
2009. Review of Clive Moore, ed, *Tell It As It Is: Autobiography of Rt. Hon. Sir Peter Kenilorea, KBA, PC, Solomon Islands' First Prime Minister* (Taipei: Academia Sinica, 2008). *Journal of Pacific History* 44 (2): 229-230.
2008. 'Christian Dilemmas Beyond Locality' [Review essay on Webb Keane, *Christian Moderns: Freedom and Fetish in the Mission Encounter* (U California, 2007) and Matthew Engelke, *A Problem of Presence: Beyond Scripture in an African Church* (U California, 2007)], *Current Anthropology*, 49 (5): 945-946.
2008. Review of Gustavo Lins Ribeiro and Arturo Escobar, ed, *World Anthropologies: Disciplinary Transformations within Systems of Power* (Oxford: Berg 2006). *Anthropological Forum* 18 (1): 94-96.
2003. Review of Ben Burt and Michael Kwa'ioloa, ed, *A Solomon Islands Chronicle, As told by Samuel Alasa'a* (London: The British Museum Press 2001) and Michael Kwa'ioloa and Ben Burt, *Our Forest of Kwara'ae: Our Life in Solomon Islands and the Things Growing in our Home* (London: The British Museum Press 2001). *Journal of the Polynesian Society* 112 (2): 163-166.
2001. Review of David Akin and Joel Robbins, ed, *Money and Modernity: State and Local Currencies in Melanesia*. (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press 1999). *Paideuma* 47: 245-248.
1996. Review of Martha Kaplan: *Neither Cargo nor Cult: Ritual Politics and the Colonial Imagination in Fiji* (Durham: Duke University Press 1995). *Chicago Anthropology Exchange* 23: 100-102.

## Conference presentations (since 2009)

- 2014 'Cosmopolitan spaces and ancestral ground: Christianity and socio-spatial transformations of the early twentieth century Solomons,' *Faith in Motion: Religion in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, University of Western Australia, 15 August.
- 2014 'Against continuity thinking: What studies of the state in Melanesia might take from studies of Christianity in Melanesia,' *State of the Pacific Conference*, hosted by State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program, Australian National University, Canberra, 18-19 June 2014.
- 2013 'Village as enclosure: Gender and the domestication of customary politics in Solomon Islands,' *Annual Meetings of the American Anthropological Association* in Melanesia Interest Group Invited Panel, 'The Spatial Politics of Enclosure: Creating Persons and Publics,' Chicago, IL 20-24 November.
- 2013 'Warrior welcomes and liberal peace in Solomon Islands: Rethinking the cosmopolitan right to hospitality,' *Annual Meetings of the Australian Anthropological Society* in panel 'Strangers and Familiars,' Canberra, 6-9 November.

- 2013 'The tenacity of local engagements with extra-local 'governance' in an era of state contraction,' *Solomon Islands in Transition Workshop*, hosted by State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program, Australian National University, Canberra, 4-6 November 2013.
- 2013 'Bringing the Gospel ashore: Narratives of conversion in the early twentieth century Solomon Islands,' *Emotions of Conversion Workshop*, hosted by ARC Centre for Excellence for the History of Emotions and the Institute for Advanced Studies, University of Western Australia, 1-2 July 2013.
- 2012 'Conservative ideology, transformative practice: Women's fellowship and customary leadership in the twenty-first century Solomons,' *Paradoxes of Domesticity: Christian Missionaries and Women in Asia and the Pacific*, organized by Hyaeweol Choi and Margaret Jolly, 8-10 August
2012. 'Saving states, saving souls: Australian interventions in Solomon Islands,' University of Queensland seminar series, 11 May 2012.
2011. 'Missionizing interventions: Australia, Solomon Islands, and the transnational politics of evangelism,' Joint meeting of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES), the Australian Anthropological Society (AAS) and the Association of Social Anthropologists of Aotearoa / New Zealand (ASAANZ) in a session entitled 'Faith as Heresy: Translocal religion in a global era,' organized by Debra McDougall and Saskia Abrams-Kavunenko, 8 July.
2010. 'Religion, public culture, and village politics in Solomon Islands,' *Anthropology and Sociology Seminar Series*, University of Western Australia, 22 April.
2010. 'We are one in the spirit of God? Religion, public culture, and village politics in Solomon Islands,' *Workshop on 'Christian Politics in Oceania'*, Monash University, 22-23 July.
2010. 'We are one in the spirit of God? Religion, public culture, and village politics in Solomon Islands,' *Department of Anthropology Seminar*, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, 5 February.
2010. 'Strangers, Kin, Christians,' chapter presented to the *Melanesia Research Seminar*, British Museum, London, 29 January.
2010. 'We are one in the spirit of God? Religion, public culture, and village politics in Solomon Islands,' *Department of Anthropology and Pacific Studies Center*, University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway, 21 January.
2009. 'Fractious polities: Denominationalism in the post-conflict Solomon Islands,' *Annual Meetings of the American Anthropological Association (AAA)* in a session invited by the *Society for the Anthropology of Religion* titled 'Christian Politics in Oceania: Denominationalism and Circulation,' organized by Matt Tomlinson and Debra McDougall, Philadelphia, PA, 26 November.

## Teaching

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*Teaching portfolio available upon request.* Units taught include:  
 Religion: Anthropological and Sociological Approaches (UWA)  
 Religion and Globalisation, Global Change (UWA)  
 Global Change, Local Responses (UWA)  
 Applied and Professional Practice (UWA)

Fundamentals of Social and Cultural Anthropology (ND)  
Anthropology of Christianity (ND)  
Place, Environment, and Society in Melanesia and Australia (ND)  
Culture and Conflict in the Pacific Islands (ND)  
Christianity, Colonialism, and Culture (ND)  
Thesis Writing Seminar (U Chicago)  
Self, Culture, and Society (U Chicago)  
Intensive Study of a Culture: Solomon Islands (U Chicago)  
Development of Social and Cultural Theory (as teaching assistant, U Chicago)  
Capitalism, Colonialism, & Nationalism in the Pacific (as teaching assistant, U Chicago)  
Human Being and Citizen (as tutor, U Chicago)  
Academic and Professional Writing (lector, U Chicago)

#### Honours and postgraduate supervisions

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##### Postgraduate students (current)

Moshe Bernstein, *Globalization, Translation and Transmission: the Reproduction of Sino-Judaic Cultural Identity in Kaifeng, China*  
Virginie Roseberg, *Distribution, Transmission and Erosion of Traditional Medicinal Knowledge among the Iban of Temburong, Brunei*  
Catriona Stevens, *The transnational lives of new Chinese migrants in Perth: How personal transnational practices affect identity and future migration trajectories*  
Azim Zahir, *Exploring secularism in predominantly Muslim contexts: the cases of Maldives and Bangladesh*

##### Postgraduate students (completed)

Saskia Abrahms-Kavunenko, *Improvising Tradition: Lay Buddhist Experiences in Cosmopolitan Ulaanbaatar* (University of Western Australia, PhD, 2012)  
Richard Martin, *Representing the Gulf: Issues of Place, Race and Identity in a Region of Northern Australia* (University of Western Australia, PhD, 2011)  
Ben Ripper, *Depoliticising Native Title: Mediation, uncertainty and the extension of state government power in Western Australian native title determinations* (University of Western Australia, MA, 2014)

#### Service

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##### UWA

Member of the Committee of Management, UWA Academic Staff Association, 2012-  
Steering committee member, Religion and Globalisation Initiative, University of Western Australia, 2008-  
Advisory Committee member, Communication Skills unit for Faculty of Arts, 2010  
Postgraduate coordinator (with Victoria Burbank and Yasmine Musharbash), 2007  
Editorial board member, *Anthropological Forum: A journal of social anthropology and comparative sociology*, 2006-

## Languages

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Kubokota, an Austronesian language of the Solomon Islands

Luqa, an Austronesian language of the Solomon Islands

Solomon Islands Pijin, neo-Melanesian lingua franca

German

References available upon request

24 October 2014