Dr Dima Rusho

Research Fellow - Monash Indigenous Studies Centre, School of Philosophical, Historical, and International Studies, Monash University, Australia

Lecturer - Sociology and Anthropology, School of Social Sciences, Monash University, Australia

(+61)439090777 dima.rusho@monash.edu

# Research Interests

My research interests are at the intersection of language, law, and Indigenous cultures & knowledges. My research involves collaborating with Indigenous language speakers, language interpreters, and legal professionals working in Australia’s justice system. It contributes to the following areas:

* The justice system’s recognition of Indigenous languages, cultural practices, and laws;
* The factors impacting Indigenous language interpreting in legal contexts including the role of Indigenous identity and heritage;
* The incorporation of Indigenous conceptualizations into interpreting and translation practices;
* Improving methodological approaches to working with Indigenous communities; and
* Decolonial theories and perspectives around the globe.

My other area of research is Medical Anthropology with a particular focus on the economic, social, and cultural dimensions of the experience of dementia, as well as the ethics and politics of gene editing, specifically with regards to the perspectives of different stakeholders involved in gene editing therapies.

# Academic Qualifications

2021 Doctor of Philosophy, *Monash University*

School of Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures and Languages

Faculty of Arts

Thesis: *Cross-currents: Indigenous language interpreting in Australia’s justice system*

2016 Bachelor of Arts (Honours), *Monash University*

School of Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures and Languages

Faculty of Arts

Thesis: *Country as interlocutor in Indigenous Australia: A Habermasian perspective*

2010 – 2015 Bachelor of Letters, *Monash University*

1996 – 1999 Bachelor of Pharmacy, *Monash University*

# Scholarships and Awards

2017 Research Training Program (RTP) Stipend Scholarship

2017 Monash Graduate Excellence Scholarship (MGES)

2016 Monash University Faculty of Arts Honours Merit Scholarship

2011, 2013, 2014, 2015 Monash University Dean’s Recognition Award, Semesters 1 & 2

2014 European Union Award for Excellence for Exceptional Performance in European Studies

# Awarded Grants

2022 – The Indigenous Justice Research Program - Australian Institute of Criminology

Project title: *Optimising the availability and provision of Indigenous language interpreting in circuit courts*.

Value: $82,756.30

Role: Lead Chief Investigator.

# Publications – Peer Reviewed Journals

Rusho, D. (2023). First Nations interpreters cannot be neutral and should not be invisible. *Translation & Interpreting*, *15*(1), 120-134.

Rusho, D.(2022). Cross-currents: Indigenous language interpreting in Australia’s justice system (thesis abstract). *International journal of Speech, language, and the law, 28*(2).

Rusho, D. (2018). Cultural conceptualizations of language and country in Australian Indigenous languages. *International Journal of Language and Culture*, *5*(1), 94-111.

Gaby, A., Bradley, J., & Rusho, D. (in prep). Land as kin: Yanyuwa conceptualizations of country.

Rusho, D., & Bradley, J. (in prep). The Kriol Holi Baibul: A tool of coloniality or an act of plurality?

Warren, N., Rusho, D & Cabrera, D. (in prep). Experimenting on future children: Australian stakeholders’ perspectives on gene editing.

# Publications – Book Chapters

Rusho, D. & Warren, N. (in press). Chronic Illness. In Dew, K. & Donovan, S. (eds.), Encyclopedia of Health Research in the Social Sciences. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Rusho, D. (forthcoming). Coloniality and Australian Indigenous language interpreting in legal settings. In Ndhlovu, F. & Ndlovu-Gatsheni, S. (Eds), *Routledge Handbook of Language and Decolonisation*. Routledge.

# Publications – Other

*Language, Life, and Indigenous People in Australia's Prison System*. Interviewed by Dr Gerald Roche for the Global Coalition for Language Rights Global Language Advocacy Day 2023

<https://www.coalitionforlanguagerights.org/post/australian_prisons>

Rusho, D., & Cho, H. (in prep). Korean and Indigenous language interpreting: A comparison (research brief)

# Panels and Invited Talks

2022 - Bonotti, M., Dunnolly-Lee, H., Rusho, D., Willoughby, L., & Xu, M., 'Language and social inclusion panel'. Presented as part of *Social Sciences Week*, 6 September 2022, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia.

2022 - ‘Indigenous language interpreting in Australia’s justice system’. *Language Talks Seminar Series*, 31 March 2022, University of New England, Armidale, Australia.

2021 - ‘Alice Gaby in conversation with Dima Rusho: The unheard voices of language & culture education and research – Roundtable’. *Identity and Ways of Knowing flagship of the School of Culture, History and Language (CHL) in the College of Asia and the Pacific (CAP),* 8-9 November 2021, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.

2020 - ‘Plenary - Professor Diana Eades in conversation with Dima Rusho’. *Forum on Englishes in Australia*, 9 October 2020, Latrobe University, Melbourne, Australia.

# Peer Reviewed Conference Presentations

Rusho, D. (2022). 'Critiquing neutrality and impartiality in First Nations language legal interpreting'. Presented at the Australian Linguistics Society Conference, 30 November - 9 December 2021, University of Melbourne, Australia.

Rusho, D., Bradley, J. (2021). ‘The Kriol Holi Baibul – A tool of coloniality or an act of plurality?’. Presented at the *Australian Linguistics Society Conference,* 7-9 December 2021, Latrobe University, Melbourne, Australia.

Rusho, D. (2021). ‘Decolonial perspectives on the Holi Baibul translation’. Presented at the *Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures, and Languages HDR Colloquium*, 1 October 2021, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia.

Rusho, D. (2021). 'Incorporating Indigenous conceptualizations into legal interpreting in Australia’s justice system'. Presented at the *Cultural Constructions Conference,* 4 March, University of Texas Arlington, Texas.

*Awarded the Excellence in Academic Achievement for Outstanding Presentation*

Rusho, D. (2020). ‘*“I didn't have my rights 'cos we were at his uncle's house”* The interpreter as language expert and cultural broker'. Presented at the *Australian Languages Workshop,* 1 March 2020,Minjerribah, Australia.

Rusho, D. (2019). ‘Kriol interpreting in Australia’s justice system’: Presented at the *Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures, and Languages HDR Colloquium*, 28 October 2019, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia.

Rusho, D. (2019). ‘(Un)translatability in Indigenous Language Interpreting in Australia’s Justice System’. Presented at the *International Association of Forensic Linguists Conference*, 4 July 2019, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.

Rusho, D. (2019). ‘Ascertaining the need for Kriol interpreting: Some linguistic considerations’. Presented at the *Language and the Law Conference III*. 6April 2019, Northern Territory Supreme Court, Alice Springs, Australia.

Gaby, A., Bradley, J., Rusho, D., and Primahadi Wijaya Rajeg, G. (2019). ‘When is a metaphor not a metaphor? Yanyuwa connections between country and kin’. Presented at the *Australian Languages Workshop*. 17 March 2019, Marysville, Australia.

Rusho, D. (2018). ‘Accessing interpreters along the continuum: Kriol in the justice system’. Presented at the *Forum on Englishes in Australia.* 2 November 2018, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia.

Rusho, D. (2017). ‘Language as Sacred in Aboriginal Australia’. Presented at the *Language, religion, and spirituality: A symposium in memory of Prof. ‘Tope (Sky)Omoniyi*. 20October 2017, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia.

# Teaching Employment

2023 **Lecturer and Unit Coordinator**

ATS3634 Indigenous Peoples Globally

*Anthropology (School of Social Sciences)*

Duties: Unit coordination and delivery; creating lecture, tutorial, and other teaching materials; conducting lectures and tutorials; designing assessment tasks.

2022 **Lecturer and Unit Coordinator**

ATS3634 Indigenous Peoples Globally

*Anthropology (School of Social Sciences)*

Duties: Unit coordination and delivery; creating lecture, tutorial, and other teaching materials; conducting lectures and tutorials; designing assessment tasks.

2022 **Guest Lecturer and Special Sessional**

LAW5443 - Language, communication and legal process

*Monash Law School*

2022 **Guest Lecturer**

ATS2281 Aboriginal Languages

*School of Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures and Languages*Lecture title: ‘Language, interpreting, and the law’

2021 **Teaching Associate**

ATS1339 Linguistic structure and language diversity

*School of Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures and Languages*

Duties: Conducting tutorials; co-creating teaching materials for tutorials; providing input on assessment questions and structure; marking.

2021 **Teaching Associate**

ATS1338 Linguistics and English language: Analysing communication

*School of Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures and Languages*

Duties: Conducting tutorials; co-creating teaching materials for tutorials; providing input on assessment questions and structure; marking.

2020 **Guest lecturer**

ATS1254 Culture, power and difference: Indigeneity and Australian identity

*Monash Indigenous Studies Centre (School of Philosophical, Historical, and International Studies*

Lecture title: ‘Indigenous Languages: Complexity, Loss and "Not speaking right through"’

2020 **Teaching Associate**

ATS1254 Culture, power and difference: Indigeneity and Australian identity

*Monash Indigenous Studies Centre (School of Philosophical, Historical, and International Studies*

Duties: Conducting tutorials; creating teaching materials for tutorials; managing the unit’s Moodle page; providing input on assessment questions and structure; marking.

2019 **Guest lecturer**

ATS2553 Indigenous Justice in Australia

*Criminology (School of Social Sciences)*

Lecture title: ‘Indigenous Language Interpreting in Legal Contexts’

2019 **Teaching Associate**

ATS2671 Managing Intercultural Communication

*School of Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures and Languages*

Duties: Conducting tutorials; co-creating teaching materials for tutorials; providing input on assessment questions and structure; marking.

2019 **Teaching Associate**

ATS1339 Putting words together

*School of Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures and Languages*

Duties: Conducting tutorials; co-creating teaching materials for tutorials; providing input on assessment questions and structure; marking.

2018, 2019 **Teaching Associate**

ATS1338 Sounds and Words

*School of Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures and Languages*

Duties: Conducting tutorials; co-creating teaching materials for tutorials; providing input on assessment questions and structure; marking.

# Professional Experience

2022 (ongoing) **Member of the Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee**

2021 **Member of the Australian Linguistic Society Accreditation and Affiliate Working Group**

08/2018 – 04/2021 **Postgraduate Student Representative**

Graduate Program, Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, Faculty of Arts, *Monash University*

09/2020 **Organizing Committee Member: LLCL HDR Colloquium 2020**

The New Normal: Communicating research through digital platforms

# Professional Memberships

* Australian Linguistics Society
* International Association of Forensic Linguists Conference
* Ally Network Monash: A network supporting the LGBTQI community at Monash University

# References

**Associate Professor Alice Gaby**

School of Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures and Languages

Monash University

Tel: (03) 990 24169 Email: [alice.gaby@monash.edu](mailto:alice.gaby@monash.edu)

**Associate Professor John Bradley**

*Deputy director of the Monash Indigenous Studies Centre*

Monash University

Tel: (03) 990 54206 Email: [john.bradley@monash.edu](mailto:john.bradley@monash.edu)

**Professor Kathryn Burridge**

School of Linguistics, Literatures, Cultures and Languages

Monash University

Email: [Kate.Burridge@monash.edu](mailto:Kate.Burridge@monash.edu)