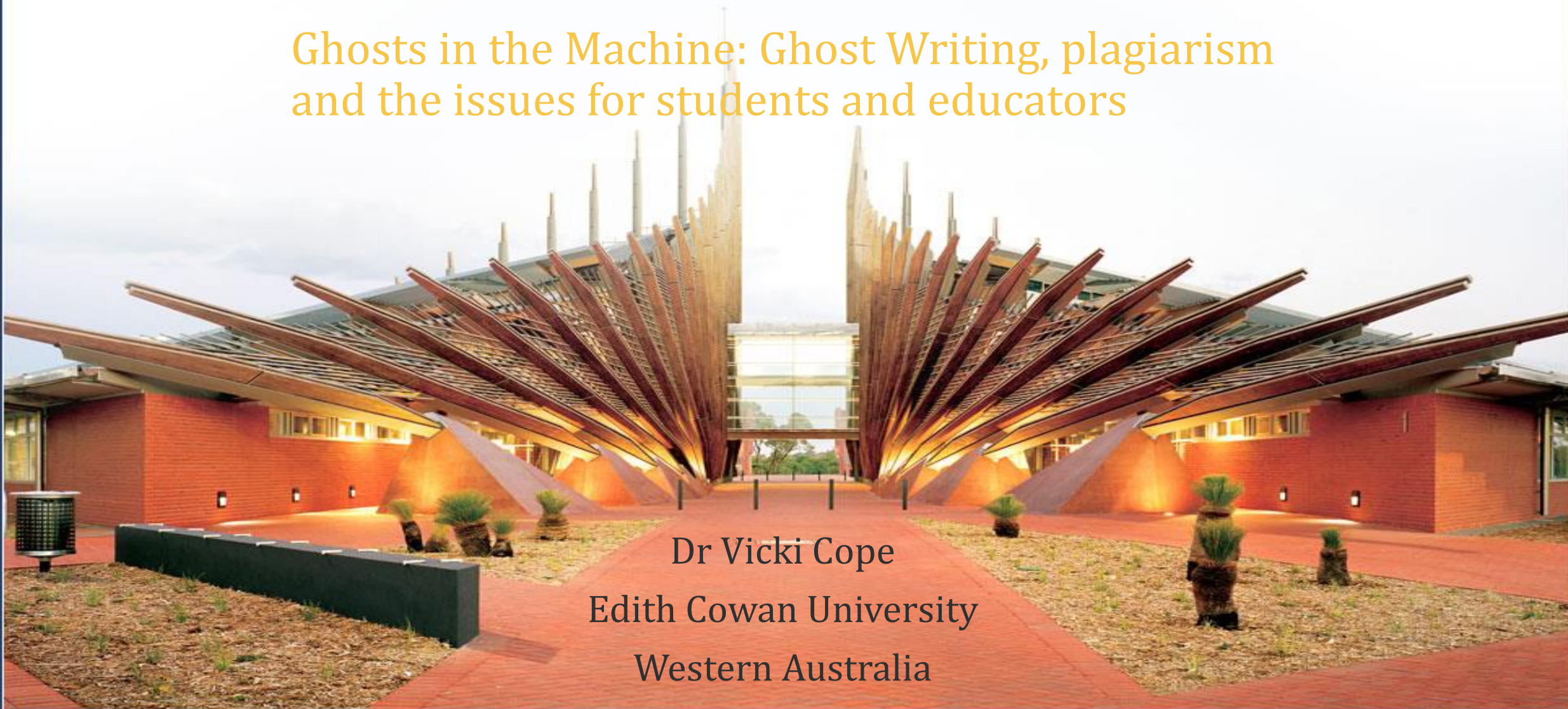


Ghosts in the Machine: Ghost Writing, plagiarism and the issues for students and educators



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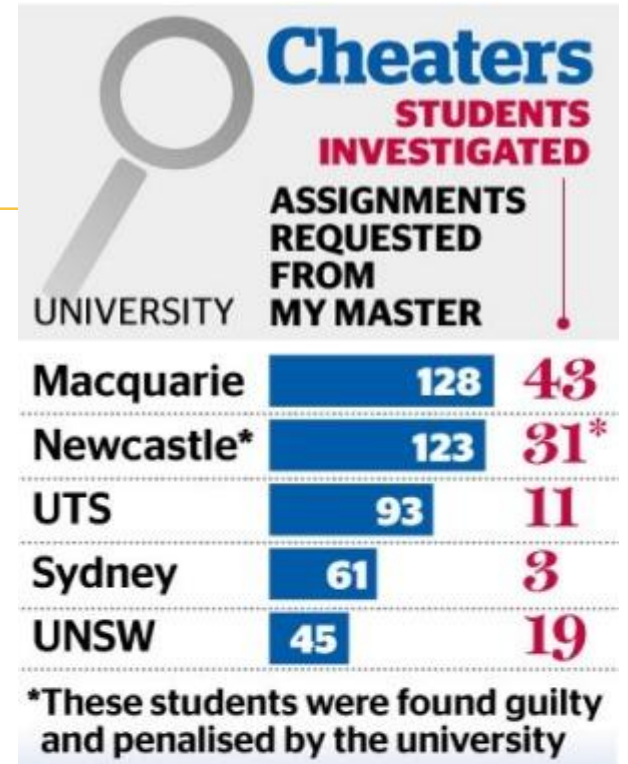
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Background

- November 2014 and June 2015 May 2016 major headlines in Australian media
- Customised academic essays
- Within 48 hours if payment is made
- *The Conversation*- “The slide of academic standards
- In Australia: a cautionary tale” (2015)



Where to?

- Academic misconduct?
- Cheating?
- Suspension, failure, degrees rescinded?
- Digital fingerprinting?

Mantras

- Stay Calm and Teach!
- Panic and Punish!
- Ignore at the peril of your Integrity!

Professionalism

- Professionals conduct themselves ethically and with integrity
- Preparation of students- any student, but especially nurses?
- Code of Ethics

The challenges

- Being a student
 - Short time frames, time management
 - Cost of units, time and of failure
 - Scholarships
- Being an educator
 - Short time frames, time management
 - Failure as a teacher
 - Ethics
 - Maintenance of standards

Academic ideals

- What graduates should achieve- technical skill, expertise
- English
- Level of academic writing
- Understanding of academic integrity

Being a 'good' student and a 'good' educator

- Knowledge of the student role
- Student charter
- Policies knowledge
- Spell out the rules and the possible ramifications
- Should they still choose to cheat....

Confrontation

- Policy on Academic Misconduct
- Remediation session
- Procedure for reporting
- Database of offenders

Rethink?

Shift the blame (O'Shea et al, 2016)

Other issues to think about

- Substantive editing
- Under-reporting- “ *Faculty members who ignore or trivialise academic dishonesty send the message that the core values of academic life aren’t worth enforcing*” (McCabe & Pavela, 2004, p 15).
- New forms adapting all the time (Dadkhah, 2015)
- Cyber fraud- fraudulent journals, invalid conferences, forced joint authorship, predatory publishing, hijacked journals, bogus impact factors and so on...

Summary

- 'Perfect storm'
- Critical role that we play
- Commitment

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