

Professor Joan Leach
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Professor Joan Leach (BA Hons, BSc, MA, PhD) is Director of the Australian National Centre for Public Awareness of Science at The Australian National University. She is immediate Past President of Australian Science Communicators and Chair of the National Committee for History and Philosophy of Science at the Australian Academy of Science.

Her research centres on public engagement with science, medicine and technology and she has been active in the Australian government's recent initiatives toward 'Inspiring Australia'. She is currently researching the role of popular science in the globalization of science since the 1960s, a project funded by the Australian Research Council. She has published extensively about science communication, including *Rhetorical Questions of Health and Medicine (with Deborah Dysart)* and *An Ethics of Science Communication (with Fabien Medvecky)*, and was editor of the International journal, *Social Epistemology*.

Professor Leach has won numerous academic awards for her research and community engagement. She received a Rockefeller Fellowship in 2016, responding to the US-based "Science of Science Communication" program and to characterise alternative programs for Australia. At the Rockefeller Science Communication Conference, The Bellagio Centre, Italy (2022), her presentation outlined the need to establish a code of ethics for those working within the science communication field. To honour her work bringing together policy makers, scientists and journalists, she was awarded a Science Journalism Laureate at Purdue University (2006 – 2012).

While remaining transfixed by science, she advocates for better science communication that critically examines the social impacts of science, technology and biomedicine.

EDUCATION

PhD (with Distinction) Rhetoric of Science Program, (joint Rhetoric and HPS) University of Pittsburgh 1996
BSc Department of Biology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 1992
BA (hons) Department of English Literature, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 1992. Academic minor in Philosophy

ACADEMIC POSTS:

Professor and Director, Australian National Centre for Public Awareness of Science, The Australian National University, from 1 January 2016

Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Science Communication, University of Queensland, June 2004 to December 2015.
Adjunct in Philosophy

Assistant Professor of Communication, University of Pittsburgh. January 2002 to May 2004. Resigned, 2006.

Lecturer in Science Communication. Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, University of London, UK. 1995-2002

Honorary and Elected Positions/Academic Honors relevant to science communication

Honorary Professor, University of Queensland (appointed 2016)
President, Australian Science Communicators (elected 2014-2017)
Visiting Assistant Professor at the Open University, UK (2011-2016)
Chair, National Committee for History and Philosophy of Science, Australian Academy of Science (2014-2022)
University of Queensland, Australian Research Excellence Award (2006)
"Science Laureate" awarded by Purdue University for International leadership in science communication

SELECTED ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS (relevant to science communication and engagement)

Scholarly Books

Fabien Medvecky, Joan Leach (2019) *An Ethics of Science Communication*. Springer Nature <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-32116-1>

Kay Colthorpe, Susan Rowland, and **Joan Leach** (2013) *Good Practice Guide (Science. Threshold learning outcome 4: Communication)*. Sydney, NSW, Australia: Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT).

Edited Research Books

Toss Gascoigne, Bernard Schiele, **Joan Leach**, Michelle Riedlinger with Bruce Lewenstein, Luisa Massarani, Peter Broks, eds (2020) *Communicating Science: A Global Perspective*. Canberra: ANU Press.

Joan Leach and Deborah Dysart-Gale, eds. (2011) *Rhetorical Questions of Health and Medicine*. Lanham: Lexington Books.

Scholarly Book Chapters

- Joan Leach** (2015) "A Comic Moment for Social Epistemology" in James Collier (ed.) *The Future of Social Epistemology: A Collective Vision*. London: Rowman and Littlefield International, 11–20.
- Joan Leach** (2015) "The Role of Science Communication in International Diplomacy" in Lloyd S David and Robert G Patman (eds.) *Science Diplomacy: New Day or False Dawn?* Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Co, 155-170.
- Joan Leach** (2013) "Science Communication" in Peter Simonson, Janice Peck, Robert T. Craig and John P. Jackson, Jr (Eds.) *The Handbook of Communication History*, New York: Routledge, 289–301.
- Joan Leach** (2012) "Social Epistemology: Communicating Neuroscience." In A. Carter, W. Hall and J. Illes (Eds.) *Addiction Neuroethics: The Ethics of Neuroscience Research and Treatment*, New York: Elsevier, 231–238.
- Joan Leach** (2011) "How do you talk to a patient" in **Joan Leach** and Deborah Dysart-Gale (Eds) "*Rhetorical Questions of Health and Medicine*, Lanham: Lexington Books, 181–153.
- Joan Leach** (2010). "Social epistemology". In Susanna Hornig Priest (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of science and technology communication*, Thousand Oaks: Sage, 674–677.
- Joan Leach** (2009) "Models of science communication" in Holliman, R., Thomas, J., Smidt, S., Scanlon, E., and Whitelegg, L. (eds.) *Investigating science communication in the information age: Implications for public engagement and popular media*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 101–126.

Selected Journal Articles

- Joan Leach**. (2022) Vaccine Hesitancy: Public Trust, Expertise, and the War on Science by Maya Goldenberg: A Pox on all our Houses. *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science*. Vol. 96, 193-195.
- Roberson, T, **Joan Leach** & Raman, S 2021, 'Talking about public good for the second quantum revolution: Analysing quantum technology narratives in the context of national strategies', *Quantum Science and Technology*, vol. 6, no. 2.
- O'Connor, R, Nel, J, Roux, D, **Joan Leach**. 2021, 'The role of environmental managers in knowledge co-production: Insights from two case studies', *Environmental Science and Policy*, vol. 116, pp. 188-195.
- Viana, JN, Raman, S and **Joan Leach** (2020) Responsible Innovation for and From Ethical Integration. *The American Journal of Bioethics*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15265161.2020.1730496>
- O'Connor, RA, Nel, JL, and Roux, DJ, Lim-Camacho, L, van Kerkhoff, L and **Joan Leach** (2019) Principles for evaluating knowledge co-production in natural resource management: Incorporating decision-maker values. *Journal of Environmental Management* 249.
- Rowbotham S, McKinnon M, **Joan Leach**, Lamberts R, and Hawe, P (2017) Does citizen science have the capacity to transform population health science? *Critical Public Health* 27: 1–11.
- Medvecky, Fabian and **Joan Leach** (2017). Editorial: The ethics of science communication. *Journal of Science Communication* 16(04): E1–5.
- Doran M, Barnett A, **Joan Leach**, Lott W, Page K, Grant W (2017) Can video improve grant review quality and lead to more reliable ranking? *Research Ideas and Outcomes* 3: e11931. <https://doi.org/10.3897/rio.3.e11931>
- Gallois C, Ashworth P, **Joan Leach**, (2017) The Language of Science and Social Licence to Operate, *Journal of Language and Social Psychology*, 2017, 36(1): 45-60.
- Joan Leach** (2017) A note from the 1960s: Science communication as a solution to complex science, *Journal and Proceedings of the Royal Society of New South Wales*, 150(1): 118-121.
- Rooney, David, **Joan Leach** and Ashworth, Peta (2014) Doing the social in social license, *Social Epistemology*, (28)3-4 209-218.
- Weir, Patricia, **Joan Leach**, Gamble, Jenny and Creedy, Debra (2014) Twenty- First Century Minerva: Are there career impacts for women who receive a "Women in Science" Fellowship? *International Journal of Gender, Science and Technology*, 6(2): 197–208.
- Burns, Maureen and **Joan Leach** (2011) Science as an Extra Dividend: Frontiers of Science, *International Journal of Cultural Studies* 14(5): 531–546.

Current Grants:

(2022-2024) NHMRC Medical Future Fund: Towards a Global Commons for Stem Cell Research

(2022-2027) ARC Industrial Transformation Research Hub. Future Plants. Stream on Responsible Innovation