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## ***INTERNATIONAL VISUAL LITERACY ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH AWARD WINNER***

*Urbana-Champaign, Illinois – Dr. T.J. Thomson, Australian Research Council DECRA fellow, School of Media and Communication, RMIT, Melbourne, Australia, was awarded the International Visual Literacy Association's (IVLA) Distinguished Research Award at the 55th annual conference held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign this October.*

This award is given to members of the Association who are actively involved in on-going, outstanding, and established research in visual literacy that furthers the cause of the field, who have achieved a substantial record of scholarly publication, and who have significantly advanced knowledge within the field. Dr. T.J. Thomson's centers on the visual aspects of journalism and on the processes relevant to those who make, edit, present, and consume visual news. This research agenda has so far resulted in three books (including the forthcoming Routledge Companion to Visual Journalism), nearly 30 journal articles and book chapters, and \$1.32 million in external grants. Chief among these are three federally funded projects that each significantly raise our awareness of the visual and help us better understand it in diverse contexts. The most recent of these explores (in)visibility in aging and aged care and how journalists visually represent older people in news coverage on these topics.

Dr. Thomson is one of eleven winners of this award since 1989. Winners are selected by an awards committee comprised of IVLA members. For any questions in the meantime, contact Dr. Kazuyo Kubo, Awards Committee Chair, at [kkubo@lesley.edu](mailto:kkubo@lesley.edu).

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Founded in 1968, the International Visual Literacy Association is an interdisciplinary organization of professionals working toward a fuller understanding of the way we derive meaning from what we see and the way we interact with our visual environment. For more information about IVLA, please visit <https://ivla.org/>.