Nomination for Tom Trauer Evaluation and Research Award
Professor Katherine Boydell

PART A

Entry Summary
Professor Boydell has dedicated her career to exploring, in a participatory manner, the lived experience of individuals experiencing mental health issues. Her research focuses on understanding complex pathways to care for young people experiencing a first episode of psychosis, the use of new technologies in youth mental health, and the ‘science’ of knowledge translation. Current projects include body mapping the link between mental and physical health in early psychosis, exploring the experience of anxiety in adolescents using arts-based methods, and using photovoice to explore experiences of women stigmatised by mental illness, disability or refugee status. Methodologically, her research focuses on advancing qualitative inquiry, specifically arts-based health research. She explores the use of art as a knowledge translation strategy - in the creation and dissemination of research - including documentary film, dance, digital storytelling, found poetry, installation art and body mapping. Her work identified theoretical, methodological and ethical challenges of engaging in arts-based knowledge translation, which are described in her recent editorship of a special issue of the Journal of Applied Arts & Health.

Boydell co-directs the Qualitative Research Hub at UNSW Faculty of Medicine, which aims to highlight rigorous qualitative inquiry, heads the Knowledge Translation CoLABoratory at Black Dog Institute and is on the national leadership group for the Institute of Creative Art and Health. She founded and chairs the Black Dog Institute Community of Practice in Arts-based Knowledge Translation, a group of 70 scholars, artists and trainees. She published more than 150 journal articles and book chapters and a recent book Hearing Voices: Qualitative Inquiry in Early Psychosis.

Organisational Summary
Black Dog Institute is internationally recognised as a pioneer in the identification, prevention and treatment of mental illness and the promotion of wellbeing.

We aim to improve the lives of people affected by mental illness though the rapid translation of high quality research into improved clinical treatments, better access to mental health services and delivery of long-term public health solutions. We also place emphasis on teaching people to recognise the symptoms of poor mental health in themselves and others, as well as providing evidence-based education and training to health professionals.

Black Dog Institute works directly in all parts of the community as well as guiding the development of new and improved policy. We place focus on those with specific mental health needs, including young people, Indigenous communities, men, and high-risk workforces.
PART B

Award Criteria

Evidence of contribution to, or potential impact on, mental health service improvement

2 Exemplars:
Professor Boydell was the Mental Health Lead for The Big Anxiety: Festival of arts + science + people which attracted 140,000 people to engage in exhibits, workshops, and immersive experiences and start conversations about mental health. The impact on mental health services is demonstrated in results from festival attendee survey which showed several key outcomes regarding Feeling, Learning and Doing.

A further example of contribution to mental health service development has been Professor Boydell’s leadership in spearheading ‘deliberative dialogues’ with policy makers in Australia and Canada. These deliberative dialogues led to policy change in Canadian context (funding to establish additional hubs for Pediatric telepsychiatry) and Australia (changes in service provision for families of children with disabilities in rural New South Wales).


Evidence of research excellence

Katherine Boydell has demonstrated research excellence in traditional academia via peer-reviewed publications, scientific presentations, mentoring and community service. She received a 3-year UNSW Strategic Priority Fund (2015) award for her research in knowledge translation in mental health. She is currently Professor of Mental Health at the Black Dog Institute, a medical research facility within UNSW, Sydney. She spent the previous 16 years as Senior Scientist and Director of Qualitative Inquiry at the Research Institute, Hospital for Sick Children and Professor in Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto. Her background is in Community Health and Epidemiology (MHSc, 1982) and qualitative sociology (PhD, 1996). Expertise in novel research methodologies, development of local and
international collaborations, leadership in participatory action research, consumer involvement, and knowledge translation position her at the forefront of international research on the lives of young people experiencing mental health issues. She has published over 150 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters and the only text on qualitative inquiry in early psychosis. In addition, she has authored more than 50 technical reports and policy-ready papers, which are critical to reduce the knowledge to practice gap.

Evidence of her research reputation is her success in obtaining prestigious peer-reviewed research funding. She has total career funding (Category 1 and contracts) of 25+ million, with 10+ million in the past 5 years. She has sustained national peer-reviewed Category 1 funding of $18M (8 million in past 5 years) as well as a number of additional research contracts ($5M). She has led a program of qualitative research in early psychosis for 25+ years, supervising a team of Research Associates and Higher Degree students.

Professor Boydell’s full publication list is included in the Appendix; her key publications in the past 5 years include:

**Boydell, K.M.** and Belliveau, G. (2017). Situated methodologies: A critical inquiry into art-based research methodologies. *Journal of Applied Arts & Health*. 8(2):135-139. This paper makes the argument that art genres can effectively be used to create new research knowledge and to disseminate empirical research findings to diverse audiences, leading to enhanced mental health literacy, decreased stigma and practice and behaviour change.


Hodgins, M. and **Boydell, K.M.** (2014). Interrogating ourselves: Reflections on arts-based health research. *Forum Qualitative Sozialforchung/Forum: Qualitative Social Research*. 15(1), Art. 10. This paper illustrates the impact that using art genres in the research process, as a knowledge creation and knowledge dissemination strategy, can have on practice and policy.

**Boydell, K.M.,** Volpe, T., Gladstone, B.M., Stasiulis, E. and Addington, J. (2013). Youth at ultra-high risk for developing psychosis: Using the revised network episode model (NEM) to examine pathways to mental health care. *Early Int Psychiatry*. 7(2):170-186. This is the first research to empirically test the Network Episode Model in this population.

Professor Boydell is internationally recognised as a qualitative methodologist, expert in early psychosis and in knowledge translation as evidenced by invited presentations (n=44 in past 5 years, 60% international), visiting professorships, and international research awards. Peer-reviewed competitive awards include: WINC Knowledge Translation Award, International Development Research Award and International Research Collaborative Award, U Sydney, Best Research Award, Mental Health Commission of Canada. She was Honorary Visiting Fellow at Illawarra Institute of Mental Health, U Wollongong, Australia (2013) and Visiting Professor (2014-15), U Sydney, Health Sciences - collaborative research focusing on
translating research knowledge to policy and decision makers in rural and remote communities. She is also Associate Editor of Early Intervention in Psychiatry and a Member of the Scientific Committee for the International Early Psychosis Association.

Evidence of participation of mental health consumers in the planning implementation and evaluation as relevant
Dr. Boydell’s program of research is focused on participatory, action research that involves meaningful engagement with consumers with lived experience of mental illness and their families. A couple of examples of her recent work are illustrated below.

Exemplar #1: Professor Boydell is a senior mentor who worked with young people with a lived experience of mental illness and alongside two Early Career Researchers at University of New South Wales (UNSW) and University of Sydney (USYD) to collaborate and co-produce a research proposal which was subsequently funded by the UNSW/USYD Partnership Fund on youth mental health and well-being. As part of that project, the team is providing research training to individuals with lived experience of mental health services and subsequently employing them on a research project.

Exemplar #2: Professor Boydell’s leadership on a 4-year research project (funded by Health Canada) focused on the views of young people regarding the link between cannabis use and psychosis, which involved the hiring and training of 28 research assistants across Canada who had experienced psychosis. They in turn interviewed and conducted focus groups with other youth in early intervention clinics, participated in the analysis and created knowledge translation outputs that included digital stories, a found poem and a rap dance. This research won the prestigious Canada-wide research award from the Mental Health Commission of Canada. The work is described in this publication: Baker, N., Willinsky, C. and Boydell, K.M. (2015). Just say know: Creatively engaging young people to explore the link between cannabis use and psychosis in order to promote informed decision-making about substance use. (Invited paper). World Cult Psychiatr Res Rev. 201-20.

Other examples of publications that describe participatory research with individuals with lived experience and/or their families:


Evidence of partnerships and linkages (collaboration for continuity between organisations)

Current collaborations with Prof Jill Bennett, UNSW Art & Design (The Big Anxiety: Festival of art + science + people)
Professor Boydell was the mental health lead for The Big Anxiety: Festival of arts + science + people which attracted 140,000 people to engage in exhibits, workshops, and immersive experiences and start conversations about mental health. Research findings show enhanced empathy as a result of engaging in the Festival.

Additional collaborations include:
Prof Jane Ussher and colleagues at University of Western Sydney, ARC Linkage Grant using photovoice with LGBTQI individuals with cancer
Profs Paul Rhodes, Niels Buus and team, University of Sydney, An Exploration of Peer involvement in Open Dialogue,
Aliza Werner-Seidel, Jo River, Niels Buus, Brett Bellingham, St. Vincent’s Hospital, UNSW, USYD, A Training Course for Young People with Lived Experience of Mental Illness, Young People, UNSW/USYD Health and Wellbeing Grant
Drs. Caroline Lenette, Angela Dew, Louisa Smith, Christy Newman et al in Social Sciences, UNSW on qualitative research with marginalised women, UNSW faculty grant
Drs. Lappin, Curtis, Ward and team at the Bondi Clinic, body mapping experience of a physical intervention in First Episode Psychosis, Boydell SPF01 grant
Profs. Billie Bonevski, Gillian Gould at University of Newcastle, NHMRC grant on health of Aboriginal women
Co-director of Qualitative Research Lab with Drs. Sally Nathan and Husna Razee
Drs. Stewart Vella, Prof Frank Deane and team at University of Wollongong, implementation of evidence-based mental health interventions for young males in organised sports
Dr. Anna Lavis, University of Birmingham, women and psychosis.
Dr. Yael Perry, Telethon Kids, Western Australia, mature women and psychosis
Dr. Marilyns Guillem, University of Melbourne, body mapping and psychosis
Drs. Barbara Tooth, TheMHS, Helen Glover, H., Honey, A., USYD, Kate Gill, using design thinking to explore experiential literacy in mental health.
Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors, STARTTS, ARC Linkage Grant application, underway

Creative/media contributions
These contributions resulted from research projects led by Professor Boydell; they demonstrate her engagement with members of the community, using art genres to communicate research findings to a broad range of audiences:

- Keynote speaker, Anxious Places exhibition, Dr. Ella Dreyfus, National Art School, October 11-14 2017.
- Festival tests idea of art as mental health fix, Sydney Morning Herald, August 20 2017
- Picturing Places of Meaning, Interactive workshop with Ella Dreyfus, National Art School and Black Dog Institute, Vivid Ideas, June 17, 2017.
- Landscape of the Mind, Body Mapping Installation, based on research on the lived experience of anxiety, Vivid Sydney, May 27 to June 17, 2017.
Keeping the Body in Mind: Body Mapping with Young People Experiencing Psychosis, Exhibit and knowledge dissemination event, National Institute of Dramatic Art, September 14, 2016.

Body Mapping Anxiety, Sydney Science Fest, National Institute of Dramatic Art, August 13, 2016.

Body Mapping Anxiety, ABC 702, Radio, Interviewed by James Valentine, August 11th 2016.

The BIG Anxiety Project, Vivid Ideas, June 5 2016, Brains Trust, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney Australia.

The BIG Anxiety Project, Vivid Ideas, June 2016. Interviewed by Sophie Bailey for Tightrope magazine.


Interviewed by CBC Radio, September 2013. Cannabis and psychosis project.

Verification and evaluation of the research effectiveness in achieving the goals of the investigation

This category will be addressed via an example of Professor Boydell’s work in use of body mapping with a range of research participants – young people experiencing first episode psychosis, young people experiencing depression and anxiety, members of the general public experiencing anxiety. The goals of the body mapping research were to involve research participants in sharing their lived experiences in a creative manner, drawing on visual and symbolic and to use the body maps as an innovative knowledge translation strategy to disseminate the research findings.

The work detailed below focuses on body mapping, an innovative arts-based research method –used as a knowledge translation strategy – in keeping with the Black Dog Institute model of integrated knowledge translation - for both the creation of new knowledge and the dissemination of research knowledge. Prof Boydell uses body mapping to explore the experience of a mental health issue, program/service or intervention. The research has had impact/influence on the following: implementation of a program or service in organisations/schools (e.g. body mapping at Centennial Park), capacity building via artistic skill development of research participants (e.g. research participant empowerment, self-esteem, reflection, facilitation of meaning-making and insight), academic impact in shifting understanding or advancing theory/knowledge in arts-based methodologies both within and across disciplines (e.g. systematic review, publications, presentations), media coverage (radio, print, see list above Creative/Media section), changes in attitudes, knowledge or behaviours in others, and development of new partnerships with artists from National Institute of Dramatic Art, community engagement of staff at Art Gallery of New South Wales, art curators and installation artists, community mental health clinics, and school personnel.

Overview of the Work:
Project 1

A. Knowledge Creation: Body mapping with Youth Experiencing Psychosis, SPF01 Funding (2016)

Using body mapping, Boydell and team recursively examined, reinterpreted, and represented the phenomena of interest – a physical health intervention for young people experiencing psychosis. Few researchers have explicitly connected the experiences and views about individual’s physical health to the notion of embodiment. The aim of this research project was
to further explore the complexity of an intervention focused on physical health in a novel way, and make it accessible to the public by providing a context to discuss and explore these ideas. Partnership w Bondi Centre and SESLHD.

With co-curators Melissa Laird and Sofie Dieu-Grosjeans and the 20+ artist-practitioners who responded to an EOI to re-imagine/re-represent and respond to the body maps and testimonies. *Inspiring Australia* Funding. [http://www.niea.unsw.edu.au/events/big-anxiety-project-body-mapping-workshop](http://www.niea.unsw.edu.au/events/big-anxiety-project-body-mapping-workshop)

Project 2
A. Knowledge Creation: Body Mapping Anxiety, General Public, Sydney Science Fest (2016) 50 members of the general public created body maps depicting their experiences of anxiety: what it feels like and what helps. Partnership with Prof Jill Bennet and A/Prof George Khut, Art & Design, UNSW


A second body mapping workshop was conducted with a subset of group A resulted in selection of a number of the maps to be etched onto acrylic slabs for the installation. Curated by Natalie Robinson and installation artists Amigo and Amigo. Vivid 2017 had 2.5 million visitors in attendance, with 326,000 attendees on opening weekend.

Project 3
A. Starting with Art: Body Mapping Anxiety and Depression, Centennial Park School Partnership with Starting with Art Program at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Partnership with AGNSW, Black Dog Education and Centennial Park School to involve young people aged 13 to 17 in body mapping their experiences of anxiety and depression. Analysis currently underway (visual and textual analysis of the body maps and individual interviews).

Project 4
A. Knowledge Creation: Body Mapping Anxiety, General Public, Art Gallery of New South Wales, The Big Anxiety – Festival of arts + science + people, October 2017 Partnership w Prof Marily Guillemin, Dean, Population Health, U Melbourne and Prof Susan Cox, Head Maurice Young Centre for Ethics, University of British Columbia. Sixty members of the general public attended this event to engage in body mapping their experiences of anxiety. [https://www.thebiganxiety.org/events/body-mapping-galleries/](https://www.thebiganxiety.org/events/body-mapping-galleries/)

Boydell is currently editing a book on Body Mapping, Taylor and Francis Press.

The above work had *Impact/Influence*:

These papers and presentations describe the positive impact that body mapping has had on research participants creating body maps depicting their experiences (anxiety, depression, psychosis). They also highlight the impact of disseminating empirical research using this arts-based method on mental health awareness, stigma reduction and the creation of a socially engaging space in which conversations about mental health issues can occur.
Papers:

Presentations:
Boydell, K.M. Knowledge translation of research in mental health, Society for Mental Health Research, Canberra, Australia, December 5 2017.
Boydell, K.M. Thinking about translating what we do: Reducing the research to practice gap. Workshop presented to the Centre for Research Excellence in Suicide Prevention, Sydney, November 29, 2016.
Boydell, K.M. Innovation knowledge translation in mental health. Invited seminar, Centre for


Boydell, K.M. How can art influence change in the lives of individuals with mental illness? Vivid Ideas, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, May 28, 2016.


Boydell, K.M. Arts-based knowledge translation: Performative, visual and literary strategies of creation and dissemination. Values Ethics and the Law in Medicine, University of Sydney, September 2015.


Media:


YouTube (2017) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qb0vbTbIsIw


Audience Quotes (general public), BDI-NIDA Exhibition, September 2016:

“The artwork made the subjective experience of psychosis much more accessible to me. The body maps provided a clear visual link between the mind and the body. The exhibit showed me the importance of relationships for people experiencing psychosis.”

“I thought the exhibition was fantastic. I am really excited to see that the Black Dog Institute are considering a more holistic approach to intervention for psychosis in young people.”

“The artworks were interesting, thought-provoking and a fantastic way to gain perspective of the experiences of those individuals, it also raised awareness and lowered stigma regarding psychosis.”
**Conclusion (1/2 page)**

Professor Boydell’s program of research is cutting-edge and innovative, focused on creating and disseminating empirical mental health research to a wide range of audiences and evaluating the impact of doing so. Her research has demonstrated the positive impact of having research participants share their lived experience of an illness, an intervention or a social context in ways that go beyond the text to incorporate embodied visual and symbolic methods.

Professor Boydell’s program of research reflects Tom Trauer's values by contributing to mental health service improvement, demonstrating research excellence, collaboration and partnership, and involving mental health consumers in a meaningful way in the research and knowledge translation process.

**Referees**

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Appendix of Support Material (8 pages)

Peer-reviewed publications:


with newly diagnosed immune thrombocytopenia. J Pediatric Hematology Oncology. www.jpho-online.com
56. Romano, D., McCay, E. and Boydell, K.M. (2012). The use of photographed objects in understanding the process of recovery from a first episode of schizophrenia. Arts and Health. vol. 4, no. 1, pp. 70-82.
Canadian lived experience? Philosophy, Ethics, and Humanities in Medicine. 6(15).


