

The IARR conference is an international conference that brings together hundreds of relationship scientists from across the globe. This interdisciplinary conference welcomes researchers across a diverse range of fields, including psychology, sociology, communication, and anthropology.

The IARR conference showcases cutting-edge research that can lead to new insights and understandings regarding the science of relationships -- research that has significant implications for theory, practice and policy.

IARR's meeting takes place once every other year, with a rotation of the hosting country between North America, and the rest of the world. The 2014 IARR conference will be held in Melbourne, Australia from July 10-13 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

If you are a press member looking for registration information, please see the [IARR's Media Credential Policy](#) below.

Conference Highlights

The conference's Keynote Speakers will present on a variety of exciting topics:

- *Relationship Receptivity: Commitment in a Changing World* (Dr. Christopher Agnew, Purdue University)
- *Romantic Attachment and Responses to Relationship Conflict* (Dr. Judith Feeney, The University of Queensland)
- *Self-control in Relationships: Relational Effect and Processes* (Dr. Catrin Finkenauer, VU University Amsterdam)
- *Love Helps Solve the Mystery of Human Evolution* (Dr. Garth Fletcher, Victoria University Wellington)
- *Romance, the Quantum Chip and Social change: Strengthening Couple Relationships in the 21st Century* (Dr. W. Kim Halford, The University of Queensland)
- *Beyond Sticks and Stones: Social Pain and Social Interaction* (Dr. Anita Vangelisti, University of Texas at Austin)

In addition, there will be many other exciting presentations, including:

- "Sexpectations: The Benefits of Believing Sexual Satisfaction Takes Work", where Jessica Maxwell presents research showing that people's beliefs about how to maintain their sex life (i.e., believing it is meant to be vs. takes work) influence both their own and their romantic partner's satisfaction with their sex life and with their relationship.

- “When to Wed? A Closer Examination of the Association Between Age of Marriage and Marital Quality,” where Kaylee Corbridge presents data from large surveys in the U.S. revealing the age of marriage that leads to the greatest likelihood of staying together over time as well as the most satisfying marriages.
- “Texting, Adult Attachment and Relationship Satisfaction: Exploring the Use of Text Messaging as a Tool for Enhancing Intimacy,” where Jodie Bradnam presents research demonstrating that more frequent text messaging between romantic partners can enhance a couple’s feeling of emotional connection.

Press Access

Members of the press will be able to attend the plenary and symposia talks, and poster sessions throughout the conference free of charge. Other conference events, such as the awards ceremony will require payment of a fee (\$70 AUD for this event). Press interested in interviewing presenters can arrange meetings directly at the conference.

IARR’s Media Credential Policy

Those non-local media representatives (outside of Melbourne) requesting media registration must be currently employed by a publication or news organization and provide a business card (if applicable) and letter of assignment verifying that they have been retained to cover the IARR conference.

Registration

Press may register to attend the conference by contacting the chair of the Media Relations Committee, Jennifer Jill Harman (jjharman@colostate.edu) with the required credentialing. Registration materials will then be available at the registration desk upon arrival to the conference. On-site registration will also be available, and payment for extra events (e.g., award ceremony) will be made there. Local, Melbourne-based media representatives need only arrive to the registration desk to receive press materials.

Pre-Conference Event: What has science taught us about relationships?

On Wednesday, July 9th from 12-1:30 pm, there will also be a public and interactive event hosted by Deakin University, where leading Australian and international experts on relationships will answer fundamental questions such as *Do our relationships early in life shape our relationships in later life?* (Professor Jeffrey Simpson, University of Minnesota) and *What do we look for in a romantic partner?* (Dr. Gery Karantza, Deakin University). These exciting presentations, designed for the general public, will each be followed by a 20 minute Q & A. Cost is \$10 and includes a light lunch following the presentations. For registration information for this pre-conference event, please visit www.conferenceworks.com.au/iarrc.

For More Specific Information about the Conference

IARR Conference Home <http://www.conferenceworks.com.au/iarrc/>

Full Conference Schedule (subject to change):

<http://www.conferenceworks.com.au/iarrc/page/Program>