

Dr Ellise Barkley, Principal Consultant

Overview of Expertise

Ellise brings experience and skills in designing, managing and implementing evaluation in complex contexts, with a background in stakeholder engagement, participatory processes, and communications. She currently leads Clear Horizon's Culture and Place Team, in the Social Justice unit.

Ellise has over 20 years of experience in project management, impact research and evaluation in industry, government, community, business, non-government, and university settings. Through her work, Ellise has held executive and senior leadership roles on international and community level cultural, education, sustainability, community development, place-based, and arts initiatives.

As a practitioner, Ellise's primary interests include evaluation of place-based approaches, participatory evaluation and stakeholder brokerage – and she enjoys working with collaborations and in interdisciplinary and cross-cultural partnership contexts.

Since working at Clear Horizon, she has played a lead role in developing evaluation frameworks and tools for place-based approaches and has pursued her interest in developmental evaluation and social innovation. In 2016, Ellise completed a doctorate in evaluation at Queensland University of Technology, leading the co-design and implementation of an evaluation framework for an international creative communities partnership initiative involving over 40 partners across 16 projects.

In addition to producing evaluation-related communications and reporting, Ellise has published peer-reviewed journal papers, conference presentations, and developed education and learning resources including co-authoring a tertiary science and engineering textbook on environmental decision-making.

Beyond evaluation, Ellise is inspired by the natural environment and is hands-on learning how to grow and share food via suburban edible forests.

<https://au.linkedin.com/in/ellise-barkley-376490b0>

Qualifications & Training

2016 Doctor of Creative Industries (Research), Queensland University of Technology (QUT).

2003 Certificate IV in Business (Small Business Management), Community College, 2003.

1995 Bachelor of Arts (Hons), Geography & Environmental Studies (First class Honours) University of New South Wales (UNSW).

Project Experience

Selected evaluation design and implementation

- Lead evaluator, advisory and content development for Department of Social Services' Stronger Places, Stronger People initiative that is being set up to fund place-based initiatives in 10 Australian communities (2018- 2019). Currently working with DSS to develop and implement their Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Strategy for the initiative.

- Co-evaluation lead, The Hive collective impact initiative. Includes Most Significant Change training, story summit, theory of change and co-evaluation (current)
- Project Director and Lead Evaluator, Working Together for 3 Year Olds pilot, for Department of Education (Tasmania) in collaboration with The Australian Centre for Social Innovation (2019).
- Project Director, Heritage Near Me exit evaluation for Office of Environment and Heritage (2019).
- Lead evaluator, for Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Strategy and 2-year Plan for Logan Together collective impact initiative for clients Department of Communities, Disability Services, and Seniors and Department of Social Services, in partnership with Logan Together (2018, Clear Horizon in partnership with TACSI). Involved co-design & stakeholder consultation.
- Progress Report for Logan Together, commissioned by DCDSS and DSS in partnership with Logan Together. Included testing tools from MEL Plan and capacity building with Logan Together backbone. Involved stakeholder engagement and shared reflection (2018).
- Lead evaluator for the co-design and implementation of the participatory evaluation framework for the Nuclear Futures Partnership Initiative Evaluation, an international community arts program, for Alphaville production company, the Australia Council for the Arts and partners (included formative and summative evaluation and outputs such as Evaluation Report and creative documentation) (2014-2017).
- Evaluation of sustainability initiatives and trails in local government, including research and reporting: Final CEEchange Evaluation Report (report for NSW Environmental Trust on behalf of Wyong Shire Council) and 'Living Sustainably Trial' Evaluation Report April (for Wyong Shire Council) (2012).

Selected facilitation, training and consultation

- Project manager for stakeholder consultation and co-design of the 'Place-based Evaluation Framework' produced by Clear Horizon for DCDSS and DSS. 150+ stakeholders (2018).
- Facilitator, Reflection workshop, Office of Environment and Heritage for their Heritage Near Me program evaluation process, March 2019.
- Co-facilitation of workshops for Logan Together on MEL co-design and reflection summit (2018).
- Most Significant Change training delivered for TACSI (Clear Horizon, 2018).
- Mentoring for an emerging Indigenous evaluator, supporting the work of the Maranguka Justice Reinvest initiative, Bourke NSW (Clear Horizon, 2018).
- Facilitation of a co-design workshop for a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework for Lifestart (Clear Horizon, 2018).
- Text book writer for Institute of Environmental Studies, interdisciplinary teaching and tutoring, and curriculum design for the Graduate Certificate of Arts (Environmental Policy), University of New South Wales (1995-2001).

Selected publications

- Barkley, E (2016) An integrated approach to evaluation: A participatory model for reflection, evaluation, analysis and documentation (the 'READ' model) in community arts. Doctor of Creative Industries Thesis, Queensland University of Technology (80,000 words).
- Barkley, E (2015) Approaches for Reflection, Evaluation, Analysis and Documentation: Seminar presentation, Creative Arts and Nuclear Futures Academic Seminar hosted by Alphaville, The Glasshouse, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane.
- Barkley, E (2014) Harnessing evaluation through integration: A participatory model for Reflection, Evaluation, Analysis and Documentation (the 'READ' model) in Community-based Arts: Conference presentation, Australasian Evaluation Society Conference, Darwin.
- Barkley, E (2012) 'Building Capacity by Investing in People', Collaborating for Sustainability: Wyong Shire Council findings published as joint evaluation research with the CEEChange local government research cohort, compiled by Ku-ring-gai Council, Sydney.
- Co-editor for 'Unlikely' Creative Arts Journal special edition, (2018) publishing 30+ contributions from the Nuclear Futures Partnership Initiative's communities of practice (includes scholarly papers, practice-led research and creative documentation)
- Barkley, E (2018) 'Making the story go far' and 'Staging the bomb' (2 peer reviewed papers) in Reimagining Monte Bello, Emu, and Maralinga: Australia's Nuclear Culture- special issue of Unlikely: Journal for Creative Arts.
- Barkley, E and the Sustainability Team (2012) Wyong Shire Council Sustainability Induction Program: Online learning tool covering 12 interactive learning modules (engagement design).

Positions held

2014–2017	Program Manager and Lead Evaluator – Alphaville Production Company, Australia.
2003–2017	Freelance consultant – specialising in management, evaluation and engagement.
2012–2013	Senior Officer Sustainability and Engagement – Wyong Shire Council, Central Coast, NSW, Australia.
1996–2001	Various academic, researcher and management positions at University of New South Wales.

Memberships

Australian Evaluation Society.