

# UNFAMILIAR FACE IDENTIFICATION GROUP CONFERENCE

HOSTED BY UNSW SYDNEY

# 20 26



**FEBRUARY 2ND AND 3RD, 2026**  
**LAW BUILDING UNSW**



**UNSW**  
SYDNEY

# UNSW KENSINGTON CAMPUS MAP



- **F8 Law Building:** UFIG Conference (Law Theatre, G02)
- **H11 Home Ground Kiosk:** Optional coffee before conference
- **F21 The Lounge:** Dinner Level 11, Library Building (entry via rear)
- **E6 Roundhouse:** Optional drinks after conference
- **N18 Barker Street Parking:** Closest parking
- **UNSW Anzac Parade:** Closest light rail stop (L3)



**UNSW**  
SYDNEY

# INTRODUCTION

**W**elcome to the 12th Unfamiliar Face Identification Group Meeting. UFIG aims to bring together delegates from government, police, industry and universities to discuss key issues in unfamiliar face identification in an informal setting.

The first UFIG in 2013 was attended by around 30 delegates from 7 organisations. Over the years, we have seen these numbers grow substantially. Our delegates now come from a wide range of institutes, industries, and organisations representing academic researchers, various practitioners, users and developers of face identification systems, and scholars reflecting on the legal implications of face identification.

We are excited to be back in person for UFIG2026. This year, UFIG has attracted such a range of delegates, many of whom will be travelling internationally to join us. We believe that the popularity of this meeting stems from the broad interest in this topic. It is of academic interest to researchers in the field of face recognition and of practical significance to those who use these systems to identify customers, passengers, citizens or offenders.

As always, we have allocated 10 minutes to each presentation with 10 minutes after each talk for discussion. We hope that you will feel able to contribute your perspective to these discussions as they are an essential part of UFIG. This year we are also hosting a canapes and drinks session on the first night of the conference. During this dinner, we hope to give attendees a chance to network and discuss among delegates over some food and refreshments.

Australia continues to make important contributions to applied face processing research and policy. We believe that the UFIG meeting has played a role in developing and maintaining the relationships that result in these contributions, and are very grateful for your contribution to this important endeavour. Thank you for joining us.

David White, Richard Kemp, Alice Towler and James Dunn



# OVERVIEW

## MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY, 2026

8:30AM - 9:30AM	<b>Coffee and Catch-up</b> Home Ground Kiosk
9:30AM - 10:00AM	<b>Registration</b> <i>Law Theatre G02</i>
10:00AM - 11:15AM	<b>Session 1</b>
11:45PM - 1:15PM	<b>Session 2</b>
2:15PM - 3:30PM	<b>Session 3</b>
4:00PM - 5:40PM	<b>Session 4</b>
5:45PM - 7:45PM	<b>Canapés and Drinks</b> <i>The Lounge UNSW</i>

## TUESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY, 2026

9:30AM - 10:00AM	<b>Coffee and Catch-up</b> Home Ground Kiosk
10:00AM - 11:00AM	<b>Session 5</b>
11:30PM - 12:45PM	<b>Session 6</b>
1:45PM - 3:25PM	<b>Session 7</b>
3:55PM - 4:30PM	<b>Session 8</b>
4:30PM - 7:00PM	<b>Informal Drinks</b> <i>The Roundhouse UNSW</i>

# SCHEDULE

MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2026

## PRE-CONFERENCE

<b>8:30AM - 9:30AM</b>	Coffee and catch-up	<i>Home Ground Kiosk</i>
<b>9:30AM - 10:00AM</b>	Registration	<i>Law Theatre, G02 Law Building</i>

## SESSION 1

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
<b>10:00AM - 10:15AM</b>	Introduction	Prof Richard Kemp <i>UNSW</i>
<b>10:15AM - 11:15AM</b>	Keynote Presentation: <i>Bias in AI-generated faces: Risks and opportunities</i>	A/Prof Amy Dawel <i>Australian National University</i>

Morning Break 11:15AM - 11:45AM (*Light refreshments provided*)

## SESSION 2

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
<b>11:45PM - 12:10PM</b>	<i>Improving discrimination and detection of AI faces</i>	A/Prof Simone Favelle <i>University of Wollongong</i>
<b>12:10PM - 12:35PM</b>	<i>The good, the bad and the ugly: Sources of variance in ID images</i>	Grace Wissmann <i>UNSW</i>
<b>12:35PM - 1:15PM</b>	<i>Current legal issues and cases updates</i>	A/Prof Mehera San Roque & Prof Gary Edmond <i>UNSW</i>

Lunch Break 1:15PM - 2:15PM

# SCHEDULE

MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2026

## SESSION 3

Time	Topic	Speaker
<b>2:15PM - 2:40PM</b>	<i>Super-Recognisers reveal an intersection of identity and expression processing for unfamiliar faces</i>	Dr Genevieve Quek <i>The MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development, Western Sydney University</i>
<b>2:40PM - 3:05PM</b>	<i>Topology of Face Representations: Linking Individual Differences in Face Recognition Ability to Representational Dimensionality</i>	A/Prof Sebastian Miellet & Kyle Guerrieri-Cortesi <i>University of Wollongong</i>
<b>3:05PM - 3:30PM</b>	<i>Bias: The underdog of Face Recognition Ability</i>	Daniel Chu <i>UNSW</i>

Afternoon Tea 3:30PM - 4:00PM

## SESSION 4

Time	Topic	Speaker
<b>4:00PM - 4:25PM</b>	<i>Forensic Facial Image Comparison: Insights from an International Collaborative Exercise</i>	Stine Nordbjærg <i>Danish National ID Centre</i>
<b>4:25PM - 4:50PM</b>	<i>Visual memory and fluid intelligence of forensic examiners and super-matchers</i>	Dr Bethany Grows <i>University of Canterbury</i>

# SCHEDULE

MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2026

**4:50PM - 5:15PM**

*Analysing a Domain-  
General Object Matching  
Ability*

Caleb Barr  
*University of Canterbury*

**5:15PM - 5:40PM**

*Protecting Police Officers'  
Memory For Critical  
Events: The Role Of Stress,  
Attention And Mnemonics*

Dr James Dunn  
*UNSW*

---

Canapés and Drinks 5:45PM - 7:45PM

## **The Lounge UNSW**

*Library Walk, Level 11, Library Building, F21, Entry From Rear  
RSVP Only*

# SCHEDULE

TUESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2026

## PRE-CONFERENCE

**9:30AM - 10:00AM** Coffee and catch-up *Home Ground Kiosk*

## SESSION 5

Time	Topic	Speaker
<b>10:00AM - 11:00AM</b>	Keynote Presentation: <i>Imposter 2.0</i>	Frøy Løvåsdal <i>National Police Directorate and the Norwegian ID Centre</i>

Morning Break 11:00AM - 11:30AM (*Light refreshments provided*)

## SESSION 6

Time	Topic	Speaker
<b>11:30AM - 11:55AM</b>	<i>Human-algorithm teaming in one-to-one face matching tasks</i>	Dr Daniel Carragher <i>University of Adelaide</i>
<b>11:55PM - 12:20AM</b>	<i>Confidence carryover in face matching tasks</i>	Dr Zoë Little <i>UNSW</i>
<b>12:20AM - 12:45PM</b>	<i>Familiar and unfamiliar face matching are the same ability</i>	Dr David White <i>UNSW</i>

Lunch Break 12:45PM - 1:45PM

## SESSION 7

Time	Topic	Speaker
<b>1:45PM - 2:10PM</b>	<i>Facial Recognition Technology (FRT) in Public Places</i>	Isabelle Moeller <i>Biometrics Institute</i>

# SCHEDULE

TUESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2026

<b>2:10PM - 2:35PM</b>	<i>Face recognition in retail review</i>	Abbas Bigdeli <i>AerVision Technologies</i>
<b>2:35PM - 3:00PM</b>	<i>Metropolitan Police Real-Time Facial Recognition Deployment: A Case Study</i>	Michael Ashton <i>NEC</i>
<b>3:00PM - 3:25PM</b>	<i>How well can police and super-recognisers spot targets in a live crowd?</i>	Dr Alice Towler <i>University of Queensland</i>

Afternoon Tea 3:25PM - 3:55PM

## SESSION 8

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
<b>3:55PM - 4:20PM</b>	<i>Face pareidolia in synthetic stimuli reveals the image-level basis of face detection</i>	Kateryna Marchenko <i>UNSW</i>
<b>4:20PM - 4:30PM</b>	<i>Closing remarks</i>	Prof Richard Kemp <i>UNSW</i>

Informal Drinks from 4:30PM

### **The Roundhouse UNSW**

*International Rd Roundhouse Building, E6*

# ABSTRACTS

## MONDAY

---

### **SESSION 1: KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

#### **BIAS IN AI-GENERATED FACES: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

A/Prof Amy Dawel

*The Australian National University*

Artificial intelligence (AI) can now generate faces so realistic they routinely deceive people, fuelling misinformation and fraud projected to cost USD 40 billion globally by 2027. Yet AI-generated faces are not identical to real ones. AI-faces differ systematically from human faces because the algorithms that produce them are biased—a feature that creates both risks and opportunities. A major risk is racial bias: AI often renders White faces as “hyperreal” while poorly representing people of colour, reinforcing inequity. The opportunity, however, is that these systematic flaws can be used as perceptual clues to train people to detect AI-faces. This talk provides an overview of current AI face technologies and what we know about the biases in them, highlighting associated real-world and scientific risks. I will then present a novel training method that leverages the biases in AI faces to train humans to detect them. Initial testing shows our training approach is highly effective, with all 45 participants improving from pre-to-post training and top performers approaching perfect accuracy. Critically, the method can adapt to new technologies by simply updating the training images. Overall, I argue for a human-centered approach to understanding AI faces and their biases, ensuring we keep people in the loop and develop explainable and accountable systems for AI detection.

### **SESSION 2**

#### **IMPROVING DISCRIMINATION AND DETECTION OF AI-GENERATED FACES**

A/Prof Simone Favelle

University of Wollongong

AI-generated faces are mistaken for human at alarming rates driving the call for tools and strategies to improve detection of AI faces. The aim of this study was to tap into the observable differences in natural variability and distinctiveness between AI and human faces, which are apparently ignored in discrimination and detection tasks. We find evidence that a brief, simple instruction directing participants to attend to these differences can improve performance in a 2AFC task discriminating between AI-generated and human faces, and a task judging whether a face is AI-generated or human. These findings offer strong potential, however, consideration of their applications and limitations is needed.

# ABSTRACTS

## MONDAY

---

### **SESSION 2 (CONT.)**

#### **THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY: SOURCES OF VARIANCE IN ID IMAGES**

Grace Wissmann

*UNSW*

As identity verification increasingly moves online, individuals are playing a greater role in capturing and submitting ID images. This talk investigates how human-driven variability and subtle digital edits affect the reliability of ID photographs as biometric anchors.

### **CURRENT LEGAL ISSUES AND RECENT CASES UPDATE**

A/Prof Mehera San Roque & Prof Gary Edmond

*UNSW*

This session will review the current Australian admissibility framework for expert opinion evidence (in both common law and uniform evidence jurisdictions). It will also introduce the recently revised practice note for expert opinion evidence in criminal proceedings in Victoria and, more generally, Australian judicial responses to AI-generated evidence. The presenters will aim to provide time for the audience to ask questions on evidence, expertise and other legal issues.

### **SESSION 3**

#### **SUPER-RECOGNISERS REVEAL AN INTERSECTION OF IDENTITY AND EXPRESSION PROCESSING FOR UNFAMILIAR FACES**

Dr Genevieve Quek

*The MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development,  
Western Sydney University*

Although various aspects of face processing are often examined independently, real-world face perception requires continual integration/prioritisation of multiple socially relevant dimensions. Individuals with exceptional face recognition – Super-Recognisers (SRs) – provide a unique way to examine how different aspects of face processing intersect, revealing how heightened identity processing influences how other face information is weighted and organised. In Expt 1, we used an implicit odd-one-out paradigm to show that, in the absence of explicit instruction, SRs (n=36) spontaneously organise faces by identity (rather than by viewpoint or valence) to a greater degree than controls (n=92). Across participants, this tendency was positively associated with performance on established face-recognition tests. In Expt 2, participants judged whether the expressions of two sequential faces were the same or different, while identity was orthogonally manipulated. SRs (n=28) judged expression more accurately than controls (n=61), and this ability was positively correlated with face-recognition performance. Despite this global advantage, face identity modulated expression matching to a greater extent in SRs than in controls. Taken together, these data suggest that exceptional face recognition abilities may be characterised not only by superior memory for identities, but by a fundamental perceptual tendency to privilege identity over other face dimensions, even when task-irrelevant.

# ABSTRACTS

## MONDAY

---

### **SESSION 3 (CONT.)**

#### **TOPOLOGY OF FACE REPRESENTATIONS: LINKING INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES IN FACE RECOGNITION ABILITY TO REPRESENTATIONAL DIMENSIONALITY**

A/Prof Sebastian Miellel & Kyle Guerrieri-Cortesi  
*University of Wollongong*

This talk addresses the representational basis of individual differences in face recognition ability, with particular relevance for unfamiliar face identification in applied and forensic contexts. Using Representational Similarity Analysis, we tested the hypothesis that superior face recognition reflects a more efficient use of diagnostic dimensions, rather than richer or higher-dimensional representations per se. Faces from the Chicago Face Database were characterised across 37 features and reduced via Principal Component Analysis to seven core components. Higher CFMT+ scores were associated with reliance on a four-dimensional representational space that more optimally separated facial identities, suggesting that face recognition ability is linked to the topology and efficiency of the representational space supporting similarity judgements. Ongoing work examines how similarity decisions relate to perceptual topology derived from eye-tracking and semantic space derived from large language model embeddings of verbal face descriptions. Planned extensions—subject to participant access—will compare typical observers with super-recognisers and trained forensic face examiners to contrast spontaneous and trained representational topology. This program aims to clarify how perceptual, semantic, and decisional representations support unfamiliar face identification and to inform approaches to assessment and training in forensic settings.

#### **BIAS: THE UNDERDOG OF FACE RECOGNITION ABILITY**

Daniel Chu  
*UNSW*

Hyperfamiliarity for faces is a rare condition where individuals believe most people to be familiar. While uncommon, preliminary evidence indicates this bias may vary on a spectrum, with traces of hyperfamiliarity being present in the general population. This tendency has significant implications for security identification, and general wellbeing.

# ABSTRACTS

## MONDAY

---

### **SESSION 4**

#### **FORENSIC FACIAL IMAGE COMPARISON: INSIGHTS FROM AN INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIVE EXERCISE**

Stine Nordbjærg

*Danish National ID Centre*

In 2023, a small face expert working group conducted an inter-laboratory collaborative exercise comparing methodologies across three forensic agencies. The study examined similarities and differences in examiner processes, decision-making, and documentation, addressing a gap in proficiency testing focused mainly on accuracy-testing. Despite limited participation, the exercise provided valuable insights into ACE-V application and case documentation. The presentation will outline key findings from this first collaborative study in forensic facial image comparison, based on the forthcoming article “Forensic Facial Image Comparison: Examiners’ Insights from an International Collaborative Exercise.”

#### **VISUAL MEMORY AND FLUID INTELLIGENCE OF FORENSIC EXAMINERS AND SUPER-MATCHERS**

Dr Bethany Grows

*University of Canterbury*

Human factors play a critical role in face and forensic feature-comparison, yet the psychological mechanisms underlying expertise in this domain remain poorly understood. In this study, we examined the role of visual memory and fluid intelligence in forensic feature-comparison ability amongst perceptual experts. We recruited forensic examiners who specialised in face, fingerprint, or firearms comparison and super-matchers to complete a test battery of tasks measuring different cognitive and perceptual abilities. Our results revealed that forensic examiners and super-matchers outperform novices in many (but not all) tasks measuring visual memory and fluid intelligence. These results have important implications for the training and selection of professional forensic scientists in different feature-comparison disciplines.

# ABSTRACTS

## MONDAY

---

### **SESSION 4 (CONT.)**

#### **ANALYSING A DOMAIN-GENERAL OBJECT MATCHING ABILITY**

Caleb Barr

*University of Canterbury*

Following previous studies that have shown the existence of a domain-general object recognition ability that accounts for 89% of variance in novel visual object recognition performance, this study examined the existence of a domain-general object matching ability. Using the online survey tool Qualtrics, 8,964 participants were surveyed across twelve tests (80% missing data). These tests included three object matching tasks, a face matching and face recognition task, three object recognition tasks, three neurodiversity questionnaires, and a fluid intelligence test. Out of 8,964 participants, 1,163 had completed all object matching tasks. Structural equation modelling (SEM) was used to examine the existence of a domain-general object matching ability on the Qualtrics dataset. The possible existence of a domain-general object matching ability could be used to predict individuals likely to achieve high levels of performance on object matching tasks when provided with experience (such as fingerprint and firearms examination). This research has important implications for how potential forensic examiners are selected, helping to reduce the number of wrongful convictions made due to incorrect forensic examination.

#### **PROTECTING POLICE OFFICERS' MEMORY FOR CRITICAL EVENTS: THE ROLE OF STRESS, ATTENTION AND MNEMONICS**

Dr James Dunn

*University of New South Wales*

Accurate memory recall during high-stress incidents is critical for effective policing and the integrity of the justice system. This study explored how stress affects memory in operational contexts by involving Australian Federal Police officers in a realistic, high-pressure training scenario featuring an armed offender. Officers were equipped with wearable eye-tracking devices and heart rate monitors to measure where they looked and how their bodies responded to stress. After the scenario, we assessed how well they remembered key details. The study found that police officers' memory recall during high-stress scenarios was generally reliable, with most officers accurately remembering key details. However, approximately one-third of participants misreported how many times they discharged their firearm—an error with serious operational and legal implications. Officers who were provided with a simple memory aid (mnemonic) immediately after the incident recalled significantly more information, both immediately after the event and one week later. While physiological stress levels did not directly predict memory accuracy, specific patterns in eye movements were associated with better recall performance. These results offer valuable insights into how stress, attention, and memory interact during critical incidents. They also highlight practical interventions—like early recall and mnemonics—that can support more accurate and detailed recall in the field and during post-incident reporting.

# ABSTRACTS

## TUESDAY

---

### **SESSION 5: KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

#### **IMPOSTER 2.0**

Frøy Løvåsdal

*National Police Directorate and the Norwegian ID Centre*

Morphing and other types of digital manipulation of facial images in identity and travel documents is a serious concern for Governments all over the world. Development of algorithms for Morphing Attack Detection (MAD) and Presentation Attack Detection (PAD) is ongoing, and some are already in use. However, new and more challenging morphs continue to be developed, posing new threats to Government systems.

The ageing problem, 10 year passport validity, reluctance to using live enrolment, and lack of access to training data reduces optimism for a swift solution.

Discussions in the EU around AI highlights the importance of having a human in the loop. This is already widely adopted when using automated face recognition, and comprehensive training programmes exist for examiners and reviewers who perform manual face comparison at different levels, although this varies from one country or agency to another.

To contribute to addressing the issue of Morphing Attacks, the National Police Directorate in Norway participated in the iMARS project, and specifically in research exploring the human ability to detect face image morphing and other types of digital manipulation of face images. The results showed that current human performance in detecting digitally manipulated face images is, generally, lower than current algorithm performance. Notwithstanding, the experiments also revealed that some observers perform tremendously well.

A number of experiments have been carried out in order to better understand what humans find difficult, and learning more about the high performing observers. Why do the latter group deviate from the norm and how can their ability can be utilised?

# ABSTRACTS

## TUESDAY

---

### **SESSION 6**

#### **HUMAN-ALGORITHM COLLABORATION FOR IDENTITY VERIFICATION FROM LOW QUALITY IMAGES**

Dr Daniel Carragher

*Adelaide University*

Identity verification often requires deciding whether two images show the same person. Once performed exclusively by humans, Automated Facial Recognition (AFR) systems can now provide identification decisions to human operators for review. We have previously shown that human-algorithm teams tend to underperform on standard face matching tasks, compared to the same algorithm alone. But humans and AFR systems alike make more identification errors with low quality images (e.g., from surveillance cameras). Here we tested human-algorithm teams on images of Original, “Medium” or “Low” quality (created by blurring the original images). In Experiment 1, the simulated AFR systems had the same level of accuracy (97.5%) in each image quality condition. In Experiments 2 and 3, they had the accuracy a real system achieved on the images (Original and Medium = 98.75%, Low = 73.75%). Across three experiments, AFR assistance improved human performance in each image quality condition, but the average team still underperformed the algorithm alone. Participants showed greater reliance on the AFR system for low quality images, and a warning that AFR systems make more errors on low quality images had little impact on reliance. Our results suggest caution is needed when human-algorithm teams verify identity from low quality images.

#### **RESPONSE CARRYOVER IN FACE MATCHING TASKS**

Dr Zoë Little

*University of New South Wales*

When a person makes a face matching decision, in the lab or in an applied setting, they often have a recent history of having made just many similar decisions. Ideally, they should be able to approach each new decision independently of the unrelated responses they have made in the recent past. However, a re-analysis of previously-collected data shows that the “same” or “different” response that a participant made on the previous trial predicts the response they will make on the current trial. Individual differences in the degree to which these responses “carryover” between trials negatively predict performance across the whole task. The confidence ratings that people assign to these judgements are also influenced by previous confidence judgements, but without clear effects on overall metacognitive performance. These carryover effects have implications for collating the decisions of multiple individuals who have different decision histories.

# ABSTRACTS

## FRIDAY

---

### **SESSION 6 (CONT.)**

#### **INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES IN FAMILIAR AND UNFAMILIAR FACE MATCHING REFLECT THE SAME UNDERLYING ABILITY**

A/Prof David White

*University of New South Wales*

Research shows that processing identity of unfamiliar faces, for example in applied facial comparison tasks, is a difficult task. When we become familiar with a face, this task becomes relatively straightforward and significantly less error prone. This has led to the proposal that familiar face processing is a qualitatively different skill to unfamiliar face processing. Facial identification experts are tested using proficiency tests and selection tools that test their ability using unfamiliar face matching tasks, which could be problematic for tasks where they have prior familiarity with faces or people in the images. In two experiments we aimed to test the proposal that familiar and unfamiliar face matching performance rests on qualitatively different skills. Participants performed face matching tasks on faces they knew from watching TV, and unfamiliar faces. We found that participants who were good (or poor) at matching the faces of the show they had watched, were also good (or poor) at matching the faces from the unfamiliar show. This provides evidence against the idea that familiar and unfamiliar face processing rely on different underlying abilities.

### **SESSION 7**

#### **FACIAL RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY (FRT) IN PUBLIC PLACES**

Isabelle Moeller

*Biometrics Institute*

This talk will present insights into the use of FRT in publicly accessible places. It will present findings that highlight the opportunities and threats we need to address to use biometrics responsibly, ethically and effectively. It will include recommendations for best practice and governance and stimulate thinking on areas where further research is needed.

# ABSTRACTS

## TUESDAY

---

### **SESSION 7 (CONT.)**

#### **FACE RECOGNITION IN RETAIL REVIEW**

Abbas Bigdeli

*AerVision Technologies*

Traditional facial recognition systems in retail environments continuously match every customer's face against pre-existing watchlists of known shoplifters or banned individuals, raising significant privacy concerns and potential regulatory challenges. This presentation introduces Face Recall, a paradigm-shifting approach that fundamentally reimagines how facial recognition can operate in retail settings while respecting customer privacy. Face Recall operates on a "remember now, search later" principle. Instead of proactive matching, the system temporarily stores biometric templates of customers for a brief period—typically minutes to hours—before automatically forgetting them. Only when a specific incident occurs, such as theft, fraud, or a safety concern, does the system activate. At that moment, security personnel can search for the person of interest against recently observed faces, enabling rapid identification of suspects or associates without subjecting every customer to continuous surveillance. This reactive approach addresses growing consumer privacy expectations and emerging data protection regulations while maintaining effective loss prevention capabilities. By processing biometric data only when legitimate security needs arise, retailers can demonstrate proportionate use of surveillance technology. The presentation will explore real-world retail applications, privacy compliance advantages, and operational benefits of transitioning from persistent watchlist surveillance to incident-triggered Face Recall, positioning retailers as privacy-conscious while maintaining robust security protocols.

# ABSTRACTS

## TUESDAY

---

### **SESSION 7 (CONT.)**

#### **METROPOLITAN POLICE REAL-TIME FACIAL RECOGNITION DEPLOYMENT: A CASE STUDY**

Michael Ashton

*NEC*

Public trust is essential to live facial recognition (LFR) operations in public spaces. Independent testing provides objective assurance of accuracy, performance, and demographic fairness, enabling operational teams and governance bodies to set thresholds, manage risk, and make transparent deployment decisions. This presentation draws on National Physical Laboratory testing that informed the Metropolitan Police Service's real-time LFR deployments, highlighting practical lessons for responsible, accountable operational use.

### **SESSION 8**

#### **FACE PAREIDOLIA IN SYNTHETIC STIMULI REVEALS THE IMAGE-LEVEL BASIS OF FACE DETECTION**

Kateryna Marchenko

*University of New South Wales*

Face pareidolia, the perception of face-like structures in inanimate objects and random patterns, such as clouds, power sockets, and automobiles, suggests that the human face detection mechanism is inherently flexible. However, the specific features of images that trigger pareidolia remain unclear. This presentation discusses how systematic variation of image properties in fractal noise stimuli, computer-generated random noise patterns that approximate natural scenes in spectral properties, affects observers' experiences of face pareidolia while alleviating the image-selection confounds associated with the use of naturalistic pareidolia exemplars as experimental stimuli. Our findings reveal the internal brain templates for face detection in complex scenes.

# FURTHER INFORMATION



## Connecting to Wi-Fi

**Step 1:** Navigate to Wi-Fi settings and connect to the 'UNSW Guest' Network.

**Step 2:** You will be redirected to a registration screen and be asked to provide your name and e-mail details. You will also need to accept the T&Cs and Privacy Statement before proceeding. If you are not automatically redirected to this portal, go to the following link: <https://guest.wireless.unsw.edu.au/guest/guest-email-login.php>

**Step 3:** After clicking Register, you will then land on a welcome screen, which says you have temporary (approximately five minutes) access, before being redirected to the UNSW home page. You need to promptly navigate to your mail account.

**Step 4:** Use the Activation Link from the email to activate the access.

**Step 5:** You will land on a confirmation screen asking you to confirm (or reject) Wi-Fi access.

**Step 6:** After choosing, you will be redirected to a final screen confirming or denying Wi-Fi access to your device. You will have eight hours of continuous access. After that time, you can repeat the registration process as often as you wish.



## Event Organisers

**Richard Kemp**

School of Psychology, UNSW Sydney  
richard.kemp@unsw.edu.au

**James Dunn**

School of Psychology, UNSW Sydney  
j.d.dunn@unsw.edu.au

**David White**

School of Psychology, UNSW Sydney  
david.white@unsw.edu.au

**Zoë Little**

School of Psychology, UNSW Sydney  
z.little@unsw.edu.au

**Alice Towler**

School of Psychology, UQ  
a.towler@uq.edu.au

**Grace Wissmann**

School of Psychology, UNSW Sydney  
g.wissmann@unsw.edu.au

# FURTHER INFORMATION



## Food on Campus

### LOWER CAMPUS

#### University Terraces (B8)

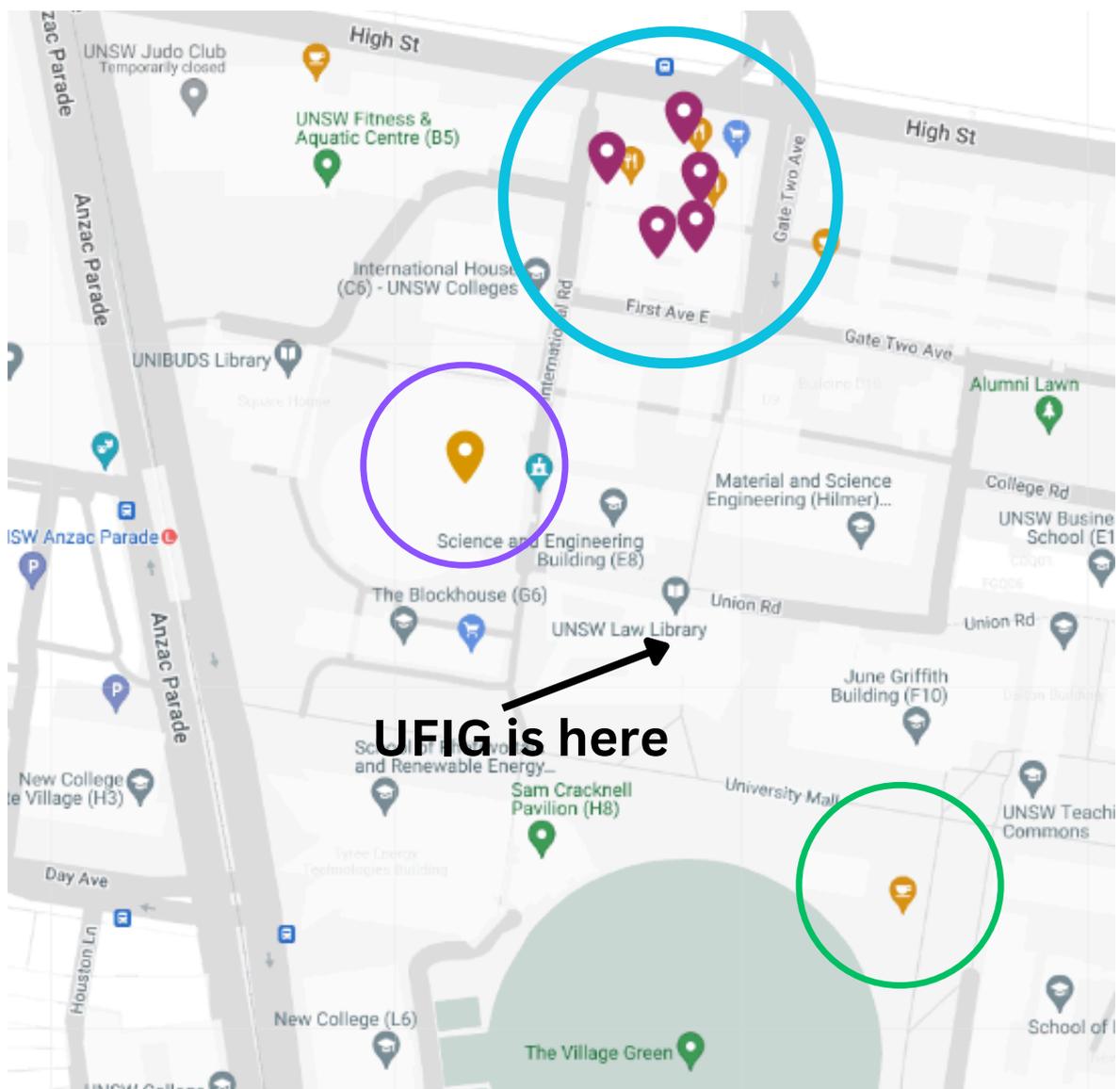
- Guzman Y Gomez
- Mamak Village
- Sharetea
- Stellini Pasta Bar
- Yallah Eat Pita, Kebab & Shawarma Bar

#### The Roundhouse (E6)

- Thirsty Burger & UniBar at The Roundhouse

#### The Village Green

- Home Ground Kiosk



# FURTHER INFORMATION



## Food on Campus

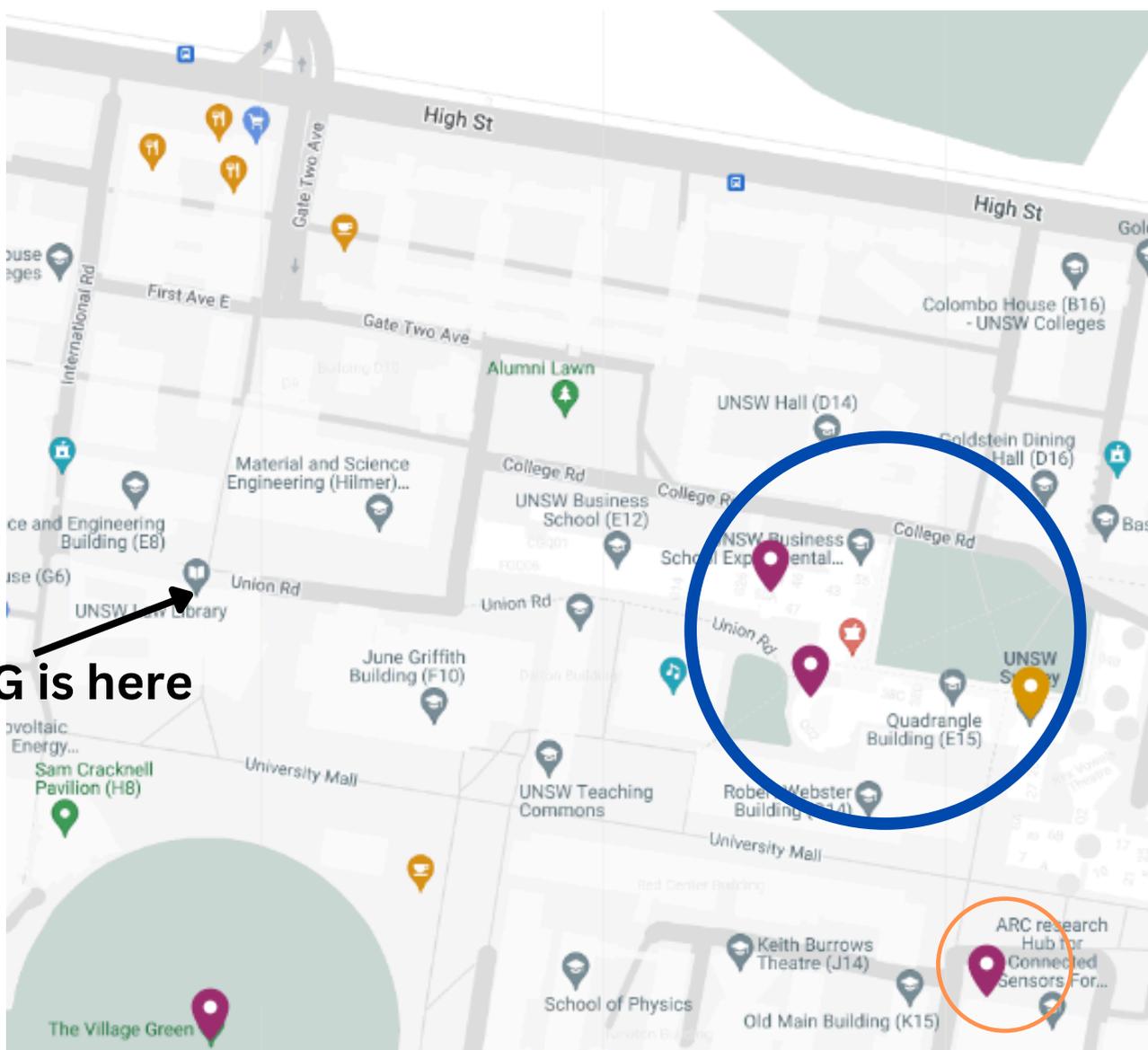
### MIDDLE CAMPUS

#### Quadrangle Building (E15)

- PappaRich
- Plume Cafe (near UNSW Bookshop)
- Quad food court

#### Ainsworth Building (J17)

- Coffee on Campus



UFIG is here

# FURTHER INFORMATION



## Food on Campus

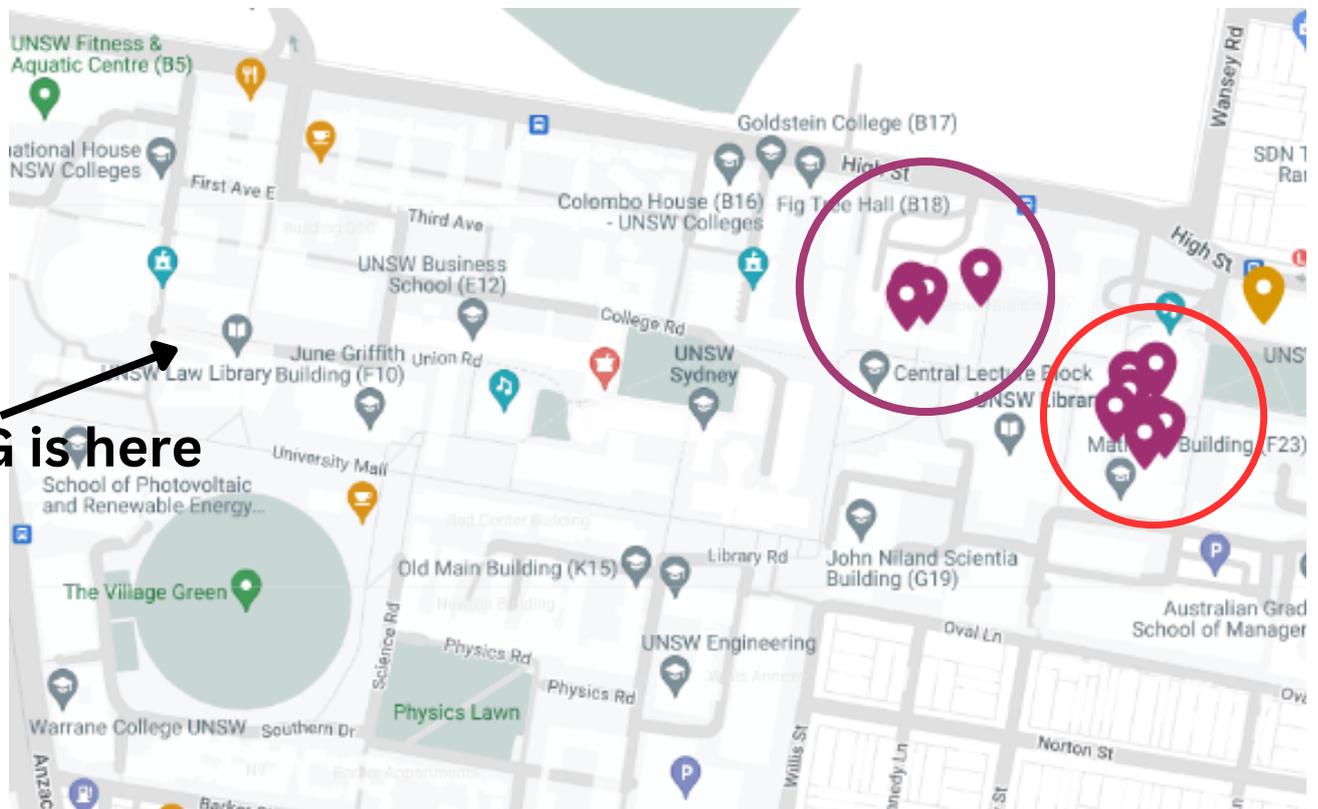
### UPPER CAMPUS

#### Morven Brown Building (C20) (Lower Ground Floor)

- Boost Juice
- Southern Wok
- Subway

#### Mathews Food Court/Arcade/Pavillion (E24a)

- Cafe Brioso
- Classic Kebab
- Gradueat
- Laksa Delight
- Stockmarket
- Sushi Roll
- Tropical Green (Pho House)



UFIG is here

# ATTENDING ORGANISATIONS

## GOVERNMENT/INDUSTRY

AerVision Technologies  
Australia Post  
Australian Federal Police  
Australian Passport Office  
Biometrics Institute  
BixeLab  
Cognitec Systems  
Danish National ID Centre  
Department of Home Affairs  
Department of Internal Affairs  
Department of Customer Services, Open Data and  
Small and Family Business  
IDEMIA  
Identity Matters Consulting  
National Police Directorate and the Norwegian ID  
Centre  
NCIS Norway  
NEC  
NSW Police  
New Zealand Police  
SITA  
South Australian Police  
The Identity and Data Sciences Lab  
Transport NSW  
Victoria Police  
Western Australia Police

## ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

Australian National University  
Ewha Womens University  
Macquarie University  
Swinburne University of Technology  
University of Adelaide  
University of Canterbury  
University of Greenwich  
University of New South Wales  
University of Newcastle  
University of Queensland  
University of Sydney  
University of Wollongong  
Western Sydney University  
York University