

## *Dr Alexandra Lasczik Cutcher*

Alexandra joined the School of Education, Southern Cross University [SCU] in July of 2011 as a Lecturer in Arts education, after 25 years as a secondary Visual Arts educator. Alexandra's passion is located within the Arts, specifically the Visual Arts, as artist, researcher, educator and teacher educator. She is currently Research Leader of the Creativity, Arts and Education Research Group [CreArE] at SCU.

Alexandra has engaged in many leadership roles since entering her second career as an academic. These include World Councillor for the *International Society of Education through Art* [InSEA], Chair for the *Arts-Based Educational Research Special Interest Group* [ABER SIG] for the *American Educational Research Association* [AERA] and Program Chair for the *Arts-Based Educational Research Special Interest Group* [ABER SIG] for the *American Educational Research Association* [AERA] 2015-2016. She is also past Editor of *Australian Art Education Journal* (2014-2016) and Editor of three book series, *Studies in Arts-based Educational Research* (Springer), *SpringerBriefs in Arts-based Educational Research* (Springer) and *Palgrave Studies in Movement and Space across Education* (Palgrave Macmillan). She has also previously served as Director, Teaching & Learning and Honours Course Coordinator in the School of Education at SCU.

Alexandra is recognised nationally for her teaching and research in Arts education, most recently as Researcher of the Year (2015) in the School of Education at SCU, and as recipient of the prestigious OLT (Office for Learning and Teaching, Australian Government) *Citation for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning* (2014). She is highly sought after as an inspirational speaker for keynotes, on panels, symposia and as visiting scholar. As Founder and Leader of the *CreArE Research Group*, she is actively building an expanding team of Arts and education Higher Degree Research students, and consequently, SCU is becoming renowned internationally as a lively and innovative hub for Arts-based educational research. Alexandra's first book *Displacement, Identity and Belonging: An Auto/Biographical, Arts-based Portrayal of Ethnicity and Experience (Sense)*, is based upon her award winning doctoral work. She is currently writing the sequel to this work, an unheard of innovation in academic publishing.