

Overland is seeking a new editor

After ten years in editorial roles, where she helped launch the magazine into online spaces and significant collaborative projects, Jacinda Woodhead is leaving *Overland*.

'It's been a privilege to work at a magazine that is so vital and spirited,' Jacinda says. 'Over the years, I've been able to publish many important works, writers and artists, and I want to thank all of those contributors, and our readers, editors, interns, volunteers and staff, who make *Overland* such a literary force.'

'But I also think that the only way for a 65-year-old magazine like *Overland* to stay vital and dynamic is by making space for new people and new directions,' she says.

Now, *Overland* is seeking a new editor, and for the first time in its history, the magazine is advertising the position.

In true democratic fashion, all *Overland* board and staff will be involved in appointing the new editor.

'One of the things I love about *Overland* is the opportunities it gives people,' Jacinda says. 'We are very conscious that there are still many barriers to participation in literature and art, but I was one of those who got an opportunity here. I started out as an intern in late 2009. As someone who comes from a single-parent, rural family, and the first in my extended family to go to university, I can't imagine having found a space for myself in literature and politics without *Overland*.'

Jacinda has been a dynamic and visionary editor, enabling *Overland* to grow in exciting new directions while consolidating its position as Australia's sole and outstanding radical literary journal, said *Overland* chair Dr Bronwyn Cran.

'Jacinda leaves *Overland* in an excellent state, artistically and financially. Jacinda has significantly enhanced *Overland's* viability, its reputation, and its readership base, through partnerships with major artistic organisations and events, relationships with established and emerging writers, and via an expanded social media presence. Her establishment of the *Overland* online magazine, and of the *Overland* Residency Program for underrepresented writers, speak to the heart of *Overland* - its commitment to furthering progressive political and cultural debate, and to developing writing talent in people of diverse backgrounds. Jacinda leaves a significant legacy for the free and future expression of writing and ideas in Australia. She also leaves *Overland* with the best wishes and gratitude of the board, and we thank her deeply for her valuable contribution to the journal and the organisation,' Dr Cran said.

When asked what insight she had to give about the editorial role, Jacinda replied that while a demanding job, being editor is also thrilling and unique. She can't imagine another role where one has such creative control, she says. 'It is also incredibly rewarding when you see first-time authors get book deals, or political arguments made in the magazine's pages have an impact on the discourse. Or when famous authors revisit stories they published in 1972, or you run literary events at film festivals, or when you have a writing prize that draws in unions and writers and artists who care passionately about building a better world.'

The role of *Overland* editor is now being advertised. A position description and other details can be obtained via overland.org.au or alternatively by contacting the current editor Jacinda Woodhead at jacinda@overland.org.au or *Overland* chair Dr Bronwyn Cran at chair@overland.org.au

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