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University

Graduate Research Academy

July 2021

A message from our Pro Vice-Chancellor Graduate Research

As part of a major change process, from the beginning of July, we will be establishing a Graduate Research Academy (GRA) within the Deputy Vice Chancellor Research portfolio. The GRA will be a central office providing leadership, support, and administration for HDR candidates, supervisors, departments and faculties, and will develop and coordinate structured graduate research training programs to support progressive academic and professional skills development in line with models from leading universities around the world. Staff within the GRA will

work in partnership with faculties to support our graduate researchers through their candidature. The vision is to deliver an exceptional research training experience building from the basic training delivered through our unique MRes program to more advanced research training as part of the PhD.

A key objective of the GRA is to develop distinctive, connected and career-focused graduate research programs, which meet individual researcher needs and support employability. We will be enhancing opportunities for internships and innovative industry linked graduate research programs and growing our international partnerships with leading universities worldwide to support joint PhDs and international experiences for graduate researchers.

The transition to the GRA will be gradual and we will ensure to communicate any changes that will have an impact on you or your candidature. We will also be seeking input from across the University in shaping research training provisions to ensure they meet the needs of our graduate researchers and supervisors, so please keep your eyes out for opportunities to make a contribution. Finally, as part of our renewed focus on employability and skills development, we will shortly be launching some new training workshops in collaboration with the MQ incubator, and will again provide industry training through the HDR Engage program. Further details to follow, watch this space!

Stay safe and stay well,

Professor Simon Handley, Pro Vice-Chancellor Graduate Research

[COVID-19 FAQs for HDR](#) (Coronavirus (COVID-19) infection: latest information
– Information for Students – Changes to Session 1 – HDR Students

HDR Workshops

All workshops can be found on the [MyRDC](#).

Tuesdays 11am-1pm	HDR Statistical Consulting Service 16WW (Lincoln Building), Room 1.31 (Level 1) Appointments recommended: contact A/Prof Peter Petocz (peter.petocz@mq.edu.au)	6 - 7 July	SPSS Introductory Workshop (Zoom) Register here →
13 – 15 July	Winter HDR Writing Retreat (Online) Register here →	21 July	Introduction to the ARC DECRA Funding Scheme for Funding Commencing in 2023 Register here →
22 July	ARC information webinar for early carer researchers on career planning Register here →	28 July – 1 September	Humanities Research Writing Basics Course (online) Register here →

HDR Announcements



Peer Writing Assistance (PWA) sessions

Are you a HDR student? Do you need help with your writing? Are you confused about the HDR journey? If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, then the Peer Writing Assistance program is here to help. Peer Writing Assistants (PWAs) are current Macquarie PhD and postdoctoral candidates who can assist in helping you gain new perspectives on your research ideas and writing.

Please visit the [PWA website](#) and register your interest for a 45-minute

Important Dates

8 July - Session 1 Results Published

23 July - Payment due date for all BPhil/MRes Y1 candidates

25 July - Payment due date for all MRes Y2/PhD candidates

26 July - Session 2 Study Period Start (applicable to BPhil/MRes Yr1)

7 August - Session 2 Census date for candidates enrolled in MRes Yr2, MPhil and PhD

consultation. Due to the current social distancing practices, all PWA consultations will occur remotely via Zoom. Those of you who are unfamiliar with Zoom, please read the [Zoom basics](#).

8 August - Session 2 Last day to enrol (applicable to BPhil/MRes Yr1)

A full calendar of important dates can be viewed on [HDR Important Dates](#).

HDR News & Information

Indigenous HDR Internship: The Centre for Global Indigenous Futures 'growing our own'



HDR candidates Lauren Tynan, Tamika Worrell, Danelia Robinson, Zac Roberts, and Department Administrator Tetei Bakic

The Inaugural Indigenous Higher Degree Research (HDR) Internship commenced in February 2021 and will be running until November. It is a series of eight half-day

workshops facilitated by Dr Tristan Kennedy, Dr Ryan Frazer, and HDR Candidate Innez Haua from the Department of Indigenous Studies. It is an initiative of the newly established Centre for Global Indigenous Futures and has been generously supported by the Office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Indigenous Strategy).

The Internship is set to demystify the academy for emerging Indigenous scholars. It traverses linguistic, policy, and procedural boundaries so that the transition from HDR candidature to employment as academics in Australian higher education institutions is as smooth as possible.

The eight workshops are tailored to Macquarie University's expectations of academic job roles and cover Boyer's four areas of scholarship – Discovery, Teaching, Application, and Integration. It is also closely aligned to Macquarie University's strategic initiative 'Baduwa' to "unlock the capacity and build aspirations of Indigenous students and staff through increased access to and opportunity for tertiary education". The internship also responds to the key priority of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Workforce Plan to "provide opportunities and positive futures for our current and future Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff".

The objectives of the Indigenous HDR Internship include providing Indigenous HDRs with knowledge of academic language, process, policy, and procedure; building the capacity of Indigenous HDRs to engage in high-quality teaching and curriculum design; developing Indigenous HDRs' research portfolios; and, strengthening Indigenous academic networks at Macquarie University with national and international colleagues.

The program draws on the expertise and generosity of the Macquarie University community and Indigenous scholars from around Australia. Already the Internship has invited Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Mariella Herberstein, Director of Learning and Teaching Staff Development Associate Professor Agnes Bosanquet, and Pro-Vice-Chancellor Indigenous Strategy at James

Cook University Professor Martin Nakata to share their experiences and knowledge about the role of the University Executive, innovative teaching and researching, and career building and progression.

Professor Bronwyn Carlson, Head of the Department of Indigenous Studies says, 'The Indigenous internship program, led by Dr Kennedy, is one of the innovative ways the Centre for Global Indigenous Futures in the Department of Indigenous Studies is supporting the next generation of Indigenous scholars. This program fits with our commitment to "grow our own" where we support our students to achieve their aspirations of being productive members of the scholarly community who value research and working with and for Indigenous communities'.

Indigenous HDR candidate in the School of Education, Tamika Worrell said, 'I already feel more prepared to enter the world of academia post-PhD. I think the most valuable skill will be the ability to meet all the requirements of academic roles, how to go for promotions, and what being a lecturer at all levels actually means'.

The Indigenous HDR Internship is a core HDR support program of the Centre for Global Indigenous Futures with plans to launch the program nationally in 2022.

Dr Tristan Kennedy – Senior Lecturer, Department of Indigenous Studies

Research Frontiers: Arts MRes candidates meet for HDR Conference



Billy Black, MRes Candidate, Faculty of Arts

In June 2021, Master of Research candidates and supervisors gathered on campus for a 3-day conference to present their projects. Seventy candidates from Year 2 of the MRes program spoke about their research and answered questions from an engaged, enthusiastic audience.

The presentations contribute to each candidate's final Master's grade. However, the conference delivered far more than marks.

Candidates from across the Faculty's disciplines workshopped presentations with HDR Learning Skills or Departments, delivered papers and responded to questions, and networked with a large audience. Supervisors and Department members commented on the high standard of research communication skills that were demonstrated. Candidates and Supervisors took to Twitter with [#ArtsMResRF2](#) to express their enjoyment and high praise of the 3-day event.

Research topics ranged from contemporary social policy topics, such as Australia's response to Covid19, to more enduring questions on the nature of human freedom

and free will. The mysteries of both the ancient world and contemporary cultures continue to exert their power, with a large group of candidates presenting research on ancient societies, and with research on present-day Mexico, Brazil, Japan, and more.

From here, with literature review, project design, and presentations done, candidates will be working hard towards their October submission dates. Our best wishes for your ongoing research!

Dr Andrew Dunstall, Co-ordinator, Master of Research (MRes) Administration

Warm your Winter with Writing



Photo by [Max van den Oetelaar](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Winter HDR Writing Retreat: 13-15 July 2021

After the success of the online writing retreats we held in 2020, we are running another HDR Writing Retreat via Zoom this Winter! So, whether you're in North Ryde, East Lismore, South Australia, or West Africa: you can join us!

This 3-day online writing retreat provides a structured program to help you progress your thesis and your writing skills. Each day timetables large chunks of writing time so you can get on with your own thesis writing, but we'll also provide facilitated writing-focused activities, daily workshops, and access to 1:1 consultations with Graduate Research Development Advisors.

This is the perfect opportunity to break from usual activities to focus solely on writing, so please make arrangements to participate from 8:45am until 4:45pm on all three days. We suggest you take leave from any paid work and plan childcare on these three days.

Places are strictly limited, and registrations close on 7 July! Note that you need to submit an Expression of Interest document to apply (details on [the registration page](#)). Please direct any questions to hdrlearningskills@mq.edu.au

Dr Juliet Lum, Graduate Research Development Manager

The Perfect Thesis

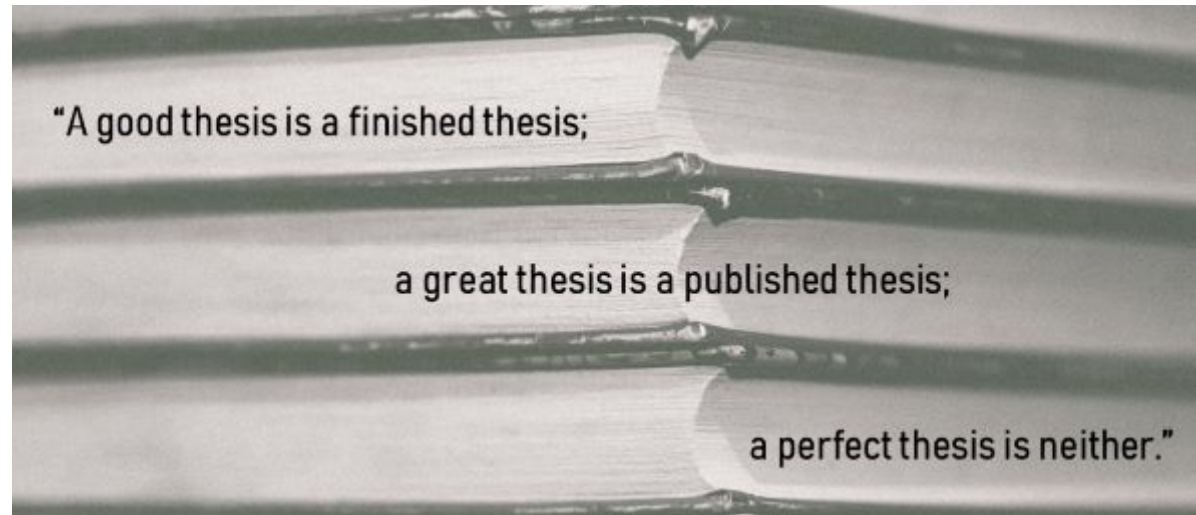


Photo by [Johannes Krupinski](#) on [Unsplash](#)

When I was in year 5 of primary school, I spent hours creating topic-appropriate title pages and matching heading designs in my school books. When we were studying space, I made all my headings have little Saturn-like planets on either end of the title, and, as a prank, one of my school friends decided to white-out the little Saturns. I was devastated. I cried. Yes, I could go over the white-out with pen, but it just wasn't the same. My headings were no longer perfect.

While this is my earliest memory of letting go of "perfect", it certainly wasn't my last. Perfectionism can often be useful especially in research because it makes us detail orientated. On the other hand, perfectionism can often be detrimental especially in research because it prevents us from seeing the bigger picture and finishing a project or thesis. There is always one more experiment; one more literature search; one more edit; one more rewrite that could be done to make it better, but at what cost? How about the cost of not completing your MRES or PhD?

Although an HDR degree does require you to undertake a certain level of work to demonstrate that you are worthy of that degree, once you have exceeded that don't

let perfectionism derail you from graduating. At the end of the day, a good thesis is a done thesis.

Dr Megan Brewer, Graduate Research Development Advisor

Scholarships

BPhil/MRes Y1 Scholarship Stipend - Session 2, 2021

If you are a domestic candidate enrolled full time and onsite in Year 1 of the BPhil/MRes program, you may be eligible for a scholarship stipend!

Domestic candidates meeting the eligibility criteria and entering the BPhil/MRes program in Session 1 of Year 1 OR Session 2 of BPhil/MRes Year 1 will receive a scholarship stipend of \$4,000, paid as a single lump sum payment.

Candidates do not need to take any action at this stage except keeping their banking details updated on eStudent. Eligibility for the stipend is confirmed following the session Census date.

Once eligibility has been confirmed via the OHDRTP, eligible candidates will receive a notification detailing the steps required to enable the stipend payment. The date of payment may vary depending on the pay cycles and other factors, such as public holidays.

2022 Domestic Scholarship Round – COMING SOON

The 2022 Domestic Research Training Program Scholarship (RTP) and Domestic Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (MQRES) will be open in July. These scholarships are highly competitive and are awarded to only the highest-ranked candidates.

The selection processes for candidates commencing in 2022 will predominantly be based on candidate ratings but will also include considerations of the Research Environment. This may include an evaluation of the alignment of the candidate's project with Macquarie University's research strategy and research priorities, the quality of the supervisory team and the international standing of the research area.

Relevant information on the 2022 domestic round can be found on the [MQ website](#). Additional questions may be [emailed](#) to us.

2022 International HDR Main Scholarship Round - OPEN

The [2022 International HDR Main Scholarship Round](#) is now open and will close on 15 August 2021. Applications are for commencement in the Master of Research Year 2 and Doctor of Philosophy programs.

The International Research Training Program (iRTP) is the Australian Commonwealth Government scholarship scheme for supporting international higher degree research candidates. Applicants applying for an iRTP will be automatically considered for the University funded International Macquarie Research Excellence Scholarship program (iMQRES) in the same round.

Applicants should select International HDR Main Scholarship Round as the Scholarship type in their application.

Relevant information on the round can be found on the [MQ website](#). Additional questions may be [emailed](#) to us.

Study at the Australian Institute of Health Innovation!

Check out the domestic PhD Scholarships we have at the Australian Institute of Health Innovation!

For further information, see the [scholarship details](#) on our 'Study at AIHI' website.

HDR scholarships closing soon!

The impact of micro gender biases on women's careers

[Details](#)

Internet Privacy and Security Analytics

[Details](#)

Project Specific Scholarship for "Perovskite and quantum dot optoelectronic devices"

[Details](#)

Don't forget to check out the [Scholarship Search](#) webpage regularly for new HDR scholarships.



Cotutelle and International Opportunities



Higher Degree Research Scholarships



HDR Support & Development



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YOU *to the power of us*



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