A message from our Pro Vice-Chancellor Graduate Research

A message from our Pro Vice-Chancellor Graduate Research

This month, I have invited Catherine Murphy, our Graduate Research Operations Manager to provide the introductory message for Graduate Research Matters – over to you Catherine.

Having worked in the university sector for twelve years, and in Graduate Research administration at Macquarie University for eight of those, I have seen students cope with so much. Almost everything that life can throw at a person, good and bad.

In the last few years alone, I too have had to face many of life’s challenges. Death, family issues, the birth of my second child, being a full-time working mum with two kids under five, coping with major professional change during lockdown, separation from my parents for years thanks to border closures… the list sometimes feels never-ending! But in those few years I have had incredible highs, and surprisingly the highs are far harder to put into a list. The birth of one of my beautiful babies of course, but the community of people I am surrounded by everyday accounts for so much of my joy. Stacked up against each other, the “lows” seem to outweigh the “highs”. But it can be hard to articulate happiness. The support of my community is invaluable and can’t be measured.
To say I am proud of my professional community, the Operations Team, is an understatement. Not just because of how hard they continue to work, but because of the support I see them offer people every day. To each other, to our candidates, and to our academic staff. We have a cohort of over 1770 Higher Degree Candidates all working on or towards unique research projects, all with different personalities and individual life experience.

So when you hit a bump in the road and you need help understanding how this may impact your program, contact us. The Operations Team, like all of you, is made up of unique people from all different backgrounds and they are here to help you navigate your Research journey. And if you are finding you don’t have a very big community to share your research “highs” with, share them with the GRA. Happiness shared, is happiness doubled.

*Catherine Murphy, Operations Manager*

*If you’re looking to expand your research community, chat with your department. Personal community? Check out the student run clubs at MQ. They are a great way to connect with people who share your passions, interests or unique hobbies:*  
https://students.mq.edu.au/uni-life/clubs-societies

**COVID-19 FAQs for GR Candidates** (Coronavirus (COVID-19) infection: latest information – Information for Students – Changes to Session 1 – GR Students

---

**GR Workshops**

For a listing of 2022 workshops, please go to [MyRDC website](#). To receive announcements for GR Workshops please ensure you have enrolled in our [iLearn site](#).

**Tuesdays 10am-12pm**

- **15 September 2022**
  - **GR Statistical Consulting Service**
    - 16WW (Lincoln Building), Room 1.31 (Level 1)
    - Appointments recommended: contact A/Prof Peter Petocz (peter.petocz@mq.edu.au)

- **15 September 2022**
  - **Survey Design and Practice Using**

**Pitch Ability Course for PhD candidates**

- [Register now →](#)

---

**15 September 2022**

- **Graduate Research Writing Workshops**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Register now</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 September 2022</td>
<td>Graduate Research Writing Workshops (HASS): Developing a Research Question</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 September 2022</td>
<td>ONLINE Saturday Writing Intensive (morning session)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 September 2022</td>
<td>ONLINE Saturday Writing Intensive (afternoon session)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 September 2022</td>
<td>Graduate Research Writing Workshops (HASS): Making Rigorous Description and Justification of Research Methods</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 October 2022</td>
<td>Graduate Research Writing Workshops (HASS): Techniques in Discussing Results and Drawing Conclusion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-14 October 2022</td>
<td>Solve Social Challenges and Wicked Problems with Creative Research (Online via Zoom)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Announcements**
HDR Expansivity Q&A session with facilitator Melanie Lewis

Join us on 5 October for a Q&A session with program facilitator and MQ Incubator’s Expert-in-Residence, Melanie Lewis. This is your chance to ask any questions about the upcoming Module 4 - Solve Social Challenges and Wicked Problems with Creative Research happening 12 & 14 Oct. We will also be talking about the 2023 HDR Program.

Register here.

Date: 5 October 2022, 11:15 am – 12pm
Online via Zoom

3MT MQ Finals

Everyone will have the opportunity to vote for the People's Choice Winner via our iLearn site.

Voting will be open between 5-8 September. Join our judges for the announcement of the MQ Finals Winners online at 10am on Friday 9 September! Zoom link will be provided closer to the event.

Find out everything you need to know about 3MT here

Important Dates

Coming Up
1 September
S1 2023 Domestic Research Scholarship applications open.
S1 2023 Domestic Road to Research applications open.

15 September (exact date tbc)
Bachelor of Philosophy Applications for S1 2023 Open.

28 September
Last date to withdraw without Fail. Financial penalty applies (applies to BPhil/MRes Y1).

A full calendar of important dates can be viewed on Graduate Research Important Dates.

Joint Research Seed Grant- Round 2 funding:
Mahidol and Macquarie University Round 2 of the Strategic Research Seed Grant Round for joint project will be announced in Session 2, 2022.

Up to 2 projects for teams comprising academics from both institutions will be funded. The funding amount for the project overall is AUD $20,000, with AUD $10,000 allocated to the researchers at Macquarie University.

More details, including the application form, funding guidelines, list of priority areas, will be available from October 2022.

News & Information

The Employable (You) us

LAUNCHING EMPLOYABLE YOU(us
Starting Monday 8 August

EMPLOYABLE (YOU)us
Learn more at goto.mq/ey

What is Employable (You)us?

- This is a 5-week series of employability and career related presentations and activities for students to actively engage in this aspect of their Macquarie
student experience.

- Employable (You)US will take students through the basics of career options, getting experience, applying for jobs, presenting skills to employers and preparing for WIL/PACE.
- This series replaces the traditional Careers Week activities (usually week 3 of session) – feedback suggested the format was no longer effective and impactful so we are trying something new.
- The series runs over 5 weeks to give students more time to engage in shorter, sharper time commitments.

What’s happening?

- Each week has a theme and consists of the following elements:
  - feature presentation that includes industry, MQ students and graduates, and career and employability coaches
  - feature workshop that is linked to the theme to provide opportunities for a little “deeper dive”
  - pop-ups and giveaways in the Central Courtyard between 12 and 2pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays
  - associated employability events that are being run by Faculties and other teams and/or employer presentations
  - Recordings will also be available on the website
  - Students who attend activities in 3 or more weeks go into a major prize draw
  - These events are relevant also for our Graduate Researchers
  - You can access all the information on the Employable(You)us website
  - [https://students.mq.edu.au/careers/employable-you](https://students.mq.edu.au/careers/employable-you)

For more details contact us at careers@mq.edu.au.

Graduate Research Supervision
Supervision Forum Series

Did you miss out on the forum series in semester 1? Well, the great news is that it is running again in semester 2! Come along and hear from experienced supervisors about how they support and guide their candidates.

**Week 1: Supervising candidates undertaking industry research programs or internships**
Date and time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm, Thursday 8 September
[Register here](#)

**Week 2: Supervising candidates writing a thesis with a creative component or a thesis by publication**
Date and time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm, Thursday 15 September
[Register here](#)

**Week 3: Managing the examination process**
Date and time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm, Wednesday 21 September
[Register here](#)

**Week 4: Graduate Research Supervision Fellowship Program**
Date and time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm, Thursday 29 September
[Register here](#)

Further information about each session can be found on the [Supervision Enhancement](#) website.

**CLOSING SOON: Call for NEW joint projects**

---

**FINAL REMINDER:** Call for NEW joint projects with St Andrews University for joint PhDs. An open call for graduate research supervisors at Macquarie to jointly prepare, with supervisors from St Andrews University, a proposal for a joint PhD
program. Up to two fully funded (fees and stipend) scholarships will be provided for joint PhD programs.

This call is open to ALL schools at both Universities. Projects within an area of strategic importance to both institutions will be prioritised. Applications need to be submitted by University of St Andrews staff on behalf of the Macquarie supervisor by **30 September 2022**.

Full details of the call, the composition of the application, selection criteria, student recruitment process, and funding details are available from the Graduate Research Academy. Please email gr.international@mq.edu.au for details.

# Solve Social Challenges and Wicked Problems with Creative Research

In Module Four: Solve Social Challenges and Wicked problems with Creative Research we look at wicked problems and socio-technical change. How can we tackle this as researchers? Through more creative thinking, of course! As academics we are great at critical thinking. How might we balance that and apply our analytics and amazing critical mindset to do good in the world? We’ll explore examples of research, like yours, that has been commercialised into real world change projects.

**Dates:**
12 Oct, 10am – 12:30pm
14 Oct, 10am – 12:30pm

**Delivery:** online via Zoom

Reclaim time and become an efficient writer!!!

Successful writers carve out time and space for their writing in a striking variety of ways, but they all do it somehow. - Helen Sword

Setting time aside to write regularly and creating good writing habits can be tricky! People have busy lives. Research writing can be an afterthought – after work, late at night, on the weekends, once a month. A piecemeal approach, however, often creates stress and anxiety, rather than alleviating it.

So, how to establish a regular, productive routine?

First, look at your schedule and work out what time of day you are most productive: 10pm on Sunday night isn’t the best time for most of us to write, but it may work perfectly for you! Secondly, prioritise your writing and make it one of your top five tasks in a day, no matter what your stage of candidature. Thirdly, plan and stick to small but regular writing blocks. Just 30 minutes of uninterrupted writing is enough to establish a routine; in time you will write for longer. As Helen Sword argues in her 2017 book Air and Light and Time and Space, building behavioural habits is the key. Everyone is different, so find what works for you!

Dr Francesca Mataraga Graduate Research Development Advisor (HASS)

MRes Information Session
Discover how research training can harness your potential and allow you to pursue your passion. We’re investing in developing top researchers and the Graduate Research Academy (GRA) invite you to join us.

**Date:** 30 September 2022  
**Time:** 10am-12pm

Hear from Professor Jen Cornish, Academic Director Graduate Research as she explains how the MRes program can enhance your employment opportunities, with international recognition for your qualifications.

This will be followed by the opportunity to join a Faculty-designated break-out room for questions and to find out more about your proposed research area and how to apply. Meet key Faculty academics and GRA staff.

Register [here](#)

**Macquarie University visit to Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand**
On the 10th August a delegation from Macquarie University led by Pro-Vice Chancellor of Graduate Research, Professor Simon Handley visited Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand.

The delegation visited several parts of the University, including the Macquarie Centre for International Education (MCIE), the Mahidol University Frontier Research Facility at the Viral Vector Facility, the Sulaya Central Instrument Facility and the Joint Research Unit at the Faculty of Medicine at the Ramathibodi Hospital.

The Mahidol University Frontier Research Facility at the Viral Vector Facility and Sulaya Central Instrument Facility have recently been equipped with state-of-the-art technology funded by a $30 million grant from the Thai Government.

The Macquarie delegation was inspired and moved by the important mission and enormous commitment and hard work of the Audiology staff at the Joint Research Unit at the Faculty of Medicine. Macquarie University is involved in the training of the next generation of Audiology researchers from the Joint Research Unit in the Master of Research (MRes) program. It is anticipated that, upon graduation from the PhD pathway, the candidates will proceed to a dual PhD degree enrolment through the Macquarie-Mahidol Cotutelle program.

Macquarie Researchers who may be interested in finding out more information about the research facilities, research areas, joint funding and cotutelle opportunities at Mahidol University should contact the Graduate Research Academy gr.international@mq.edu.au

Offsite Research Writing Event: Registrations now open
Following the huge success of our first 3-day Offsite Research Writing Event, the GRD Team are excited to announce that we will be running this event again from Monday 19 – Wednesday 21 December, 2022.

Located on the tranquil grounds of Peter Canisius House in Pymble, this unique event will provide graduate researcher candidates the opportunity and space to focus on their writing away from everyday distractions. Places are limited and will be allocated to candidates on a first-come-first-served basis providing they satisfy the conditions outlined on the registration page.

Please ensure that you read all the information before applying. Full details of the event and registration process are on myRDC. For any questions about this event please contact the GR Development Team at gr.development@mq.edu.au.

Macquarie University part of an AU$22.8 million initiative: Australia France Network of Doctoral Excellence (AUFRANDE)

The €15.7 million (AU$22.8 million) network will involve 37 universities across France and Australia. Macquarie University is one of five participating Australian Universities led by RMIT. Other Australian partners include UNSW, University of Tasmania and University of Sydney.

Co-funded by the European Commission and the five Australian universities, the five-year project will employ 64 early career doctoral researchers, with a focus on generating industry-relevant research. Six of the doctoral researchers will undertake a Cotutelle at Macquarie with a French partner university:

- Université de Limoges
- Centrale Supelec
- Université Aix-Marseille.
The researchers involved in the successful application are:

Professor Alex Fuerbach, Senior Lecturer Joanne Dawson, Professor Jon Lawrence and colleagues from the Faculty of Science.

The areas in which the Cotutelle PhD projects will be conducted, are:

- nonlinear laser dynamics, semiconductor lasers, laser-material interactions
- ultrafast lasers, nonlinear optics, mid-infrared photonics
- interstellar medium, radio astronomy, Galactic astronomy
- astronomical instrumentation, adaptive optics, astrophotonics

The doctoral candidates will be mentored by experienced supervisors from academia and industry and receive training and support including annual workshops and group events.

The new network will also establish a significant number of co-supervision agreements between French and Australian partners, laying the groundwork for continued high levels of collaboration well beyond the project’s end.

The doctoral candidates will be employed at these French academic institutions and spend up to one year on secondment at Macquarie University. They’ll receive both French and Australian doctoral degrees upon successful completion of their research.

The first group of PhD candidates will be recruited from a worldwide hiring campaign expected to begin in early 2023.

All doctoral candidates will be given up to 3.5 years to complete their PhD providing flexibility for potential delays. A total of 13,000€ Travel and Training Allowances per doctoral candidate is included in the AUFRANDE budget to cover Australian and intersectoral secondments and attendances at AUFRANDE workshops. Partners will cover all research costs and tuition fees.

To help create a sense of community amongst the doctoral candidates, Supervisors, and Non-academic Mentors, and to provide strong interdisciplinary networking opportunities, multiple in-person (all with hybrid options) workshops will be organised at different locations in France and Australia, complemented by online meetings and social networks. The doctoral candidates will all have individualized Career Development Plans based on EU Principles on Innovative Doctoral Training. The doctoral candidates will also be offered a Career Mentor, separate from their academic supervisors. Digital training modules will cover a wide range of topics: RRI, Academic Integrity Awareness, Diversity, Why Gender Matters, Cross Cultural Communications, Entrepreneurship, Open Science, Research Funding.
TalkCampus

TalkCampus is an online peer support community for Macquarie students. It provides access to support any time of day, anywhere in the world via the TalkCampus app.

The app allows you to be anonymous while accessing support from peers across the globe in a safe environment. You can talk to other students about your concerns and challenges.

How to access TalkCampus

- Download the TalkCampus app for free from Google Play or the App Store
- Select the ‘Sign up’ button on the home page of the app
- Enter your university email address and choose a password

To find out more see link

Scholarships

Cotutelle and International Opportunities

GR Scholarships

GR Development & My Research Program
Experience

YOU to the power of us

Macquarie University NSW 2109 Australia T: +61 2 9850 7111 | Ask a question

Disclaimer: Information given is correct at the time of distribution but is subject to change without notice. The University has the right to alter the content or impose terms and conditions at any time.

Macquarie University | ABN 90 952 801 237 | CRICOS Provider 00002J | CS 1317 | Unsubscribe