



HDR Matters

Office of HDR Training & Partnerships

MAY EDITION

HDR candidates and supervisors will be starting to receive communications from a new address: the Office of HDR Training and Partnerships. The old HDRO and Dean HDR's offices are no more, and have been combined into the OHD RTP. The two offices had different purposes: one focused on administration and the other on support and development, but there has always been significant overlap.

The new office will be able to develop new opportunities for HDR candidates, in the international, internship and peer-to-peer support areas especially. One of the many benefits is the combination of the two offices newsletters into one which streamlines our communication processes.

Our newsletter will allow us to bring together information about everything on offer for HDR candidates as well as more reflective, human pieces about the HDR experience and relationships between candidates, supervisors, support staff and other researchers.

HDR is first and foremost a human process. We hope bringing together the practical and support sides will help in making your candidature as smooth and positive as possible

Professor Nick Mansfield, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Higher Degree Research Training and Partnerships

Winter HDR Writing Retreat 2019



Photo by [Alisa Anton](#) on [Unsplash](#)

The experience of writing can feel solitary and even lonely, but the same experience can seem quite different in a group. If finding quiet, uninterrupted time is one of the main challenges of writing, it is also an essential part of the research process.

Participating in a writing retreat is a wonderful way to combine the stillness of mind necessary to focus on research with the collaborative energy that comes with sitting together with a community of like-minded scholars.

If you're in a writing intensive stage of your candidature, why not sign up for our Winter HDR Writing Retreat? As the word 'retreat' suggests, this 3-day event will be a perfect opportunity for you to pull back from the normal distractions of your everyday in order to keep your attention on the thing that matters most in crafting your thesis project – writing.

The Winter Retreat will be held on June 17-19. You can find more details of the event [here](#). It'll be cold, yes, but also all the more cosy and conducive to good writing!

HDR Career Development: Supervision Fellowship Program



Photo by [Andrew Ly](#) on [Unsplash](#)

In April, a dedicated group of academic Supervisors attended a workshop centred on the career development and employability of their HDR Candidates. The workshop fits within the Macquarie University HDR Supervision Fellowship Program under the Influence and Engagement quadrant.

It is clear there are vastly more PhD graduates than there are tenured academic researcher positions and so we need to work harder to help our candidates to compete effectively for roles within academia and across a range of employment sectors.

Drawing upon their own career development experiences, the workshop focussed on assisting supervisors to identify their responsibilities and how they can draw on the services and expertise within the university to assist HDR candidates to: identify their skills, strengths, values, goals and obstacles; understand career development and employability skills, gain experience and explore diverse career opportunities.

This workshop was a first step to embedding career development learning and employability into HDR Supervision practice.

HDR Professional Development: [HDR Professional Development iLearn](#) & [ResourcefulHDR podcast](#)

Sally Purcell, HDR Professional Skills Program

HDR Mentors: Recruitment



Are you a research student and want to foster your research community?
If yes, then HDR Mentors invites you to join the HDR Mentors' community as a mentor to make your research journey more exciting and rewarding!

This is a unique opportunity for you to develop your transferable skills to become part of an interdisciplinary research network. We are recruiting new HDR Mentors in May 2019 and can't wait to have you join our diverse and inclusive family.
For details, please keep an eye to your email and to know more about our activities please visit [our website](#). If you have any questions, please email us at hdrmentors@mq.edu.au

Important Notices



HDR Mentors Meet & Mingle

Would you like to meet fellow MRes and PhD students from across campus?

The HDR Mentors would like to invite you to our May 'Meet & Mingle' session.

For details, please keep an eye to your email and visit [our website](#)!

Research Excellence Awards

Macquarie University's researchers address many of the really big, important questions facing the world and do so with enthusiasm and excellence that is recognised nationally and internationally. The Research Excellence Awards are an opportunity for Macquarie to acknowledge and celebrate the diversity and quality of research conducted at our University.

Application process will open soon



Radboud Summer School, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

We would like to invite students, researchers, and academic staff to take part in the Radboud Summer School in 2019 (1 - 12 July and 5 - 16 August, 2019) - organized by Radboud University, one of the leading academic centres of excellence in the Netherlands. Over 650 participants from 85 countries joined in 2018 and Radboud received a participant rating of 8.7 out of 10 for that edition.

Their academic courses will inspire both students and researchers, enable them to explore new scientific areas, develop their skills and expand their international network. All (over 50) courses are taught in English by renowned academics from Radboud but also from some partner universities.

New this year: we have extended the 2019 edition to 4 weeks: participants can join in in the first two weeks of July and/or of August. They can find interesting courses that will fit in their busy academic schedule. Registration is open. Please forward this [invitation](#) where relevant. Download promotional course materials [here](#).



HDR Scholarships: MUCHE Industry funded HDR scholarships

Macquarie University and the Macquarie University's Centre for the Health Economy (MUCHE) have recently partnered with five pharmaceutical companies to develop a unique and innovative HDR program, the first of its kind in Australia.

MUCHE is currently advertising two DOMESTIC Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarships (MQRES). The program is aimed at students willing to undertake research relevant to the pharmaceutical sector.

- **2018152** - one PhD scholarship available to eligible candidates. The period of candidature and scholarship is three years.
- **2018153** - one Master of Research Year 2 plus 3-year PhD scholarship available to eligible candidates. The total period of candidature and scholarship is four years.

Tuition fees for domestic candidates are covered by the Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) Fees Offset and there are research training stipends with more information about this opportunity is available [here](#).



HDR Statistical Consulting Service

Just a reminder that you can access advice on all things statistic from the HDR Statistical Consultancy Service!

Associate Professor Peter Petocz from Macquarie's Department of Statistics is happy to have a look at your data and analyses and to discuss with you what the numbers seem to be saying. The HDR Statistical Consulting Service is available on Wednesdays 10am - 1pm in Room 609, 12 Wally's Walk. Bookings are preferred (email Peter), or you can just turn up and wait to be seen.

Email A/Prof Peter Petocz or call him on Wednesdays on 9850 9174.

The UniWellbeing Course

Learn skills to manage:
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Contact Campus Wellbeing:

- Call: 9850 7497
- Visit: Level 2, 16 Wally's Walk
- Email: campuswellbeing



Find all HDR Workshops [Here](#)



Mindfulness Meditation Practice Session

Monday 06 May 2019, 2:00pm- 3:00pm

Mindfulness meditation is a practice of focusing the mind on the present moment. This practice helps to regulate attention and emotions whilst cultivating awareness and gentle self-discipline. Click [here](#) to register.



Humanities Research Writing Basics

Wednesday 15 May 2019 to Wednesday 19 June 2019, 9.00am-11.00am

6 week writing course for first year Arts PhD candidates. Click [here](#) to register.



HDR Professional Skills: Preparation = Better job interviews

Tuesday 14 May 2019, 10.00am-12:00pm

Using a narrative model, this workshop aims to assist participants with identification of their strengths, interests, values and transferable skills in relation to the position for which they will be interviewed. Click [here](#) to register



NVivo v11 full-day workshop (for Mac)

Wednesday 29 May 2019, 9:15am-4:00pm

This is an introductory course to develop basic skills in using NVivo to store, code and run enquiries of qualitative data. The course aims to give you practical NVivo skills that can be applied directly to your research project. Click [here](#) to register.

HDR Dynamic Duos



Rabia Bashir

How did you come to know each other?

Back in 2014 when I was searching for PhD scholarships, I emailed Dr Xujuan Zhou, who was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow working with Adam at CHI. She introduced me to him. All the conversation between me and Adam was through emails. However, Adam's emails revealed to me that I would have a good and caring supervisor.



Adam Dunn

How did you come to know each other?

I routinely decline emails from prospective students unless I see something a bit special and well-aligned with the rest of the work that my team is doing. But I never ignored advice from Xujuan who told me I should have a look at Rabia as a potential PhD candidate.

What are your shared interests?

We both share a common thought to work for improving the transparency, efficiency, and integrity of clinical evidence, and the way this evidence is synthesised in systematic reviews. And yes, another is 'we enjoy cooking'.

What do you each bring to the professional relationship?

The things, which are making our relationship to work well are good understanding, respect, and confidence in each other.

What do you appreciate most about Adam?

I appreciate Adam for his kindness, flexibility, and supportiveness. He always made me feel open to ask questions, even the silly ones. His motivational words and appreciation of my work always helped me have an incredibly positive attitude towards my research.

From this relationship, what do you think you will take with you into your professional/research future?

Confidence, persistence, and learning-by-doing. Having a different academic background and then starting PhD in health informatics was diving into a deep sea of unknowns, but once getting into this I learnt a lot of cool stuff in health informatics.

What have you learnt from each other that has helped you grow?

I feel lucky to have had a supervisor like Adam. From him, I learnt how to do good research, and how to pitch my research ideas in a more communicable way in my writings as well as to present in front of others.

What are your shared interests?

I would have agreed that we have a shared interest in cooking, except that Rabia has quite strong opinions on the wrong ways to make rice, so I would say we have a shared disagreement on cooking. And I refuse to admit that her rice cooking is better than mine, even though it probably is. We are also both quite keen on improving the way systematic reviews are done in practice.

What do you each bring to the professional relationship?

Rabia has brilliant ideas, and I help her shape them into hypotheses that can be tested or stories that can be communicated.

What do you appreciate most about Rabia?

Rabia has the best emoji game in town. Especially ruthless with her use of "blank look" and "rolling eyes", and if you receive one of those you know you are in trouble.

From this relationship, what do you think you will take with you into your professional/research future?

I have never been one to judge a book by its cover. Rabia is unassuming when you meet her but there are very good reasons why she was awarded the CHI Student of the Year award last year. Quick to learn and incredibly hard working. Rabia's success always reminds me why you should never judge people on first impressions.

What have you learnt from each other that has helped you grow?

Patience. I have very high expectations of the people I work with and I tend to be equally tough with my criticism no matter who is on the receiving end. Rabia taught me that the delivery of criticism is just as important as the criticism itself.

Interested in being featured in HDR Dynamic Duo?

The HDR Support & Development team is seeking contributions to the HDR Dynamic Duos section of our newsletter. The people featured might be... HDR candidate & supervisor, HDR Mentor & HDR Mentee, HDR Candidate and Industry placement supervisor.

If this is of interest to you, please head to our [website](#) for further information on how to contribute.



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