A message from our Pro Vice-Chancellor Graduate Research

As we start a new year, I would like to offer a very special welcome to our new graduate students and a warm welcome back to our returning graduate researchers. The campus is looking spectacular, the Australian summer has finally arrived and I would like to wish you all a productive and rewarding 2023!

The start of a new year is a new beginning and marks an opportunity to positively reflect on our objectives and goals for the year ahead. Whilst doing a research degree may come with many challenges, it is a unique experience that supports the development of new skills and capabilities in the service of novel contributions to knowledge and discovery. It is your chance to make a difference to our understanding of the world.

A recent article has, likewise, highlighted many of the positive aspects of the PhD experience (Bernery et al., 2022). The authors analysed more than 90,000 tweets about the PhD experience and found that the number of positive tweets outnumbered negative ones by a factor of three to one. Interestingly, negative tweets received significantly more likes than positive ones, a pattern that underscores the greater weight we often attribute to negative compared to positive stories.

Whilst a PhD is undoubtedly challenging and demanding and can be accompanied by genuine difficulties that merit support and resolution, most graduate researchers report a very positive experience. Bernery and her colleagues highlighted three of
the positive benefits of graduate research; the development of the skills to become an expert in your discipline, the experience of working in a collaborative environment alongside other researchers and experts in your field and the development of advanced skills in the communication and sharing of knowledge.

I sincerely hope that the new year brings you many positive learning experiences of this kind and I hope to meet many of you over the next 12 months to learn about your own personal research journeys. Please remember, the Graduate Research Academy is here to support you to achieve your goals, so do please connect with us if you need advice and support, or just simply wish to share some of the positive aspects of your own experience. Finally, in the year of the Rabbit, I will sign off by wishing you a year of longevity, peace and prosperity. Happy New Year!

Stay safe and stay well,
Professor Simon Handley, Pro Vice-Chancellor Graduate Research

Fellowship at Israeli Institute of Advanced Studies

In the December issue of GR Matters, PVC Graduate Research Professor Simon Handley reflected on his recent four month Fellowship at the Israeli Institute of Advanced Studies in Jerusalem. Professor Handley was recently selected as a featured fellow for the Institute. If you’d like to learn more about Simon’s research and his fellowship head over to their website at: https://lias.huji.ac.il/featured-fellow-simon-handley

GR Workshops

For a listing of 2023 workshops, please visit MyRDC website; please note new courses are progressively added.
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<tr>
<td>1-28</td>
<td>Daily Virtual Writing Space (Mon-Fri afternoons)</td>
<td>8 February</td>
<td>One-Day Writing Retreat, ON CAMPUS</td>
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<td>One-Day Writing Retreat, ONLINE</td>
<td>9 February</td>
<td>PGRF Grant Writing Workshop (Zoom)</td>
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<td>13-14</td>
<td>Word for Graduate Researchers (Zoom)</td>
<td>14 February</td>
<td>Pro Vice-Chancellor’s (Graduate Research) Welcome Session (on campus)</td>
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<td>21 February</td>
<td>SPSS: Understanding SPSS and Preparing Your Data</td>
<td>22 February</td>
<td>SPSS: Descriptive Statistics and Univariate Statistics</td>
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<td>23-24</td>
<td>NVivo for PC workshop</td>
<td>25 February</td>
<td>ONLINE Saturday Writing Intensive (MORNING session)</td>
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<td>25 February</td>
<td>ONLINE Saturday Writing Intensive (AFTERNOON session)</td>
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<td>GR Statistical Consulting Service</td>
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<td>Appointments via Zoom, phone or in person – please specify your</td>
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<td>preference. Appointments are usually on Tuesdays 10am-12pm, but</td>
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[Register here](#)
PVC-Graduate Research Welcome for New Candidates, S1 2023

Newly commencing HDR candidates are warmly invited to attend our PVC-Graduate Research Welcome Session with Prof Simon Handley at 10am (registration and refreshments from 9:30am) on 14 February 2023. This event will be held on campus at 25WW C122 (Arts Precinct).

Register here - we look forward to meeting you!

Please contact gr.commencement@mq.edu.au if you have any questions.

Important Dates

1 February
MRes Y2 commences for candidates starting in Session 1

5 February
Closing date for 2023/2024 China Scholarship Council applications

7 February
Session 1 Census date for candidates enrolled in MRes Yr2, MPhil and PhD

17 February
Payment due date for BPhil/MRes Yr1 students for session 1

20 February
Session 1 Study Period Start (applicable to BPhil/MRes Yr1)

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

ThinkWell Workshop

Foundations in HDR
ThinkWell Workshop (online) presented by Hugh Kearns Join us for "Staying Well during your PhD"

This workshop is open to all graduate researchers (not just PhD candidates) who want to explore ways to stay well during their research career.

Date: 13 February 2023
Time: 10:00am-12:00pm
Link: Register here

Supervision

A friendly reminder that all supervisors are required to complete the Foundations in HDR Supervision course every four years to maintain currency and continue to supervise candidates.

If you are unsure if you need to complete the course, visit the ‘Foundations in HDR Supervision’ website for instructions on how to check your training expiration date in Workday.

News & Information

Learn to be a good writer – take frequent breaks!

Photo by Elaine Casap on Unsplash

Are you someone who sits at your computer hour after hour, late into the night, slumped over your chair, staring at a sea of blurry text floating on your screen, wondering where the day has gone? Are you complaining of a sore neck, sore shoulder, sore back and visiting your physiotherapist more and more regularly but still seem never to achieve your writing goals?

Sounds like it’s time to rethink your research writing habits and start a new routine by using the Pomodoro technique! No, it’s not a recipe for pasta sauce; it’s a writing method, focussing on writing in 25-35 minute intervals, with 5-15 minute breaks in between.
The **Pomodoro method can be a valuable technique** in making small blocks of time concrete. The method becomes a unit of both time and effort, enabling you to have a more tangible measurement of productivity, and thereby helping you achieve better outcomes.

Work better, not longer and while you’re on a quick break, enjoy a nice tomato!

*Dr Francesca Mataraga*

*Graduate Research Development Advisor (Humanities)*

## Internships

![Internship image](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

*Photo by [Brooke Cagle](https://unsplash.com) on Unsplash*

**Interested in an internship during your research candidature? Register for internship opportunity alerts**

Candidates who are considering an internship can register with APR.Intern to receive a weekly digest of recently posted internship opportunities. Sign up to internship alerts at [https://aprintern.org.au/subscribe/](https://aprintern.org.au/subscribe/)

APR.Intern is also seeking EOI applications from candidates for future internship opportunities. General applications can be completed at [https://aprintern.org.au/available-internships/](https://aprintern.org.au/available-internships/)

**Virtual placements now open with iPREP Biodesign**

The first round of applications for 2023 are now open for a virtual (online) placement with industry based in Western Australia. The placement provides PhD candidates an industry engagement opportunity and training on Biodesign methodology.
Candidates are encouraged to apply early, so eligibility checks can be undertaken. Submit an application for this opportunity at [https://www.perthbiodesign.au/students](https://www.perthbiodesign.au/students)

**New year, new you, new research data habits!**

Happy New Year 2023! On behalf of Research Ethics and Integrity, wishing all graduate research students a safe and successful year.

New year, new research data habits! As a Macquarie research student, you are responsible for adhering to good practices and all ethical requirements of research data management (RDM). If you are a PhD student who commenced study after January 2022, you must complete a Data Management Plan (DMP) as part of your Confirmation of Candidature requirements. To complete this requirement, you need to:

1. undertake [RDMOnline](https://iLearn) – within three (3) months of commencing, and
2. complete lodgement of a [Data Management Plan (DMP)](https://example.com) – within six (6) months of commencement.

For more information on RDM requirements, go to [Confirmation of Candidature](https://example.com) and [Digitally Enabled Research DMPs](https://example.com) page for DMP resources. If you have questions regarding DMP, contact [eresreach@mq.edu.au](mailto:eresreach@mq.edu.au)

**Do you want to get your thesis edited?**
Do you want to get your thesis edited but are unsure if you can? Well, the good news is, you can!

The editing process for research candidates is governed by the ‘Guidelines for Editing Research Theses’ as set out by the Institute of Professional Editors Limited (IPEd). As per the Guidelines, professional editing services can assist research candidates with copyediting (including language and illustrations) and proofreading to ensure that all thesis components are complete, consistent and correctly placed.

Whether you engage a professional editor or ask someone you know who is a good writer to check your manuscript, they will need to abide by these Guidelines and should be acknowledged in your thesis.

For more information about getting your thesis edited, check out our ‘How do I get my thesis professionally edited’ guide.

**Write to the end: a recap of the December 2022 Offsite Research Writing Event**

In the lead up to summer break, while most individuals were winding down for the
year, 20 of our GR candidates made their way to the serene grounds of Peter Canisius House in Pymble for three days of intensive writing at our second Offsite Research Writing Event (or ORWE for short).

Each day was filled with goal setting, writing warm-ups, meal and exercise breaks, social activities and, of course, lots of quiet writing time. Removed from their regular writing environments (and regular writing distractions) and motivated by each other’s presence, these candidates exerted laser focus and made significant progress on their writing goals. They also had plenty of opportunities to mingle during the meal breaks and social activities including bushwalks in a nearby national park. By the end of the three (rather long and gruelling) days, these candidates left with not only a sense of achievement but also a strong comradery with their peers. As one candidate commented, “the most exciting part of the retreat—my dear peers’ company. How lucky I am to write my thesis with such a group of talented people and in such a gorgeous place!”

All-in-all, this was another successful ORWE and a fantastic way to end 2022!

*If one of your new year resolutions is to write more, then consider attending a writing retreat. The GRD Team will be running the ORWE twice in 2023 (likely late June and late Nov); if interested, keep an eye out for future announcements in GR Matters and on the [GRD iLearn site](http://grd.iLearn.com). We are also running monthly 1-Day Mini Writing Retreats and Saturday Writing Intensives starting this month; register through [myRDC](http://myRDC.com).*

**Open: Macquarie University–Mahidol University Research Seed Grant Program Research Seeding Grants**

Mahidol University (MU) in Thailand and Macquarie University are important international partners engaged in several strategic initiatives. The universities have established a competitive Research Seed Grant Program to further deepen the cooperation and collaboration between their researchers and enhance engagement in the Cotutelle PhD program.

**Funding information and application process:**

- Funding for 2 projects available, of a duration up to 12 months.
- The universities will contribute $10,000 each to each project.
- Projects should have a Co-Principal Investigator from each university.
- 27 February 2023 - submission closing date for proposals

For Funding Rules and the Application Form, or if you require more information, contact the Strategic Programs team at [gr.international@mq.edu.au](mailto:gr.international@mq.edu.au).
How to win the Max Crawford Medal

The Max Crawford Medal is Australia’s most prestigious award for achievement and promise in the humanities. It is available to early-career scholars whose research and publications make an exceptional contribution to the understanding of their discipline by the general public.

UTS’ Dr Laura Smith-Khan (Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Faculty of Law) is the most recent recipient of this medal - a tremendous achievement. In this session Laura will share her experience - tips and tricks - in applying for the Max Crawford Medal.

Laura will be joined by her nominator, Professor Ingrid Piller (Distinguished Professor of Applied Linguistics, Macquarie University), who will give her perspective as a nominator on the Max Crawford Medal application process. You will have plenty of time to ask questions of Laura and Ingrid.

This session will be informative for:

1. anyone who wants to know more about the Max Crawford Medal;
2. anyone interested in applying for it;
3. and anyone wanting to know more about how they can support an ECR they think should apply for it.

Date and time

Tue 28th Feb 2023, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm AEDT

Location

RES Hub, Building 1, Level 5, Room 007, or virtually via Zoom (https://zoom.uts.edu.au/j/86887693491)
University of Technology Sydney Building 1, 1/15 Broadway, Ultimo NSW 2007, Australia

This is a UTS Aspire event. UTS Aspire is a program of pan-university research development opportunities led by the Research Capability and Development Team.

Details and registration via https://events.humanitix.com/how-to-win-the-max-crawford-medal

Graduate Research Supervision
Semester 1, 2023 Supervision Enhancement Program starting this week!!
The Supervision Enhancement program recommences this week! Over the course of the semester, we will be delivering a range of info-sessions and workshops designed to support supervisors with candidature management processes and to provide guidance for supervising candidates. To view the program and register for upcoming sessions, visit our [Supervision Enhancement](#) website.

**Upcoming ThinkWell Workshop: Fundamentals of postgraduate research**
The 2023 program kicks off with a ThinkWell workshop on the fundamentals of postgraduate research. This workshop is ideal for first time supervisors (or those looking for a refresher!) to hear about some fundamentals that can make the experience less daunting for them and more supportive for their candidate. Topics covered will include:

- Why supervise?
- Finding the right student
- Before they start
- Getting off to a good start
- Clarifying expectations
- Meetings
- Understanding the relevant policies and procedures
- The personal side of the relationship
- What to do if things go wrong

**Date:** Friday 3 February  
**Time:** 9.30am – 11.30am  
**Delivery:** Online

Don't miss out! [Register now!](#)

**Upcoming info-sessions**
For a full list of 2023 info-sessions, please visit the [Supervision Enhancement](#) website.
Applications, offers and acceptances

8 February
Register here

Industry External Funding

15 February
Register here

RTP funding & MQ scholarship programs

28 February
Register here

Cotutelle/Joint PhD Programs

2 March
Register here

Need further information? Contact the Supervision Enhancement team for help:
gr.supervision@mq.edu.au

Dr Karen Laughton
Supervision Enhancement Manager

Scholarships

Open: International Scholarships for Session2, 2023

International Research Training Program scholarship (iRTP) and International Macquarie Research Excellence Scholarship Program (iMQRES).

Applications close 3 March 2023. For details, refer to the [GRA website](#).

The Road to Research (Master of Research Year 2) Scholarship

Applications close 30 April 2023. For details, refer to the [GRA website](#).

[Cotutelle and International](#)    [GR Scholarships](#)