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Welcome back

Hi Everyone and welcome back to the start of a new year and new decade.

The start of a new year is usually a time of fresh beginnings, hope, and determination – we’ve ideally had time to rest and reflect during the break and now it is time for resolutions, goals, and plans to be made. But it can be hard to feel the freshness, the hope, the determination when all around us is smoke, bleakness, and despair (and in this instance I am not referring to the life of a post-doc).

We have, as a country and as a world, all been and continue to be indirectly affected by the 2019/2020 summer bushfires. But especially for those who have been directly affected, you have our deepest sympathies. If you need support or want to talk to someone about these events, please reach out and make use of the services offered on campus.

In times such as these, it is easy to feel that what we do as researchers is insignificant and/or futile. The Thesis Whisperer, A/Prof Inger Mewburn, wrote this piece to encourage and give hope to PhD candidates and, as I believe this also extends to ECRs, I am taking the opportunity to reiterate her sentiment here: what you do matters.
A quote I heard recently was “scientists are the discoverers of truth and the communicators of truth” (Prof Paul Murphy, University of Waterloo). I believe this statement is true of all researchers regardless if your field falls in the sciences or another category. And as up-and-coming discoverers and communicators of the truth, it is your voice that has the power to make the change we desperately need.

So whatever the climate (change), the ECR Network Team are here to support you – to help you find and raise your voice – and we wish you all the best for 2020!

Thank you and Farewell

We would like to thank and farewell the following ECR Faculty Representatives for their dedication, time, and hard work in supporting the ECR Network at Macquarie.

- Dr Celia Harris (Faculty of Human Sciences, 2019) who is moving on from Macquarie University
- Dr Murray Taylor (Macquarie Business School, 2018/7-2019) who is stepping down from the role

We wish you both the best in your future endeavours!

ECR Workshops and Other Training Opportunities

Making the Most of Mentoring
February 17, 2-4 pm

This interactive and practical workshop, led by Associate Professor Clare Monagle, will provide you with information to help you find a mentor and maintain a mentoring relationship. Faculty Mentoring schemes will be introduced and there will be a Q&A session with a panel of ECRs mentees and senior academic mentors.

Register here if you wish to attend. And to help us best tailor the workshop to your needs, please fill out the audience pre-survey once you have registered.

Other ECR Network Events Coming Up
- April 29: Managing Your Time, Projects, and Expectations
- May (date TBD): Perfecting Your 3-minute Research Presentation

More details will be available soon.

Other Upcoming MQ Events
- NHMRC Clinical Trials and Cohorts Studies (CTCS) Grant Funding Scheme March 5
- NHMRC Ideas Grant Funding Scheme March 12
- Pure drop-in clinic March 24
• Building your Budget for the NHMRC Clinical Trials and Cohorts Studies (CTCS) Grant and Ideas Grant Schemes March 26

For details of these and other events, visit https://myrdc.mq.edu.au/

Focus On…You

The early career researcher phase is a little like those (often awkward) “young/kid-adult” phase: you have just enough experience to move out of the nest but there are still a bunch of “life-skills” (like budgeting, managing people, or separating your whites when washing) that the PhD didn’t quite cover.

The goal of the ECR Network is to provide you with the support and opportunities you need to gain the (extra) skills required for you to develop your career and achieve world-leading research. However, as a collective, you represent the brightest minds coming into academia or heading off into the “wild”. So, whilst you may not know everything about being a researcher, you certainly know some things.

Therefore, this year we want to hear more from you. Have a skill, idea, or experience that may benefit the ECR collective? – Why not share it by writing an article for the ECR Newsletter. Alternatively, do you have questions about being a researcher? Chances are, others may have similar questions and together we can help each other. If you have any suggestions or articles for the newsletter, please email us with your ideas.

Our other goal is to promote and celebrate the success of MQ’s ECRs, so if you have any exciting news – won a prize, participated in a media engagement – please let us know so we can share your success!

Funding Opportunities

A reminder that all funding applications should be submitted through PURE, well ahead of funding body deadline, to leave time for approvals by HoD, ADR, and Research Services. Check with your Faculty Research Office to find out about timelines for submission.

Internal and External funding opportunities are listed on the Fellowship and Grant Opportunities page. Current internal opportunities include:

• ARC Discovery Early Career Research Awards (MQ submission date: February 6)
• ARC Discovery Indigenous Scheme (MQ submission date: February 19)
• ARC Linkage Projects (MQ submission date: March 11)
• MQ Fellowship for Indigenous Researchers
• MQ Co-funding Scheme
• MQ Enterprise Partnerships Scheme
• MQ DVCR Discretionary Fund
The Research Professional Database is available for Macquarie researchers to search for fellowships, grants and prizes by discipline area.

Changes to Eligibility for DVCR Co-Funding

Eligibility for the DVCR Co-Funding Scheme is now contingent upon on-time submission of grant applications by the Macquarie University submission date. Many applications for external funding require cash and in-kind contributions from the host institution in order to be considered for funding. In most cases, researchers request cash contributions, such as project support funds, funding for research associates, scholarships and major equipment, from the DVCR via the DVCR Co-Funding Scheme to support their external funding applications. To be eligible to request this DVCR Co-Funding, grant applications must be submitted internally, via Pure, by the Macquarie University submission date. View further information and FAQs.

Jill Roe ECR Australian Historical Association Conference Scholarship Scheme
Due March 11

The Jill Roe ECR AHA Conference Scholarship Scheme supports Early Career Research historians to attend and present at the AHA annual conference. The scholarship, valued at $1000 per applicant, provides financial assistance to facilitate participation in the AHA annual conference. The money is to be used towards assisting with registration costs, travel and accommodation.

Australian Academy of the Humanities Funding Opportunities
Open February 2020

- The John Mulvaney Fellowship is an award for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander early career researchers working in any area of the humanities. The recipient of the John Mulvaney Fellowship will receive $4000 towards undertaking research or fieldwork in Australia or overseas, including accessing archives and other research materials and connecting with researchers and networks.
- The Max Crawford Medal is Australia’s most prestigious award for achievement and promise in the humanities. It is presented to an early career scholar for outstanding achievement in the humanities, whose research and publications make an exceptional contribution to the understanding of their discipline by the general public.
- The Publication Subsidy Scheme supports quality scholarly publication in the humanities. Subsidies of up to $3000 are awarded to early career researchers to support costs associated with publication, such as illustrations, maps, editorial work and copyright fees.
- The Humanities Travelling Fellowships offer grants of up to $4000 to support Australian early career researchers in the humanities to undertake research overseas.
**Prizes, Awards, and Competitions**

- **Dr. Margaret Faul Women in Chemistry Award** open for 2021 nominations
- **Astronomical Association of Australia Louise Webster Prize** February 14
- **FameLab** February 25
- **Capstone Editing AU: The Capstone Editing Grant for Mid-Career Researchers** February 28
- **Margaret Flockton Award for scientific botanical illustration** February 17-March 2
- **Jian Zhou Medal** April 30

For a full list of external prizes please visit: [https://staff.mq.edu.au/research/resources-and-support/prizes-awards-and-fellowships](https://staff.mq.edu.au/research/resources-and-support/prizes-awards-and-fellowships)

**ECR Notice Board**

Keen to reach out to other ECRs across campus? Want to find someone to collaborate with? Explain R to you? Explore Sydney’s best walking tracks? Or just looking to connect with others? The ECR Notice Board is the place to go. Just send us a brief message (no more than 50 words) with your MQ email and, if appropriate, we’ll include it here in the newsletter.

**Your ECR Representatives**

Do you know your ECR representatives in your Faculty and Department? The following ECRs meet every two months as part of the ECR Network Advisory Group, led by Pro Vice-Chancellor Research Integrity and Development, Professor Lesley Hughes, to discuss issues and identify solutions to the challenges specific to ECRs:

- **Faculty of Arts**  
  - Dr Katrina Hutchinson  
  - Dr Tom Baudinette

- **Macquarie Business School**  
  - Dr Laramie Tolentino

- **Faculty of Human Sciences**  
  - Dr Jinhyun Cho

- **Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences**  
  - Dr Marina Junquiera Santiago  
  - Dr Elizabeth Austin

- **Faculty of Science and Engineering**  
  - Dr Chris Lustri  
  - Dr Michael Swain

- **Research and Research Training Committee Representatives:**  
  - Dr Mauricio Marrone (Faculty of Business & Economics)  
  - Dr Milena Gandy (Faculty of Human Sciences)
If you would like something raised with the ECR Network Advisory Group, please contact your Faculty representative.

Let us know what else you’d like to see in this newsletter. Email ecrsupport@mq.edu.au with your suggestions and feedback.

Don’t want to receive these emails? Please unsubscribe here

https://staff.mq.edu.au/research/resources-and-support/early-career-research-network