Upcoming training, grants, and prizes for ECRs at MQ

EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER NEWS
September 2020

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Congratulations to…

Our recent award winners

- **Dr Caillan Davenport** from the Department of Ancient History for being awarded the prestigious [Gladstone Prize](#) for his book *A History of the Roman Equestrian Order*.
- **Dr Emlyn Dodd** from the Department of Ancient History and **Dr Keith Rathbone** from the Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations for being awarded an [Humanities Travelling Fellowship](#) from the Australian Academy of the Humanities.
- **Dr Tayyaba Zafar** Australian Astronomical Optics for being awarded a [2020 NSW Young Tall Poppy Award](#).

Our ECRs in the press

- **Dr Joseph Chen** from the Department of Marketing for his contribution to the article 'Contact tracing: why some people are giving false contact details to bars and restaurants' in *The Conversation*.
- **Dr Noushin Nasiri** from the School of Engineering for her feature on *10 News*, *2GB*, *4BC* and *In The Cove* regarding her invention of a smart UV sensor which can alert users when they have had too much sun exposure. This story was originally published on *The Lighthouse*.
- **Dr Vanessa Pirotta** from the Department of Biological Sciences for her interviews on *Channel 7 News* about a mother whale who rescued her calf at Manly Beach after getting too close with beachgoers and on *2GB Drive* about citizen science and her research about humpback whales. Her citizen science story was originally published on *The Lighthouse*.
- **Dr Keith Rathbone** from the Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations for being interviewed on *ABC Radio Nightlife* about the 1936 Berlin Olympics and for his contribution to the article 'Athletes won’t stay silent on politics anymore. But will leagues support their protests if it costs them real money?' in *The Conversation*.
- **Dr Shahin Sharifi** from the Department of Marketing for being interviewed on *ABC Radio Sydney Drive* about how people's intuitions can mislead them when choosing products. This story was originally published on *The Lighthouse*.
- **Dr Rebecca Sheehan** from the Department of Sociology for providing comment to the *Sydney Morning Herald* regarding Beyonce's new visual album *Black Is King* which explores intersectional feminism and racial politics.
- **Dr Kelly Williams** from the Department of Biomedical Sciences for her feature in the *Manly Daily* regarding her work researching the genetic causes of Motor Neurone Disease.
2020 ECR Showcase: Call for applications

Applications due September 30

The ECR showcase is a new endeavour – developed by ECRs for ECRs - to exhibit the depth and breadth of early career research to the wider Macquarie University community. We are looking for applicants who can pitch their research and its potential impact – in just five minutes and with no more than four slides – to a broad audience including a judging panel made up of both academic and non-academic panellists. COVID-19 restrictions permitting, all the presentations will be live (and recorded for online publication) and interspersed with networking sessions.

This showcase offers ECRs a great opportunity to get their research known across the different faculties, to create new collaborations, and to network with senior academics. Three applicants from each faculty will be selected to present and these 12 selected speakers will receive training on communicating their research to a general audience before the presentation. There are also prizes for the best presenter in each faculty and overall best presenter.

Applications are now open for early career researchers with less than 5 years active research since their PhD. This time-period excludes any career interruption, such as childbirth, parental leave, carer’s responsibility, misadventure, or debilitating illness (we will also consider any disruption due to COVID-19). As part of the application process, ECRs will need to provide a 100-word impact statement about their research aimed at a non-academic audience. The successful candidates will be notified via email and the presentations will be held in the Thursday 19th November (exact time TBC).

Please address all questions to ECR Showcase Committee by emailing ecrsupport@mq.edu.au and including “ECR showcase”.

Engage with Industry Program 2020

Unless you’re on the TV show Married at First Sight, most of us probably wouldn’t ask someone to marry them on the first date. So, should we ask for funding the first time we meet an industry partner we think might be interested in our research?

With an increasing focus on research engagement and impact, diversification of research funding and the importance of developing relationships with partners outside of the university, a group of early career researchers from the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences and the Faculty of Science and Engineering have recently completed the Engage with Industry program.

Supported by the Office of Corporate Engagement and the Faculties, working in partnership with KairosNow, the Engage with Industry 2020 program was delivered successfully online over 8 weeks. Through interactive online group sessions (including 13 guest speakers from industry, commercialisation and academia) and one-on-one coaching, participants enhanced their knowledge, increased their confidence and developed practical skills to initiate and build collaborative relationships with industry partners.
If asked by a colleague how would you describe the Engage program, participants have said....

Outstanding! Such an eye opener to how you can advance your research impact to the community by partnering with industry.

Rewarding and beneficial for all. Should be compulsory for all.

Great to get yourself out of the comfort zone. It helps you to realise not only how to improve your chances to get a partner but also all the important work that needs to be done to initiate, build and maintain a partnership.

It’s been fun, informative and most importantly practical. There have been insights and aha moments including:

- how (industry) relationships are not only for funding when funding is needed;
- understanding that these relationships take time; and
- understanding that these relationships are often much richer than just for funding.

So while participants in the show Married at First Sight might propose on the first date, like most of our own personal relationships, the relationships we have with industry (and/or government, NGOs etc) require time, trust and understanding, and it’s probably not going to work out if you ask for funding the first time you meet.

We’re excited that researchers from the Business School have just begun their Engage with Industry Program, and the Faculty of Arts will be launching in September.

If you’d like to know more please get in touch we’d love to hear from you.

~Article by The Engage Team: ce@mq.edu.au
BioNetwork 2020: 3rd Annual Research Symposium on Dementia
September 14 & 15, 9.30am - 12.30pm

BioNetwork 2020's mission is to expand the links between dementia research and our University's clinical medicine specialties, with a special interest towards MQ Health's priorities and potential internal and external collaborators.

This year's event will be held as a virtual webinar spanning two days. The event program and registration are available online at: https://event.mq.edu.au/bionetwork2020. If you are interested in presenting a poster at the event, abstract submissions are due September 4. Please submit any queries about this event to the Organising Committee (bionetwork@mq.edu.au).

Researchers IMPACT Program
EOI due September 27

The Office of Commercialisation and Innovation and the Incubator have developed a blended learning program for researchers and HDR Candidates to actively assess the path of their research to commercialisation / IMPACT.

This 7-week course will help you to focus and articulate your work effectively, find the networks you need to talk to while developing an appreciation for what people need to know at the right time.

Guiding you through the process of customer discovery, product market fit and value proposition, this program will equip you with valuable skills to view your research from the perspective of the customer, enabling better decision making for commercial pathways and maximum impact. You’ll also learn more about the tools and resources available to assist you within the university.

Applications due: September 27
Course starts: October 12
For more information and to express interest please see the below weblink: Researcher Impact Program.

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Workshops

**Media Engagement 101: An introduction for researchers**

*September 1, 2pm – 3:30pm*

Have you ever thought about getting your research into the media but weren’t too sure how to do it? Where to get started? Who to ask for help? Or what it would entail?

To provide some insight into these questions, the ECR Network has put together a panel of media experts and academic researchers who have a range of experiences (from beginner novice to established veterans) with telling their research stories to various media outlets.

Moderated by Angie Kelly, editor of The Lighthouse, our panel will discuss their personal experiences in engaging with the media and will focus on providing an overview of

- how to engage,
- tips and tricks to be aware of to generate media interest and build media relationships,
- tips and tricks to be aware of when writing for the media / or when being interviewed, and
- how to utilise the support available through Macquarie’s media team

Please register through myRDC. If you cannot attend the live event, a recording of the panel session will be posted on the ECR website afterwards.

Other MQ Development Opportunities

Please see myRDC for a full list of upcoming workshops for research staff and students.

- MQ Professional Staff with a PhD: Dr Ross Hill, **Sep 24**
- Developing your Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence for the DECRA Scheme, **Sep 23**
- Developing your DECRA Project Description, **Sep 30**
- Building your DECRA Budget, **Oct 7**
- Writing the Statement by the Administering Organisation for the DECRA Scheme, **Oct 13**
- MQ Professional Staff with a PhD: Dr Emma Gleadhill, **Oct 22**
- PURE Training for New Staff, **Nov 24**

**MQ Social Theory Reading Group**

*September 24 (and the fourth Thursday of each month)*

The MQ Social Theory Reading Group is a space for research candidates and staff to come together to explore ways that theory—both classical and contemporary—can be used to generate and engage in critically informed research practices. For more details please see the [Social Theory Reading Group flyer](#).
LabArchives Webinar Series at Macquarie University

Throughout September

LabArchives provides an electronic notebook facility that works on multiple platforms and devices, allowing researchers to store any type of data and streamline their research workflows. LabArchives offers unlimited storage, automated backup and data protection and under the university’s LabArchives site licence, it is free of charge for all Macquarie users.

Researchers may register for the webinars of their choice on the training Eventbrite page.

Any questions about the webinars may be directed to swc@mq.edu.au.

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Webinar Title</th>
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| Sep 2, 1:00-2:30pm | LabArchives Power Users  
covers more advanced features including any of the integrations,  
user management, notebook templates |
| Sep 9, 1:00-2:30pm | LabArchives for Lab Heads and Research Team Leaders  
focusses on user management and notebook templates |

External Training Opportunities

The ECR Network has compiled a list of training opportunities offered by external groups. Please note that some of these external events may have a registration fee and it is up to each ECR to decide if the event is worth their time and money. If you know of any other external training opportunities that you want to share with your fellow ECR’s, please forward the details to the ECR Network and we will include the information in the next newsletter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Where to Next? Career Planning in Uncertain Times</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Free</td>
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| The Australian Academy of Science’s Early-to-Mid-Career-Researcher Forum hosted an online panel session in June on the range of diverse career pathways and prospects available for researchers. The recording of the event can be viewed online.  
Invited speakers: Dr Melanie Zeppel, Professor James Arvanitakis and Dr Anne-Sophie Dielen |         |       |
| How to be a Peer Reviewer                                              | Sep 3   | Free  |
| Presented by EURAXESS Australia & New Zealand in collaboration with Taylor & Francis, this webinar will cover the essentials of how to be an effective peer reviewer. The webinar will also offer participants the opportunity to become a reviewer for relevant journals to gain further experience and build connections in the field. Places are limited and will be offered on a first come, first served basis. Full details and registration are available on their website. | 5-6:30pm|       |
**The Secrets of Structure: A conversation about Writing**
What makes some academic books and articles so fascinating and engaging to read, while others leave you feeling exhausted and confused? Join Helen Sword, author of Stylish Academic Writing, and Margy Thomas, founder of ScholarShape, for a lively conversation and Q&A about structure and style in academic writing. [Sign up to receive a link](#) to the live online session as well as to an edited recording after the event.

**The Future of Meetings Symposium**
CSIRO is hosting a [three-day virtual symposium](#) about the future of how we work, educate, collaborate and interact. This symposium is an experiment in how we can build effective virtual conferences while incorporating lessons learned from other experiences in this realm. [Join this event](#) for a journey of exploration into the potential that lies ahead for the future of meetings.

**#WhisperFest 2020**
In November, [The Thesis Whisperer](#) (Inger Mewbern), [The Research Whisperer](#) (Tseen Khoo / Jonathan O’Donnell) and Narelle Lemon from [Explore and Create Co](#) will be hosting a series of online events: workshops, knowledge sharing opportunities and fireside chats around four themes
- Monday 23rd of November: Wellbeing
- Tuesday 24th of November: Collegiality
- Wednesday 25th of November: Facing disruption
- Thursday 26th of November: Taking back control

[You can see the schedule and submit expression of interest to attend here](#).

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**Funding Opportunities**

*A reminder that all funding applications should be submitted through PURE, well ahead of the 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 [Fellowships and Grant Opportunities page](#). Current opportunities include:

- ARC Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (MQ submission date **October 21**)
- ARC Future Fellowships (MQ submission date **November 4**)
- NHMRC Clinical Trials and Cohorts Studies Grants (MQ submission date **October 28**)
- NHMRC Partnership Projects (MQ submission date **November 14**)
- MQ Fellowship for Indigenous Researchers
- MQ Co-funding Scheme

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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.

Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships for Foreign Scholars for 2021–22
Applications close Nov 30

The Swiss Confederation offers research scholarships for doctoral and postdoctoral candidates, as well as candidates wishing to undertake research in the realm of their PhD or medical specialisation. All information about the scholarships and how to apply can be found via the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation.

Prizes, Awards, and Competitions

- The Council for the Humanities Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS) Future Leaders Writing Prize, Sep 1
- Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management Early Career Researcher Award, Sep 4
- The Council for the Humanities Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS) Prize for Distinctive Work in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Sep 7
- The Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs Awards, Sep 7
- Global Young Academy Call for New Members, Sep 14
- Royal Society of NSW Awards, Sep 30

For a full list of external prizes please visit: 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.

MQ Parents Group

In light of COVID 19, the MQ Parents Group for parents of small children and expecting parents has created an online presence on Facebook. This private group is for MQ staff members (continuing, fixed term, and casual) to share tips and the realities of working in an academic institution with small children. The informal network aims to bring members together to
communicate the experiences of real parents to the University. From navigating parental or carers leave to explaining career interruptions on grant or promotion applications, this group aspires to provide a cross-faculty interpersonal network to get help with the practical issues related to parenting in an academic institution (as well as all the other daily crises of sleep, food, and finding emergency babysitting for that conference or event!). If you'd like to join up, please contact rachel.yuen@mq.edu.au or vanessa.tan@mq.edu.au, or simply look up our virtual group on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/325905798421630/?ref=share

Your ECR Representatives
Do you know the 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 Tom Baudinette
- Dr Katrina Hutchison
- Dr Sarah Powell

Macquarie Business School
- Dr Laramie Tolentino
- Dr Han Li
- Dr Rohan Best

Faculty of Medicine, Health, and Human Sciences
- Dr Elizabeth Austin
- Dr Jean (Jinhyun) Cho
- Dr Marina Junquiera Santiago

Faculty of Science and Engineering
- Dr Amy Cain
- Dr Matthew Fernandez (covering for Dr Michael Swain)

Research and Research Training Committee Representatives:
- Dr Milena Gandy (Faculty of Medicine, Health, and Human Sciences)
- Dr Mauricio Marrone (Faculty of Business & Economics)

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