Upcoming training, grants, and prizes for ECRs at MQ

EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER NEWS
April 2021

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Congratulations to…

**Dr Gillian Spalding-Stracey** from the Department of History and Archaeology for her book launch at the [Online Byzantine Book Festival](http://onlinebyzantinedbookfestival.com).

**Our ECRs in the press**

**Dr Jinhyun Cho** from the Department of Linguistics was featured on [ABC Radio Sydney](http://abc.com.au) regarding the popularity of native language classes for second-generation migrants.

**Dr Emlyn Dodd** from the Department of History and Archaeology for being featured in *The Lighthouse* on his research on the workings of a wine press unique in Turkey and the Mediterranean.

**Dr Hana Krskova** from the Department of Marketing was featured in the [Daily Telegraph](http://dailytelegraph.com.au) and syndicated publications regarding how schools teach self-discipline.

**Dr Reidar Lystad** from the Australian Institute of Health Innovation was interviewed on [ABC Radio PM](http://abc.com.au) regarding the long-term risks of head knocks in cycling.

**Dr Kirstin Mills** from the Department of Media, Communications, Creative Arts, Language and Literature was quoted in *The Canberra Times* about the prevalence of ghost stories across cultures.

**Dr Vanessa Pirotta** from the Department of Biological Sciences was interviewed on [ABC Radio Adelaide](http://abc.com.au) about the impact of construction of a causeway on whales.

**Dr Adam Smith** from the Department of Linguistics contributed an article about the meaning of the term 'anthropause' to *Campus Review*.

**Dr Paul Strutt** from the Department of Cognitive Science was featured in *The Senior South Australia* about research into the link between hearing loss and Alzheimer's disease.

*Are you an ECR who has recently been in the press? Or maybe you know an ECR who has recently featured in the press. If so, let us know at ecrsupport@mq.edu.au so we can celebrate your (or their) success in the next ECR newsletter!*

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Focus On…Leadership and Citizenship

Having good leadership and citizenship qualities is an important attribute for academic researchers which is why “Leadership and Citizenship” is one of the five pillars academics at Macquarie University have to address when applying for academic promotion.

However, many researchers, and not just ECRs, think they have no leadership or citizenship experience because they have not participated on a committee. Furthermore, they are often concerned that they may never be able to show leadership or citizenship because there are not enough committees for them to be a part of one. However, chairing or participating on a committee is a rather limited view of what good leadership and citizenship actually is.

To combat against this narrow and constricted view the ECR Network invited five academics (a mixture of senior and mid-career) to discuss how they defined leadership and citizenship, how they were able to gain leadership and citizenship experiences, and some tips on how to talk or write about these experiences when applying for academic promotion.

It was a lively discussion with some quick quips mixed into the more in-depth explanations. A good leader was defined as someone who is an enabler of positive change: someone who inspires others to be their best. It is outward facing and results in tangible outcomes – which, by the way, you need to discuss when demonstrating leadership. To be a good citizen, one had to actively invest into the community to promote that community’s shared values. And to be good at either, one had to go beyond their job description.

The panellists provided various examples of leadership and citizenship that they themselves have demonstrated in the past. And the audience Q&A session led to an interesting discussion on the need to be selective with opportunities because, at the end of the day, your research still needs to progress. Ultimately aligning any opportunities offered with your research goals and learning the art of the “soft no” were the two key points to being a good citizen and/or leader whilst also being a productive researcher.

If you were unable to attend the event or want to listen to the panel discussion again, the recording of the panel discussion and a take-away summary are available on the ECR Website Past Events page. And if you are interested in a Leadership and Citizenship opportunity, please continue reading and consider applying to be part of the ECR Enabling Scheme Assessment Panel.
ECR Enabling Scheme (EES)
Opens Apr 20, Closes May 3

The ECR Enabling Scheme is a new initiative to provide ECRs (<7 years FTE of research opportunities post PhD) with micro-funding (up to $2500) that will enhance their research prospects. The use of funds is non-specific* and may include but is not limited to: (1) research-related travel (2) equipment purchase (3) research assistant support (4) workshops or training (5) technical support (6) transcription services (7) Open Access publication fees. This is a needs-based scheme and ECRs that already have access to substantial project funds will not be as competitive as those with little access. Full details on eligibility criteria and conditions of award can be found in the draft guidelines.

Applications will open Tuesday 20 April and are to be submitted via PURE by 5pm Monday 3 May. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. Additional information about the scheme will be circulated closer to the opening date.

*NOTE: teaching relief and computer purchases will not be supported in 2021.

EOI for EES Assessment Panel Members
Due Apr 16

In addition to providing ECRs with micro-funding, the EES is designed to provide ECRs with the opportunity to participate on a grant assessment panel.

We are currently looking for dedicated ECRs who are willing to review and assess the EES applications within their Faculties.

There will be four panels (one for each faculty). The panel members and panel chair will be selected by the PVCR Team. The panels will receive guidance from Professor Lesley Hughes (PVCR Integrity and Researcher Development) and Professor Amanda Barnier (PVCR Performance). Panel members will not be excluded from applying for EES funding; however, preference will be given to ECRs not intending to apply to minimise the number of conflicts of interest that will need to be managed.

The expected schedule and commitments are outlined below. If you are interested please fill out the expression of interest form by 5pm Friday 16 April. Late or incomplete EOIIs will not be considered.

For further information about the Panel Member EOI, please email ecrenablingscheme@mq.edu.au.

Expected schedule
• Scheme opens Tuesday 18 April
• Scheme closes Monday 3 May
• Panel members and chair to receive collated applications no later than Monday 10 May
• Panel members and chair to submit rankings/scores to PVCR Team by Friday 21 May
• Panels to meet and come to final decision week commencing Monday 24 May
• Applicants informed of outcomes early June
Requirements of Panel Members (and Chair)

- Participate in a 1 hr briefing on scoring applications (during the week commencing Monday 3 May)
- Declare conflicts of interest
- Review and score all assigned grants within 2-week period (Monday 10 – Friday 21 May). Each grant application will be approximately 3-4 pages
- Attend a meeting to determine final outcomes (to be scheduled sometime between May 24 – June 4). This meeting may be 2-3 hrs long, depending on the number of applications within a faculty
- Provide feedback on the grant review process to the PVCR Team

Additional requirements of the nominated Chair

- Coordinate with the panel members and PVCR Team a time and date for the meeting
- Chair the meeting
- Collate the final rankings of grant applications
- Notify outcomes to applicants
- Provide feedback to applicants if requested

Academic Promotions 2021

Thinking about applying for an academic promotion in 2021? To help with your planning we have listed all the important dates you need to know. Please make sure you read the policy, procedure and criteria before applying.

We suggest that you take the time to watch last year’s Academic Promotions information session run by the Academic Promotions team. You can also view sample promotion applications on request. These applications are to be used as a guide only. To request a sample application, contact Catherine L.R. McDonald, Academic Promotions Coordinator at academicpromotions@mq.edu.au.

Further information can be found at https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/development/academic-promotion.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Dates for Academic Promotions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Applications submitted to HOD for review and preparation of the HOD Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOD submits HOD Report and application to the Executive Dean for sign-off</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Dean returns HOD report to applicant for submission of application of promotion</td>
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<td><strong>Applications due date</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Preparing for Academic Promotions Interviews (Level B &amp; C) panel session and workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicant interviews</td>
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<td>Promotion effective date</td>
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Researcher Development Opportunities

How to run a motivated and engaged research group
April 28, 11:00am – 1:00pm

As academics we are responsible for the training, intellectual development, and general well-being of the postgrads in our research groups.

For our trainees' (and our own) research careers to flourish we want to ensure our research groups (or labs) are supportive, vibrant, engaging, and productive. But how exactly does one develop such a group?

In this workshop Prof Martin Whiting will outline key components to running an organised, engaged, and stimulating research group. Topics covered in this workshop include:

Motivating students by enhancing self-determined behaviour using three conditions: competence, autonomy, and social connectedness

- Developing a philosophy and lab culture
- How to run lab meetings (that won’t go stale)
- How to effectively use postdocs to help run the lab
- Importance of support and engagement between lab members and other groups
- What to do if your lab has only a few students
- The importance of fostering a philosophy of enquiry and questioning

To attend, please register at myRDC.

Please note: this workshop is suited best for STEM researchers wanting to develop their own research team but all ECRs are welcome. We will also be scheduling alternative workshops for researchers in other disciplines.

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

- R2-R for Research -- A two-day workshop, Apr 8-9, 10:30am-3pm
- Nearmap Information Session (high res aerial imagery and spatial products), Apr 8 11am-12pm
- Pure training for new staff, Apr 21 10-11:30am
- Building Teaching Capabilities - Gamification in Teaching workshop, Apr 30, 3-5pm
- Building Research Capabilities - Survey Research workshop, May 28, 3-5pm
- Building Teaching Capabilities - Part II Case Studies, Jun 4, 3-5pm
- Crafting and effective ARC Discovery Project rejoinder, Jun 11 12-1:30pm
- Building your professional online profile, Jul 22, 10-11:30am
- Pure training for new staff, Oct 13 10-11:30am
External Workshops

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><strong>GrantEd “Accelerate Your Success” Grant Funding Guides</strong>&lt;br&gt;The GrantEd Group provide step-by-step advice about how to write winning applications for the most common ARC and NHMRC grant schemes, including ARC DECRA and NHMRC Investigator grants.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$0-$50</td>
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<td><strong>Media and communications training</strong>&lt;br&gt;Science in Public is running its media and communication masterclass in Sydney and online. During the masterclass you will meet journalists, gain confidence in talking to the press, and practice being interviewed. You’ll learn how to plan your communication, find the story in your research and how to communicate it so that it delivers impact and reaches the audiences that are important to you.</td>
<td>Sydney: May 4&lt;br&gt;Online: April 6-7&lt;br&gt;May 25-26</td>
<td>$800 +GST</td>
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<td><strong>Writing in Company</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Well Writers' Collective is also running weekly mindful co-writing sessions. A calm co-writing session held each Wednesday over 2 hours from 10am, Sydney time. They open with a short meditation exercise followed by timed writing and camaraderie. The event is free for members of the collective, and open to non-members by donation. Details for causal attendance are here.</td>
<td>Every Wed, 10am-12pm</td>
<td>Free for members (membership $25/month), Donation for non-members</td>
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<td><strong>Weekly mindfulness meditation sessions (online)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr Michelle Jamies on is running weekly mindfulness meditation sessions that are designed to support anyone interested in establishing and maintaining a daily meditation practice. By meeting regularly with a community of meditators and a committed teacher, the classes provide a valuable source of connection and motivation as well as opportunities to deepen your understanding of the practice. Each session runs for 60 minutes and includes a brief introduction to the practice, a guided meditation, plus an optional 15 minute Q&amp;A. The classes cover a broad range of practice types including breath awareness, walking meditation, body scanning and self-compassion, giving you the chance to experiment with different forms of meditation and find an approach that works for you.</td>
<td>Every Tue, 12:30-1:30pm, and Thu, 6:30-7:30, starting Mar 2</td>
<td>Student: $15 single&lt;br&gt;$100 10 class pass&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Adult: $20 single&lt;br&gt;$150 10 class pass&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;(If you are experiencing financial difficulties and would like to attend, please email Michelle)</td>
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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 Linkage Projects**
  - Round 2: **Jul 19** (MQ submission date), Aug 16 (ARC submission date)
  - Round 3: **Nov 18** (MQ submission date), Dec 16 (ARC submission date)
- **NHMRC Ideas Grant**, **Apr 2** (MQ Minimum Data deadline), **Apr 1** (FMHHS submission date), **Apr 6** (MQ submission date except for FMHHS), May 5 (NHMRC submission date)
- **NHMRC Development Grant**, open Apr 21, **May 19** (MQ submission date), Jun 16 NHMRC submission date
- **MQ Fellowship for Indigenous Researchers**
- **MQ Carer Conference Support Scheme**
- **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.

**Australian Science Policy Fellowship Program**

Applications open 7 April and close 26 April 2021

The Australian Science Policy Fellowship Program is an initiative of the Office of the Chief Scientist that aims to grow the diversity of expertise in the Australian Public Service workforce. It provides a pathway for early- to mid-career scientists (<15 FTE years postdoc) to become skilled policy practitioners so they can contribute science to the policy process. Fellows are employed as policy officers by participating Australian Government host departments for 12 months.

**Women’s Health Research Translation Network Grants**

Research Services compliance deadline: 12 April 2021
Funder closing date: 26 April 2021

The AHRA Women’s Health Research Translation and Impact Network is accepting applications for its inaugural Early and Mid-Career Researcher Funded Awards. The award provides support to help advance the career development of early (<10 FTE years postdoc) and mid (5-15 FTE years postdoc) career women working across the breadth of women’s health research and build capacity in women researchers across underrepresented groups, diverse disciplines and Indigenous research.

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University of Edinburgh: Postdoctoral fellowships
Research Services compliance deadline: 16 April 2021
Funder closing date: 30 April 2021, 5pm

The Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Edinburgh have several fellowships for ECRs (<3 FTE years postdoc) working in any area of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. These enable fellows to conduct research visits at the University of Edinburgh under a university mentor supervision from an area relevant to the fellow’s research interests. Fellows have access to an office space, university e-mail and library access, weekly fellows’ lunch to build community, and collegial work-in-progress seminar series for testing new ideas. They also have the opportunity to engage in events at the institute and college and participate in and design funded workshops and colloquia.

Research Services compliance deadline: 3 May 2021
Funder closing date: 16 May 2021

The ACEN is offering funding for two Work Integrated Learning (WIL) research grants up to $10,000 each and two grants of $5,000 for Emergent and/or Early Career Researchers (<5 FTE years postdoc).

Applications are invited on topics related to one of the following themes:

- Inclusive practice, equity and access in WIL
- Upscaling quality WIL through stakeholder engagement
- Impact of WIL
- Indigenous engagement with WIL

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scientist Award
Research Services compliance deadline: 18 May 2021
Funder closing date: 1 June 2021

The Australian Academy of Science’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scientists Award recognises research in the physical and biological sciences, allowing interdisciplinary and sociocultural research that could straddle the social sciences and humanities, by outstanding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander PhD students and early- and mid-career scientists. It aims to support their research and/or the expansion and growth of their research networks and international knowledge exchange through visits to relevant international centres of research. Awards will be for up to $20,000, with additional support provided to attend the Academy’s Annual Science at the Shine Dome event.
The Max Day Environmental Science Fellowship Award
Research Services compliance deadline: 18 May 2021
Funder closing date: 1 June 2021

The Max Day Environmental Science Fellowship Award is an annual award to assist early-stage PhD students or early career researchers (<5 FTE years postdoc) with their research.

Applicants must demonstrate a multi-disciplinary approach to their research work and conduct their research in one or more of the biological sciences relating to one or more of the following disciplines:

- conservation of Australia’s flora and fauna
- ecologically sustainable resource use
- environmental protection
- ecosystem services (either provisioning services, or habitat and supporting services).

The Margaret Middleton Fund for endangered Australian native vertebrate animals
Research Services compliance deadline: 18 May 2021
Funder closing date: 1 June 2021

The Margaret Middleton Fund offers PhD students and early-career researchers (<3 years FTE postdoc) up to $20,000 to support field-based, high-quality ecological research. The objective of the grant is to provide financial support for conservation-based research of Australian ecosystems (including off-shore islands and the continental shelf) that ultimately will lead to tangible outcomes for management. The scope of the research is open to terrestrial, marine and freshwater research on vertebrate animals.

The Thomas Davies Research Grant for Marine, Soil and Plant Biology
Research Services compliance deadline: 18 May 2021
Funder closing date: 1 June 2021

The Thomas Davies Research Grant is funded through a generous philanthropic bequest from the estate of the late Thomas Lewis Davies to the Australian Academy of Science. The fund offers annual science grants of up to $20,000 each to early-and mid-career researchers (<15 FTE years postdoc) in the field of marine, soil and plant biology.
Capstone Editing: Early Career Academic Research Grant for Women
Research Services compliance deadline: May 20
Funder closing date: Jun 7

The Capstone Editing Early Career Academic Research Grant for Women provides up to $5,000 for one ECR woman (awarded her PhD within the past 6 FTE years) to assist with the costs associated with a research project of her choosing leading towards a publication.

The grant can be used to cover any costs related to a research project leading to publication, such as conducting a field trip; purchasing books, software or equipment; hiring a translator; travel to learn new techniques in a lab interstate or overseas; small lab equipment; key reagents to complete a project; performing surveys or interviews; and academic editing, such as for journal articles, manuscripts and conference papers. The grant can also be used to cover expenses that most university funding does not cover, such as childcare.

Prizes, Awards, and Competitions

Below is a list of currently open academic prizes, awards, and competitions that ECRs may wish to enter. For a full list of external prizes please visit: https://staff.mq.edu.au/research/resources-and-support/prizes,-awards-and-fellowships. If you are interested in applying, please contact your Faculty Research Manager in the first instance.

- **NSW Premier's History Awards**, Apr 12
- **Max Crawford Award** (<5 FTE years postdoc), Apr 26
- **APEC Science Prize for Innovation, Research and Education** (<40 years of age), Apr 27
- **David Syme Research Prize**, Apr 28
- **Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Jian Zhou Medal** (<15 FTE years postdoc), Apr 30
- **Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology New Scholar Prize**, Apr 30
- **The Academy of Sciences Early Career Awards** (<10 FTE years postdoc, various disciplines), May 1
- **The International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences Communications Prizes**, May 28
- **Fresh Science 2021** (<5 FTE years postdoc), opens in April and closes in June
- **Nature Research Inspiring Science and Innovating Science Awards** (<10 FTE years postdoc; identify as a woman), opens early April
- **Michelson Prizes for Human Immunology and Vaccine Research** (<35 years of age), opens April
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 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 Francesca Dominello
- Dr Katrina Hutchison
- Dr Matt Withers
- Dr Helen Wolfenden

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

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 Vera Horigue
- Dr Mikolaj Schmidt

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 email to unsubscribe.

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