Upcoming training, grants, and prizes for ECRs at MQ

EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER NEWS
July 2021

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Your ECR Representatives
Congratulations to…

Our NSW Tall Poppies

Dr Devika Kamath from the Department of Physics and Astronomy and Dr Georgia Ward-Fear from the Department of Biological Sciences have been named NSW Tall Poppies for 2021. The Tall Poppies Scheme recognises not only scientific achievement, but also the work involved to increase understanding and appreciation of science in the community.

Our ECRs in the press

Dr Emlyn Dodd from the Department of History and Archaeology contributed an article to *The Conversation* on unearthing Falerii Novi’s secrets.

Dr Muhammad Ikram from the Department of Computing was featured in *TechRadar NZ* and *The Guardian* regarding a new study of privacy issues in mobile health apps.

Dr Cynthia Isley from Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences was featured on *2SER107.3* with regards to her research on lead contamination in backyard soil.

Dr Vanessa Pirotta from the Department of Biological Sciences provided comment to *The Guardian* about the growing humpback whale population.

Dr Colin Zhang from the Department of Actuarial Studies and Business Analytics contributed an article to *The Conversation* on the various financial options for paying aged care facilities. This article was reposted by *ABC News* and Colin was interviewed by *SBS Mandarin* on this topic.

*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!*
Lockdown v2.0

As I put together this month’s ECR Newsletter, I find myself in a weird mental space. The idea of finding ourselves 6 months into the “new year” – which in many ways still feels like an extension of last year – but being back to where we were this time last year, i.e., lockdown, rather hurts my brain (especially if I think about it too much; so naturally I don’t).

For some, I imagine, this lockdown is a case of “been there, done that, know what to do this time round”. But for anyone like myself who is finding it to be more “been there, done that, would like to pass on the sequel as they are never as good as the original” please know that you are not alone. And yes, second time round may be harder than the first.

So (although hopefully we will be back on campus shortly after this newsletter is published) to all our ECRs, however well you are doing, please take care and be kind to yourselves.

~Megan Brewer (ECR Network Coordinator)

For anyone needing additional support remember you can access confidential and free counselling through our Employee Assistance Provider Benestar.

Call for Statistics Projects: PACE Statistical Consulting Projects - S2 2021

Due July 14

The Faculty of Science and Engineering PACE Team at Macquarie University are now calling for Statistical Consulting projects for our PACE Statistics students to complete in Session 2, 2021.

Statistical Consulting projects focus on designing a study, designing tools for collecting and/or analysing an existing (already collected) data set. Students focus on the aim of your project and your research question(s) using statistical models. Statistics students also have skills in assessing and creating survey tools. A group of students (three or more students in each group) will work on your project for a minimum of 70 hours (from each student).

If you have a project that you would like the Statistics students to get involved in, please email pace.science@mq.edu.au with your completed scoping document for the PACE team to assess the suitability of your project for this unit. Project proposals are due in by the 14th of July.

If you have any queries, please contact Jennifer Nash: jennifer.nash@mq.edu.au
Researcher Development Opportunities

Building your professional online profile
Jul 22, 10-11:30am

What can ALTMETRICS demonstrate to others about your work and should you have an ORCID? Wondering how to navigate TWITTER in the academic world and whether to engage? Who's doing it well? Attend this zoom session for an overview and begin developing your professional online presence. Presented by two of our specialist Research Librarians.

To attend please register through myRDC.

ARC information webinar for early career researchers on career planning
Jul 22, 1-2pm

Organised by Research Services, Dr Robert Mun, the Executive Director of Engineering and Information Sciences at the ARC, will discuss career planning and funding opportunities for early career researchers from an ARC perspective. Postdoctoral research fellows and higher degree by research students nearing the end of their candidature will greatly benefit from this webinar, but all Macquarie University researchers and research support staff are welcome to attend. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions during the webinar.

To attend this webinar, please visit Research Services’ Training and Support webpage for the Zoom link.

Managing Up: Effective Communications for ECRs
Aug 26, 10:30-11:30am

To borrow a phrase, “no researcher is an island”. So effective communication is a key component to establishing and maintaining the vital relationships that can help or hinder your academic progress.

In this online workshop Ashwin Singh (Psychologist from Student Wellbeing) will discuss how you can work towards developing healthy, positive relationships which provide mutual benefit.

Topics covered include:

- Identifying your own communication strengths and weaknesses
- Recognising the communication styles of other academics, supervisors, and managers
- Developing skills in understanding the power dynamics at play and explore ways to deal with challenges you face

This workshop will also promote the development of skills to deal with challenging aspects of communication such as expressing yourself assertively, repairing communication breakdowns, conflict resolution, and giving and seeking constructive criticism.
Please register at myRDC if you wish to attend.

*Given the sensitive nature of the topic and to allow participants to talk freely, we will not be recording this event. However, a take-away sheet covering the general points will be made available on the ECR Website after the event*

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

- [Introduction to the ARC DECRA](#), Jul 21, 12-1:30pm
- [ARC information webinar for early career researchers on career planning](#), Jul 22, 1-2pm
- [Strengthening Personal Resilience](#), Aug 20, 1-3:30pm (register through Workday)
- [ARC post-award management information webinar for current investigators](#), Aug 23, 1-2pm
- [Developing your Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence for the DECRA Scheme](#), Sep 15, 12-1:30pm
- [Developing your DECRA Project Description](#), Sep 22, 12-1:30pm
- [Building your DECRA Budget](#), Sep 29, 12-1:30pm
- [Writing the Statement by the Administering Organisation for the DECRA Scheme](#), Oct 6, 12-1:30pm
- [General ARC information webinar for STEM disciplines with ARC Executive Director Dr Robert Mun](#), Oct 7, 2-3pm
- [General ARC information webinar for HASS disciplines with ARC Executive Director Prof Bronwen Neil](#), Oct 8, 10-11am
- [Pure training for new staff](#), Oct 13, 10-11:30am
- [ARC information webinar for DECRA and Future Fellowship candidates](#), Oct 19, 12-1pm
**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](mailto:info@ecrn.org) 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 communication masterclasses</strong>&lt;br&gt;Science in Public runs a <a href="mailto:info@scinpub.org">one-day media and communication masterclass</a>. In this masterclass you will:&lt;br&gt;• Meet journalists and practice being interviewed.&lt;br&gt;• Learn how to plan your communication and what to say to those tricky questions.&lt;br&gt;• Find the story in your research and how to communicate it so that it delivers impact and reaches the audiences that are important are to you.</td>
<td>Sep 14, 9am – 5pm</td>
<td>$800 +GST per person</td>
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<td><strong>Working skilfully with thinking</strong>&lt;br&gt;The desire to control or better manage our thoughts is one of the key reasons people take up mindfulness meditation. Yet the difficulty of sitting with thinking is one of the most common reasons people struggle with the practice. We might be hoping for peace and quiet but instead are faced with a mind that won’t be still or behave. Our thoughts pour out of us like a broken tap we can’t turn off.</td>
<td>Every Thursday 6:30-7:30pm live streamed via Zoom</td>
<td>Regular: $20 single, $150 for a 10 class pass&lt;br&gt;Student: $15 single, $100 for a 10 class pass&lt;br&gt;First class free for new participants.</td>
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Throughout July, Dr Michelle Jamieson will be running [weekly drop-in classes](mailto:michelle@michellejamieson.com) that focus on how to work skilfully with thinking. What is your state of mind when you’re thinking? What type of thinking arises (e.g. fantasising, worrying, planning)? And how does the body feel when these thought patterns arise? Each class includes mindful stretching (10mins), walking meditation practice (15mins) and a seated practice (15-20mins), followed by Q&A. For all bookings and enquiries: [michelle@michellejamieson.com](mailto:michelle@michellejamieson.com)
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)
- ARC Discovery Early Career Researcher Award, **Aug 11** (MQ EOI deadline), **Oct 13** (MQ submission date), Nov 17 (ARC submission date)
- ARC Future Fellowships, **Sep 15** (MQ EOI deadline), **Nov 3** (MQ submission date), Dec 8 (ARC 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-American Fulbright Commission Awards
Research Services compliance deadline: **Jun 22**
Funder closing date: **Jul 6**

The Australian-American Fulbright Commission offers Scholarships to Australian citizens across all career stages. Awardees take part in a bi-lateral academic and cultural exchange, pursuing research or study at a U.S. institution. Postdoctoral opportunities are available for who have completed their PhD in the past 5 years or who will have their PhD conferral before the proposed date of departure.

CSL Centenary Fellowships
Research Services compliance deadline: **Jul 16**
Funder closing date: **Jul 31**

Applications are now open for the 2022 CSL Centenary Fellowships. Two individual five-year $1.25 million fellowships are awarded each calendar year to outstanding early-mid career (4-10 years postdoctoral) biomedical researchers working in discovery and translational medical research.
The fellowships are available to Australians who wish to continue a career in medical research in Australia.

Auxilium Kick-Starter Prize for Research in Marine Science
Research Services compliance deadline: Jul 30
Funder closing date: Aug 15

The Auxilium Foundation and SIMS are very excited to launch the Auxilium Kick-Starter Prize. The Auxilium Foundation is focused on providing financial and mentorship support for projects which can deliver an environmental impact for a fairer and more durable society with a strong skew to aiding our ocean’s health.

The award will support pilot projects that will assist researchers compete for future competitive grant funding and help shape the future of marine science in Australia. Early-career researchers (≤5 years postdoc) can apply for a $10,000 award to allow them to undertake an innovative marine research project.

SAAFE Research Internship Program
Research Services compliance deadline: Sep 1
Funder closing date: Sep 15

AINSE, in partnership with ANSTO and the Embassy of France in Australia, are delighted to announce that applications for the 2022 SAAFE Program are now open, in anticipation of the resumption of international travel in 2022.

The Scholarship AINSE ANSTO French Embassy (SAAFE) Program is an exciting international exchange opportunity open to Early Career Researchers at the PhD and postdoctoral level. Up to $7,500 AUD is provided to each successful applicant towards supporting travel and/or accommodation expenses in Australia or France.

The SAAFE Program supports Early Career Researchers to expand research and innovation activities with Human Health, Environment and the Nuclear Fuel Cycle, and to initiate sustainable research networks and linkages to support Australia and France in research and innovation.

Eligible applicants must be a PhD student in, or hold a postdoctoral appointment at, a French university or Australian AINSE-member university, OR be enrolled in a PhD in collaboration between French and Australian institutions. The research internship is required to start within a 6 month period after international borders open in 2022.

Humboldt Research Fellowship for postdoctoral and experienced researchers
Applications accepted throughout the year, funding selection committee meets Mar, Jul, and Nov

The Humboldt Research Fellowship enables postdoctoral (<4 years postdoc) and experienced (<12 years postdoc) researchers to conduct their own research during a 6-24 month stay in collaboration with a host at a German research institution of your choice.
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.

Fresh Science 2021
Jul 29

Fresh Science is a national competition helping early career researchers find, and then share, their stories of discovery.

The program takes up-and-coming researchers (<5 years FTE postdoc) with no media experience and turns them into spokespeople for science, giving them a taste of life in the limelight, with a day of media training and a public event in their home state.

2021 Engagement Australia Excellence Awards
Aug 4

Engagement Australia is pleased to launch the 2021 Engagement Australia Excellence Awards. These awards extend the high-quality recognition provided by the former BHERT Awards to identify and celebrate the most exciting and impactful engagement activities undertaken by Australian and New Zealand Universities.

Award categories

- Excellence in Community Engagement
- Excellence in Indigenous Engagement
- Excellence in Industry Engagement
- Outstanding Engagement for Research Impact
- Excellence in Student Engagement
- Excellence in Alumni Engagement
- Outstanding Leadership in Engagement
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.

FSE ECR Gathering (pending COVID-safe restrictions)
Jul 15, 3-6 pm
FSE ECRs, your FSE ECR Reps – Amy, Mikolaj, and Vera – invite you to join them for a gathering at the Ubar on Thursday 15 July from 3 – 6 pm (providing the current Greater Sydney lockdown does not get extended). This will be a great opportunity to meet your colleagues and relax after the long semester. Food and drinks will be served.

Gendered Transnational Texts and Communities Network
Dr Jyhene Kebsi from Gender Studies has founded and is convening the Gendered Transnational Texts and Communities Network. This network has organized a number of film screenings, creative writing workshops and presentations including

- presentation entitled “Transnational World Petrofiction: The Impact of the Oil Industry on Nigerian Women” by Dr Kesbi (May 7, 2021)
- presentation entitled “State Feminism in Saudi Arabia: Women’s Rights Under Bin Salman” by Dr Kesbi (June 4, 2021)

If you wish to join the network, please send an email to Jyhene Kebsi: jyhene.kebsi@mq.edu.au

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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 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 Junqueira 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

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