

FACULTY OF SCIENCE RESEARCH BULLETIN



Charles Sturt
University

ISSUE 9: OCTOBER 2019



Welcome to Issue 9 of the Faculty of Science Research Bulletin. Hooray it's spring.

Good luck to Blake Collins, who is representing Charles Sturt at the Asia-Pacific 3MT finals in Brisbane. The details of how to access the livestream of the event are in the article below.

This month we get to know Dr Melissa Nott from the School of Community Health. Mel has been conducting an evidence translation project which has expanded from a local pilot to being a state-wide study.

One of the key focus areas for the Faculty is to increase the reach of our research. In this regard, there is news about the Open Access Publishing Scheme and the recent publishing with impact workshop. We also hear from researchers who have been presenting at conferences around the globe.

The preliminary program for the Faculty Research Symposium which will showcase the fantastic work being done by our researchers has just been released. The event will provide a great opportunity for our researchers to get together at the end of the year.

There is also plenty of news about professional development workshops, including grant writing and supervisor sessions, funding opportunities and new fact sheets on various aspects of external funding.

The bulletin is emailed to all staff and HDR candidates in the Faculty of Science in the first week of each month. If you have a news item, a resource, announcement or a great achievement related to research or HDR candidature you'd like to share, please send it to [Deborah](#) or [Melanie](#) for inclusion in the next bulletin.

Previous issues of the bulletin can be downloaded from the Faculty of Science Research Bulletin page [here](#)

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Congratulations – Approved for graduation



Elizabeth Znidersic, thesis titled “Optimising monitoring techniques for secretive wetland birds.”

Emma Hand, thesis titled “Mechanisms behind the alternation of lamb sex ratios when ewes are fed a diet high in omega-6 fatty acids prior to joining”

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Application closing date – AGRTP Domestic Scholarships

Please note that the closing date for domestic applications for Higher Degree by Research scholarships funded under the Australian Government Research Training Program is **5:00pm AEDT on Thursday 31 October 2019**.

Scholarships are available for both [full-time](#) and [part-time](#) study. Please see the [HDR Scholarships page](#) for further information.

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2019 Asia-Pacific 3MT finalist – Good luck Blake Collins



After competing in the campus heats and winning the CSU 3MT final, Blake Collins from the School of Exercise Science, Sport and Health will be going on to compete at the Asia-Pacific 3MT finals at The University of Queensland in Brisbane **this Friday 4 October 2019**.

Blake will be presenting *A Shift in Focus* which outlines his research on how exercise regimes could help reduce some of the negative health effects associated with shift work.

There will be 56 presenters competing in the semi-final, all representing their universities from all across Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

Blake’s Principal Supervisor, Dr Melissa Skein will be there to support him in person, for all of us that couldn’t make it, the good news is that we can watch the live stream online! Please see the [presentation schedule](#), Blake is listed to present at **11:06am in Auditorium 234**, [here is the link to live stream](#).

Good luck Blake!

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Publishing with impact workshop



Last week 16 HDR candidates participated in the 3 day interactive 'Publishing with Impact' workshop in Wagga facilitated by CSIRO's Dr Camilla Myers.

Dr Camilla Myers is a scientist who has been involved in scientific writing, publishing and editing for over 25 years across a broad range of subjects. She shared with the participants insights on the culture of science publishing and why it is important to publish, editorial decision-

making and the peer-review process and assisted them to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence required to write well-structured and easy-to-read scientific articles.

Feedback has been very positive with participants noting they wish they attended this workshop earlier on in their candidature. We will be looking to run this again in the future, please contact [Melanie Snell](#) to express your interest to attend.

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December graduation deadlines

For all of those looking to graduate at one of the December ceremonies, the deadline to finalise your graduation preference and payment is **6 October 2019**. For those who are still waiting on results and/or responding to examiners, please note that if it turns out you are not eligible to graduate, i.e. do not finalise all requirements by **15 November 2019**, you will receive a full refund for your payment.

Please note the deadline of **15 November 2019** is when you will need to have uploaded your final thesis and synopsis to the research office. Please consider the below timeline as a guideline of the time it may take between submitting your response to examiners and being set to graduate:

- 1) Principal Supervisor submits response to examiners to Sub Dean Graduate Studies
- 2) Sub-Dean review – up to 1-2 weeks
- 3) Organisation of Examination Committee – up to 3-4 weeks
- 4) (If approved as is) Memo to DVC RE recommending approval to graduate – approx. 1 week
- 5) Completion of digital upload and submission of synopsis – approx. 1-2 days

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Getting to Know – Dr Melissa Nott



This month we get to know **Dr Melissa Nott**. Mel is a Senior Lecturer, Occupational Therapy and HDR Coordinator in the School of Community Health. Mel has been at Charles Sturt for 8 years & is based on the Albury campus.

Where did you work at prior to CSU?

Prior to joining CSU I was a Clinical Researcher at Westmead Hospital, Sydney, in the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Service. I also worked at Sydney University as a lecturer and Honours Coordinator in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

What are your research/teaching specialities?

As an occupational therapist, my research and teaching focuses on how we can enable people to do the things that are meaningful to them in their everyday lives. I love doing clinical based research with health professionals; mainly

focusing on neurological rehabilitation and working with older people. I'm really passionate about creating evidence to guide clinical practice and supporting clinicians to translate that evidence into practice.

Are you currently working on any research projects?

I'm currently leading a group of occupational therapy clinicians across NSW on an evidence translation project called The BEST Study (Best Evidence for Stroke Therapy). This project has taught clinicians how to facilitate a self-management program with people who have been discharged home from hospital. The results have been amazing; starting from a small pilot study in Albury to now being rolled out in Murrumbidgee LHD, Southern NSW LHD, Northern NSW LHD and Mid-North Coast LHD.

Who is funding your research?

This project is being funded by the NSW Health Translational Research Grant Scheme and the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation.

What would be your key piece of advice for a new researcher?

Create networks - good research thrives when different people offer different perspectives.

What do you do away from CSU?

I love spending time outdoors with my children - we explore all the local parks and only return if there is a good coffee shop nearby!

Thanks Mel for taking the time to be interviewed.

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Congratulations – Best presentation awards



Jayden Hunter, of the School of Exercise Science, Sport and Health, was awarded two Best Presentation Awards for his two presentations at the ICSEHS 2019: International Conference on Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences in Vancouver Canada.

Understanding the Perceived Barriers and Facilitators to Exercise Participation in the Workplace

Authors: [Jayden R. Hunter](#), [Brett A. Gordon](#), [Stephen R. Bird](#), [Amanda C. Benson](#)

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Living Well Across the Lifespan – Registrations open

Register Now

The Faculty of Science is pleased to announce our research symposium, **Living Well Across the Lifespan** - 28 – 29 November on the Wagga Wagga campus.

This will be the first Faculty of Science research symposium since 2016. The symposium aims to showcase the diverse and far reaching health research being undertaken by our researchers. It will also provide an opportunity to network & share ideas with potential collaborators.

We are busy making the final touches to the program. The preliminary program which outlines the keynote presenters and sessions can be downloaded [here](#). The program will also be available soon from the FOS webpage. We invite you to [register](#) for the symposium.

**** Wagga accommodation & travel:** The Faculty is able to cover the accommodation and vehicle costs for a limited number of non-presenting symposium participants travelling to Wagga. Please ensure you register early if you would like to take advantage of this offer.

Please contact Deborah Munns - FOS-RLO@csu.edu.au or (02) 6338 6168, if you need any assistance with registering or have any queries.

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FOS conference attendance

The Faculty's Conference and Training Scheme continues to assist researchers to present their findings at national and international conferences. The conference attendance is continuing to have ongoing benefits for the Faculty of Science and Charles Sturt by extending the reach of our research.

Danny Bedgood (School of Agricultural & Wine Sciences) attend the 8th European Variety in University Chemistry Education, 17-19 July, 2019 Monash Prato Centre, Prato, Tuscany, Italy. This European conference was for the first time hosted by an Australian University. This Eurovariety conference was run under the auspices of the EuCheMS Division of Chemical Education, and in collaboration with the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, Societa Chimica Italiana and the Royal Society of Chemistry. This event brought together educators passionate about chemistry education to share and showcase best practice in the field, and network across the community. The conference had 94 attendees from 22 countries.

Danny gave an oral presentation – 'Were students better in the old days? Rasch analysis of three first year approaches to university chemistry and a model for benchmarking between universities' and a poster to provide background about how the Rasch analysis process works - 'Rasch analysis of examination results provides information about student performance and exam validity'.

Danny reports that "my talk was well attended and questions afterward used the entire allotted time, as well as a number of conversations over lunch and the conference dinner"



Hayley Randle (School of Animal & Veterinary Sciences) (*far left of photo in checked shirt*) received funding to attend the International Society for Equitation Science Conference 'Bringing Science into the Stable' in Guelph, Canada from 19th-21st August 2019. Over the three days of the conference Hayley presented at the *Large Animal Rescue training event* and presented a poster and an oral presentation. Hayley's presentation *Indicators of the inside: physiology and Equine Quality of Life* concluded the summary of the Equine Quality of Life project. In addition she ran an Equine Quality of

Life (EQoL) meeting for a project that is taking place with colleagues from EIT (NZ), Edinburgh Vet. School (UK), Nottingham Trent University (UK) and the Horse Trust (UK).

Hayley notes that time was also spent "networking and discussing products developed by the many sponsors at the conference, with many offering potential research and teaching opportunities."



Muhammed Yakin (*left of photo*) (School of Dentistry & Health Sciences) attended the 9th Conference of Asian Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology 2019 at Mahsa University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 22 – 24 August.

This was a 2.5-day conference with workshops, slide seminars, and lectures covering contemporary aspects of diagnostic and experimental oral and maxillofacial pathology and oral medicine. The invitation to attend the conference as an invited speaker came from Professor Rosnah binti Zain, the Dean of Dentistry at MAHSA University. Muhammed had the honour to represent Australia and Charles Sturt University as a case discussant at

the Clinico-Pathological Conference. This involved the discussion of a challenging clinical case and the process of arriving at a differential diagnosis. A couple of the delegates who are Deans of Dental Schools, expressed their interest in establishing student exchange programmes with CSU.

Muhammed reports that “Many of the attendees were not familiar with CSU, which is why my presence and presentation helped bring CSU's name to oral pathology and oral medicine specialists and trainees in the region”.

The final round of the Conference and Training Scheme for 2019 closes on the **11th of October 2019**. The guidelines and application form can be downloaded here: <S:\Common\Temp Folder Less Than 90 Days\FOS Conference and Training Scheme>

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Editing of journal articles & grant applications – Free service



Academic staff in the Faculty of Science are encouraged to access the Faculty editing service to help 'fine-tune' their research papers or grant applications before they are submitted to journals for publication. This service is not available to HDR candidates and students.

The FOS and Faculty of Business, Justice & Behavioural Sciences are jointly funding a Research Editor position. Mark Filmer, has been appointed to the position.

The aim of the service is to help improve the quality of papers being submitted to journals and in doing so, improve overall acceptance rates. The service is available to all FOS academic staff. The edit process is intended to 'polish' the **final version** of the manuscript. It is expected that the manuscript has been proof-read and checked for accuracy before it is submitted to Mark.

To access this service, you need to complete a single page application form. For more details or an application form, email Mark (mfilmer@csu.edu.au).

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Scopus Researcher Awards 2019



Applications for the [Scopus Researcher Awards 2019](#) are now open. Could this be your researchers winning year?

The Scopus Researcher Awards are part of a global Elsevier initiative to advance the frontiers of science across a broad range of disciplines. The Awards recognise outstanding researchers in Australia and New Zealand who have made significant contributions to their fields.

The winner for each category will receive \$1000 cash prize, a plaque and be invited to an award ceremony at University of New South Wales, John Niland Scientia Building on Tuesday, 19th November 2019. Elsevier will also fully subsidise the travel expenses for the winners.

The Awards for 2019 will be presented the following categories:

Excellence in Research Impacting a Sustainable Future
Excellence in Research Impacting Global Health
Excellence in Outstanding Early Career Researcher

Applications close 31 October 2019. More information is available at [Scopus Researcher Awards 2019](#).

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Open Access Publishing Scheme – Increase visibility



In the interests of broadening the reach of your research, the Faculty of Science has released an Open Access Publishing Scheme. Open Access journal articles are available to read for everybody, immediately and permanently: readers have access to your article independently of their libraries' journal collection. Publishing in Open Access has been shown to increase citations, which in turn can attract collaborators and increase your research profile.

For this scheme articles must be published in a peer reviewed fully open access journal. More information about the scheme can be found here: [S:\Common\Temp Folder Less Than 90 Days\FOS OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING SCHEME](#)

For more information about open access publishing refer to the Charles Sturt [Open Access Library Guide](#).

** It is suggested that authors also take advantage of the **FOS editing service** (Mark Filmer mfilmer@csu.edu.au) before submitting the article to the publisher (see above article) & use their ORCID with the publication.

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Ian Potter Foundation changes guidelines

At the September 2019 Board meeting, the Governors of The Ian Potter Foundation approved the establishment of four funding pillars that align with the Foundation's Vision for a Vibrant, Healthy, Fair and Sustainable Australia.

Vibrant – Arts and Culture

Healthy – Medical Research Equipment and Public Health Research Projects

Fair – Early Childhood Development and Community Wellbeing

Sustainable – Environment

What does this mean for grant seekers?

From Round 1, 2020 (**opening on 4 November 2019**) all grants will be made based on revised funding guidelines which align with each of these funding pillars.

Not-for-profit organisations can apply for grants that meet the funding guidelines of the above areas. Major grants remain by invitation only. Check the [Funding Rounds page](#) on the Ian Potter website to see when each funding area is next open.

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Parliamentary Library summer research scholarships

The Parliamentary Library offers two summer research scholarships for *postgraduate students* each year. Applications are now open and will close at midnight on Wednesday **16 October 2019**.

Scholars work alongside specialist researchers in the Parliamentary Library in Canberra for a period of six weeks to produce a report on a topic of relevance to the Library's research program. This year the library is seeking applications from candidates who have an interest in and knowledge of the following topics or a related areas: Politics and public administration, Science technology environment and resources, Foreign affairs, defence and security, Social policy, Law, Statistics and mapping and Economics.

Please see the further information and application kit provided on the [Parliament of Australia webpage](#).

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CSIRO postgraduate top-up scholarships

CSIRO is currently offering top-up postgraduate scholarships for students enrolled at an Australian University who have gained (or expected to gain) first class honours or equivalent in relevant research areas. Students must also expect to receive a Research Training Program scholarship (RTP) or equivalent scholarship commencing in the year of the CSIRO scholarship.

The students' research will be co-supervised by CSIRO and university researchers.

Full scholarships may be available in certain circumstances.

Applications close 31 October 2019.

For further details on the opportunities available, please visit: www.csiro.au/Postgraduate-Scholarships

GRDC Research Scholarship

The GRDC Research Scholarships (GRS) are available to undertake post-graduate research in areas of priority for the GRDC and its stakeholders. These scholarships are awarded based on:

- Academic excellence of the applicant
- Relevance of proposed research to the GRDC Priority Area; and
- Evidence of industry endorsement, contribution or involvement.
-

Details of the GRDC Priority Areas, eligibility and selection criteria, and application process, can be found on the [GRDC Research Scholarship webpage](#). If you have any questions please contact GRDC via email tenders@grdc.com.au.

The closing date for applications is 3pm AEST, 13 November 2019.

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Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Postdoctoral Fellowships 2020



The Australian Academy of Science invites applications from Australian researchers for the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Postdoctoral Fellowships 2020.

The JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Foreign Researchers provides opportunities for Australian postdoctoral researchers to conduct, under the guidance of their Japanese hosts, cooperative research with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions. The program aims to help such researchers advance their own research while contributing to the advancement of research in Japan and the counterpart countries. Applications are invited from suitably qualified researchers in any field of the physical sciences, life sciences, engineering technology and medicine.

Fellowships are awarded for a period of 12 (min 365 days) to 24 full months (max 730 days) and include:

- a round-trip air ticket (based on JSPS regulations)
- a monthly maintenance allowance of ¥362,000
- a settling-in allowance of ¥200,000 for eligible recipients
- overseas travel accident and sickness insurance coverage.

Application deadline is 5pm (AEDT) Monday 25 November 2019. More information is available [here](#).

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Other funding opportunities

*** Please note that all applications for external funding must be submitted to the CSU Research Office 10 working days prior to the granting bodies closing date with a completed Notice to Submit (NTS) form including all signatures*



[Australian Geographic](#). Society Project sponsorship (up to \$10,000 in four categories, science, environment, adventure, community) – Closing 30 November 2019.

[Ecological Society of Australia](#) – \$7500 - Closing 30 November 2019

[2020-21 MLA PROJECT](#) Call for sheep meat and grass-fed beef RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ADOPTION PROJECTS – Open 4 September. Closes 16 October 2019.

[James N Kirby Foundation](#) – \$15,000 Small Grants - Open 1 November and close 14 February 2020.

[National Science Week 2020 Event Grants](#) – Close 22 October

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New fact sheets – External funding



A series of **new fact sheets** have been designed to help FOS researchers to find funding, write and submit research grant applications. The sheets are ordered to assist with the steps and decisions involved in the external funding application process.

- Fact Sheet 1 – **Looking For External Research Funds**
- Fact Sheet 2 – **Grant Submission Timeline**
- Fact Sheet 3 – **Grant Writing Tips**
- Fact Sheet 4 - **Leverage Funding for Projects**
- Fact Sheet 5 – **The Real Cost of a PHD Scholarship**

The fact sheets can be downloaded from the Faculty of Science Research Pages – [External Funding Information](#).

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Writing tips



The Faculty of Science has engaged the services of Mark Filmer to edit journal articles and grant applications for staff. Mark has been working in the field of writing and editing for most of his working life.

We recently asked Mark to share a few writing tips: Following the previous tips of keeping it simple and using consistent spelling, this month we have the important tip of checking your spelling settings.

Check your spelling settings. Many papers that are sent to the editing service are targeted at journals that use US spelling, but often the paper has been written in an Australian English word document (or vice-versa). So every US spelling variant is highlighted as being incorrect. Before you start writing the paper, set your default language to the targeted journal's spelling style.

Get rid of double-spaces. Never insert a double-space after a sentence. This practice goes back to the days of typewriters and fixed-space fonts (where every character had the same width). It made sense on a typewriter, but does not on modern computers with a range of more readable, variable-width fonts. If anything, using a double-space shows your age.

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Empowering regional research

65 YEARS OF THE ACADEMY
60 YEARS OF THE SHINE DOME



If you're an Early to Mid-Career Researcher (EMCR) working in an academic or research organisation in regional Australia, mark your calendar for February 2020. The Academy of Science EMCR forum has an event coming up that has been designed with regional researchers in mind.

The Empowering Regional Research conference will be held on 12-13 February 2020 at the University of New England in Armidale, NSW. The event will create a space where researchers from diverse disciplines can explore collaborations and engage in conversations around the unique challenges faced by those working in regional and remote areas.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to join professional development workshops designed to develop key skills that can help EMCRs build successful careers regardless the sector. [More information about the event](#) coming soon.

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CSU research professional development calendar

There are a range of short Adobe Connect on line sessions available to staff and HDR candidates that may be of interest including developing a research budget, where to publish, and ethics in research involving human participants. The Professional Development Calendar is available [here](#).

Grants Workshop – Becoming grant-ready: before you apply



What are the secrets to success?

This two-part Grants Workshop, presented by **Professor Kylie Ball**, is ideal for researchers at any career stage.

Part 1 of this workshop will cover:

Why write a funding proposal; developing your own funding strategy: the what (idea), why (significance/impact), when (when should you apply), who (team, collaborators and partners) and where (identifying the right funding agency/ies;

where to apply). Basically, all the steps to do before starting to write the application. Presented by **Professor Kylie Ball**, Indigo Academy, Wednesday at 9 October at 11am. More information [here](#)

Grants Workshop (part 2) Writing a winning proposal – and what comes next

Part 2 of this workshop will cover:

What makes a good funding application; developmental work; planning writing; seeking (and providing) peer review; grantsmanship; addressing criteria; avoiding common mistakes/pitfalls; and writing tips. It will also cover “Beyond submission”, coping with funding rejections (both from a personal and professional perspective) and strategies after submission/rejection. Presented by **Professor Kylie Ball**, Friday October 11 at 11am. More information [here](#)

Research supervision masterclass



Facilitated by Hugh Kearns, this not to miss session **is targeted at experienced supervisors**. It will look at how to help both the supervisor and the student get the most out of the post-graduate research experience. It draws on the facilitator's experience of working with thousands of research students and research supervisors across the world and there is also the opportunity for supervisors to share their experiences of what works and what doesn't.

It will cover issues such as: Dealing with different types of students; Getting students to write; Getting students to show you their writing; Giving constructive feedback; Students who write too much; Students for whom English is not their first language; Motivating stalled students; Problem situations. Presented by Hugh Kearns, Flinders University and iThinkwell, Thursday, 31st October, 12:30pm, 3 hours [Register here](#)

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Write your paper in two weeks - Webinar series



The Salis Institute is accepting registrations for two research training opportunities.

- [Write your paper in 2 weeks](#) (webinar series, Thu 17 – 31 October 2019) – \$99.00 AUD.
- [Write another paper in 2 weeks](#) (webinar series, Tue 5 – 19 November 2019) – \$99.00 AUD.

Write your paper in 2 weeks webinar series

In this series of 5 live webinars, [Prof. Amanda Salis](#) will walk registrants through a step-by-step process designed to help them write their research paper in 2 weeks.

This webinar series is for anyone from any field who has research data that they would like to write up as a paper with any of the [AIMRaD-type structures](#) (**A**bstract, **I**ntroduction, **M**aterials / Methods, **R**esults **and** **D**iscussion, and variants thereof). This includes honours students, postgraduate research students, postdoctoral fellows, and anyone who wants to improve their confidence, efficiency and impact in writing original research into papers.

By the end of the 5 webinars and associated writing tasks, registrants are envisaged to have completed a solid draft of their paper ready for feedback from their Co-Authors.

For more information about this webinar series

Please [click here](#).

Write another paper in 2 weeks webinar series

This webinar series is designed for people who've completed the above webinar series.

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National Science Week celebrations



National Science Week (10 – 18 August) was celebrated with science themed morning teas on the Port Macquarie and Bathurst campuses.

The creations included bacteria spread plates, David Attenborough cupcakes, alpine meadow biome cake, DNA sequence slice and bio hazard biscuits.



Thanks to everyone who joined in the fun of National Science Week.

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Finally.... release your inner bird nerd



Celebrate National Bird Week by getting involved in Australia's largest citizen science project, the Aussie Backyard Bird Count. You can count as many times as you like over the week (21 -27 October), with each count completed over a 20-minute period.

The data collected assists BirdLife Australia in understanding more about the birds that live where people live. You don't need any specialist equipment – just your smartphone or tablet. Join the fun by registering [here](#)

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Next Issue:

If you would like to contribute a story to the November 2019 issue please send it to **Deborah or Melanie** by the **25th of October**. The next issue will be released in the first week of **November 2019**.

Until next issue.....

Assoc Prof Jane Quinn
Associate Dean Research
jquinn@csu.edu.au
FOS-ADR@csu.edu.au

Assoc Prof Sandra Savocchia
Sub-Dean Graduate Studies
ssavocchia@csu.edu.au

Deborah Munns
Research Liaison Officer
dmunns@csu.edu.au
FOS-RLO@csu.edu.au

Melanie Snell
Graduate Studies Liaison Officer
msnell@csu.edu.au
FOS-GSLO@csu.edu.au