

FACULTY OF SCIENCE RESEARCH BULLETIN



Charles Sturt
University

ISSUE 3: April 2020



Welcome to Issue 3 of the Faculty of Science Research Bulletin for 2020 and apologies it is a little later than usual!.

We understand that it's not always easy to see the positives of a negative situation, however, we can use this opportunity to learn a new skill, write that paper you've been meaning to, try something new (perhaps 3MT?) and take a step back and appreciate all we do have.

In this issue, we have some important updates from the Associate Dean Research, A/Prof Jane Quinn about managing your research, there are new funding schemes available and we would like to congratulate our HDR candidates that have just submitted their thesis and those that have been approved to graduate.

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



Amie Meads, thesis titled “Exploring Occupational Participation, Choice and Opportunities of University Students Located in a Regional Environment.”

Xinyi Zhang, thesis titled “Impacts of viticultural conditions and juice composition on the oxidative and reductive development of wine.”

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Welcome to our New Candidates



Jiang Liang - School of Agricultural and Wine Sciences, working with Leigh Schmidtke, Chris Steel, and William Donald. Jiang commenced this session full-time on the Wagga Wagga campus.

Nan Wang - School of Agricultural and Wine Sciences, working with Richard Culas and Sosheel Godfrey. Nan commenced this session full-time and will be located on the Orange campus.

Jillian Bell - School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, working with Kris Hughes, Edwina Wilkes and Sharanne Raidal. Jillian commenced this session full-time on the Wagga Wagga campus.

Claudia Macleay - School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, working with Victoria Brookes, Jane Heller and Patrick Shearer. Claudia commenced this session full-time on the Wagga Wagga campus.

Mary McQuillan - School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, working with Bruce Allworth, Marta Hernandez-Jover and Andrew Whale. Mary commenced this session full-time by distance.

Megan Porter - School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, working with Shokoofeh Shamsi, Di Barton and Xiaocheng Zhu. Megan commenced this session full-time on the Wagga Wagga campus.

Ebony Schoenfeld - School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, working with Randi Rotne and Kris Hughes. Ebony commenced this session full-time on the Wagga Wagga campus.

Kym Barry - School of Dentistry and Health Sciences, working with Narelle Patton and Kristy Robson. Kym commenced this session part-time by distance.

Joachim Bretzel - School of Environmental Sciences, working with Lee Baumgartner, Craig Boys and Robyn Watts. Joachim commenced this session full-time on the Albury campus

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Congratulations – Thesis Submissions

Congratulations to the candidates who submitted their thesis in time for census date!

Please note that examiners may take between two to three months to complete their review and provide their reports to the Research Office. When all three reports are received, they will be forwarded via the Faculty to the Principal Supervisor to discuss with the candidate.

We hope you can now take a well-earned break and wish you all the best with the examination process.

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2020 Mid-year HDR Scholarship Round – Open



The 2020 Higher Degree by Research mid-year scholarships round for candidates is now open. The round includes scholarship opportunities for both domestic and international applicants, and is open to candidates commencing in 2020 as well as those currently enrolled in a Higher Degree by Research program.

These scholarships are highly competitive and are awarded on the basis of academic merit; past research achievements and/or professional experience; alignment with Charles Sturt's Research Narrative; and the quality of the

research proposal.

Specific information on the Australian Government Research Training Program (AG RTP) Scholarships, including eligibility, award value, duration and a link to the online application form can be found [here](#).

Applications for the international scholarships will close at 5pm (AEST), on Thursday, 16 April, 2020 and for domestic scholarships will close at 5pm (AEDT) on Friday, 1 May 2020.

If you have any queries about applying for scholarships please contact graduateresearch@csu.edu.au

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3MT® @ CSU is coming soon – GET READY!



Do you want your research to change the world?
Lead to a post-doc or an industry job?
Be reported in the news?
Or just simply be understood by your family and friends?

The Asia-Pacific Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition is an academic competition that challenges PhD students to describe their research within three minutes to a general audience. 3MT celebrates the discoveries made by research students and encourages their skill in communicating the importance of research to the broader community. The winning candidate will go on to compete in the 2020 Asia-Pacific 3MT Competition held in Brisbane on Thursday 1 October, 2020.

For more information and to register your interest please click [here](#) and you can find information about how to win 3MT [here](#).

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Associate Dean Research's Update



Things are certainly challenging for us all at the moment. My hope is that we are now starting to come through the most disruptive period of immediate change in response to the emerging COVID-19 crisis, and that we can now start to think of a more 'new world maintenance' approach to our research for the coming months. In transitioning to working from home we need to think about what different research activities we can undertake in the coming months and how to maximise this time as much as possible.

This will definitely be easier for some types of research than others so if you are struggling to manage please reach out and we'll help as much as possible.

At the moment on-campus research is suspended for most staff, but we are not closed. Please keep travelling forward with your research at home, or on campus or if you have been given approval by the DVC-RE, as much as you can.

Transitioning to this new way of working, as well as juggling teaching and home commitments is not easy, so remember to give yourself a pat on the back every now and again to know you are doing a good job in these challenging and stressful times.

Make sure you also keep some social contact with your supervisors, teams and colleagues as much as possible. Having time to discuss your research plans, run new ways of working or new research ideas past your research colleagues is as important an activity as it was when we were all working face to face. Use ZOOM to set up regular meeting times with your teams, and join the research and HDR online morning teas as much as you can.

We all have a lot of questions about 'what happens next'. Keep an eye on the VC's announcements and updates, as well as emails from me (FOS-ADR@csu.edu.au) your Sub-Dean Graduate Studies Sandra Savocchia (ssavocchia@csu.edu.au), and our fantastic RLO Deborah Munns (FOS-RLO@csu.edu.au) and GSLO Melanie Snell (FOS-GLO@csu.edu.au) too. We'll keep you abreast of important information from the University related to research as soon as we have it. If you have any questions about your research, or your candidature and progress please don't hesitate to get in touch and we will do our best to answer your questions, or source the answers.

Finally, some sad and happy news. Our fantastic Research Liaison Officer Deborah Munns is moving on to a new research project officer position with the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic team at the end of this month. She has been an incredible asset to us in FOS and integral to everything we have achieved with all our Compact funding schemes over the past 3 years, as well as in assisting all our staff with their funding questions. The DVC Academic is getting a fantastic staff member in his team, and I hope you will join me in wishing Deborah all the best in her new role. She will be sorely missed by us all.

Her position will be filled in due course, I'll let you know who is stepping into her hard-to-fill shoes as soon as I know!

Please don't hesitate to drop me a line if I can help you in any way with anything research related during this COVID-19 crisis.

Please take care of yourselves, and those around you, stay safe and well, and at home as much as possible. Until next month.

Jane

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION: RESEARCH



IMPORTANT

Update for all research staff and students on suspension of all non-essential research activities.

Further to the Vice Chancellor's announcement yesterday, I want to confirm for you the current conditions required for research to be undertaken on or off-campus at Charles Sturt University.

The Vice Chancellor's communication of 29 March stated:

Research and working from home

The Commonwealth Government's current advice is for people who can work at home, to work at home and we need to staff undertaking non-essential research to work from home.

'Research deemed 'Essential' requires approval by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Engagement, Professor Heather Cavanagh by email so that we can manage access to facilities to continue research that has animal welfare implications or contractual breaches.'

What does 'essential research mean'?

Essential research is defined as any research that is necessary so that Animal Care and Ethics compliance is assured, and/or, if your research has been given approval to proceed by the DVC-RE.

Any research not in line with these requirements should now cease.

Please note possessing an externally funded project does not mean that your research is essential. Meeting funding body reporting deadlines is insufficient to give your research 'essential' status without DVC-RE approval.

Please also note that only research approved by the DVC-RE can continue. Do not assume that your research complies, you must email and ask for approval.

How do I get approval to continue my on-campus or field-based research?

Staff should email dvcre@csu.edu.au to seek permission to continue their research, noting how it fits into the essential criteria (ACEC compliance) and outlining their necessary activities for the coming weeks.

Please copy your Associate Dean Research (FOS-ADR@csu.edu.au) and, where appropriate, your Research Centre Director into your email to the DVC-RE and inform them if/when approval has been given.

If your research is approved to continue, and access to buildings / sites / equipment is required, please email Natalie Allison, Acting Technical Manager NaLSH@csu.edu.au to discuss these requirements as soon as possible.

In practice this means the following:

If you consider your research to be essential, you need to email the DVC-RE asking permission for your work to continue now.

If you do not have essential research activities under the above definitions, then all staff and HDR/Honours students have until midday Friday 3 April to finish any research activities they are currently undertaking in the laboratory or in-field.

After Friday 3 April 2020, any staff without approval for continuation of their research from the DVC-RE must be working from home until further notice.

Any questions, email FOS-ADR@csu.edu.au

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National COVID-19 Expert Database



Led by the Australian Academy of Science, Australia's learned academies, representing the nation's best and most eminent researchers across all fields, are launching a national **COVID-19 Expert Database**. The database is championed by Australia's Chief Scientist, Dr Alan Finkel AO.

We are calling on experts from a broad range of fields who can contribute to the national and global effort to tackle and recover from COVID-19 to [register on this database](#).

In this rapidly evolving situation, the database is designed to be a national resource used by decision-makers including governments, parliamentarians, the federal and state and territory medical officers, chief scientists across Australia, the research sector, the business sector, the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, the National COVID-19 Coordination Committee, and the media.

Now, more than ever, decision-makers must be enabled to readily access the expertise they need to make the best possible decisions. ***This includes consulting with experts in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, health, humanities, arts, and social science.***

As we each do our part to slow the spread of COVID-19, there is a need to enlist experts across all fields to combat COVID-19 and address its profound social, cultural and economic impacts. To guide our immediate response, the

development of a vaccine, and to inform the national reconstruction effort, we will look to scientists and other experts to inform our decisions.

[Register on the COVID-19 Expert Database](#)

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Make your research count!



Your 2014-2019 outputs must be added to CRO by **8 May 2020** to count towards promotion & research active considerations.

If you need any assistance with the process of entering your research outputs please consult the [CRO Guide](#) or contact your local [Faculty Liaison Librarian](#). Outputs-related enquiries can be directed to the [Research Outputs Team](#).

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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 of researchers, HOS and ADR.**

NEW Tri-Faculty Open Access Publishing Scheme



A **new** Open Access Publishing Scheme is now open for applications for articles published after 1/4/2020. This scheme is open to CSU researchers in all faculties.

A maximum of **\$2500AUD** is available as a contribution to open access publishing fees. For this scheme the article must be published in a 100% open access journal. Please read the guidelines before applying. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

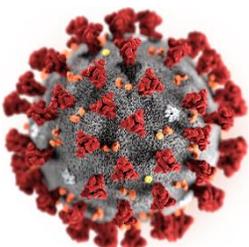
The guidelines and application form are available to download from:

[S:\Common\ Temp Folder Less Than 90 Days\Tri-Faculty Open Access Publishing Scheme](#)

If you need any further information please contact either Jane Quinn, Associate Dean Research FOS-ADR@csu.edu.au or Deborah Munns, Faculty Research Liaison Officer FOS-RLO@csu.edu.au

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COVID-19 Grants



The current COVID-19 pandemic represents an unprecedented health crisis with wide-reaching impacts on our families, our communities, our health service and our national and global economy.

To respond to this extraordinary event, the University is releasing \$200,000 of internal funding to support projects focused on understanding the impacts on the health, wellbeing, business performance, communities and economy of Australia.

Projects can be in any discipline area and with any deliverable outcome providing that these are focussed on:

- generating new knowledge regarding the impact of this virus on our people or communities;
- delivering solutions for post-COVID-19 resilience;
- economic rebuilding; or
- a combination of the above.

Amount: Up to \$50,000 per project, however, larger requests will be considered where clear justification can be given for additional funds.

Duration: Funds must be spent by **24 December 2020**. An interim report will be requested in September 2020, with a final report to be delivered by 31 January 2021.

Eligibility: This funding is for **new** projects, or novel breakthrough projects that currently do not have external funding. It is not funding for extensions of existing projects or projects that have been funded through previous internal competitive application processes. The Chief Investigator must be a current CSU employee. **Projects that involve laboratory work, animals and/or travel will not be considered at this time.**

Applications close: 5pm 24 April 2020

Guidelines, application form and detailed proposal template can be found at - <S:\Common\Temp Folder Less Than 30 Days\DVCRE\COVID-19 Research Grants>

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CSU Green Project Grants



Do you have an engaging sustainability project idea? Would you like to assist in improving Charles Sturt's sustainability performance to further our commitment toward sustainability? Sustainability grants offer students and staff from all faculties, divisions and areas of study a great way to turn a sustainability idea into

reality.

Project grants close on 24 June 2020. Information at [CSU Green](#).

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Eureka Prizes – Now open



The Australian Museum Eureka Prizes are the country's most comprehensive national science awards, honouring excellence across the areas of research & innovation, leadership, science engagement, and school science.

Presented annually in partnership with some of the nation's leading scientific institutions, government organisations, universities and corporations, the Eureka Prizes raise the profile of science and science engagement in the community by celebrating outstanding achievement. More information [here](#). Applications close **1 May 2020**.

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Other funding opportunities:

Now open: NHMRC [The Special Initiative in Mental Health](#) – Virtual network across Australia Closes 15 July 2020

NHMRC eASIA Joint Research Program 2020 – *Extension of application period* – Minimum data now 29 April 2020 & Deadline now 21 May 2020. [NHMRC Funding](#)

[The Margaret Middleton Fund](#) – Endangered Australian native vertebrate animals – Closing 1 May 2020

Australian Academy of Science – [Thomas Davies – Marine, Soil and Plant Biology](#) – Closing 1 May

Transport Accident Commission (Victoria) – [Towards Zero Community Grants](#) – Closing 6 May

The *May 2020 funding opportunities list* was emailed to all FOS academic staff on Tuesday 31 March 2020 – If you would like to receive the list, please contact Deborah Munns - FOS-RLO@csu.edu.au

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Research support and working from home



Our campus libraries are closed for now due to COVID-19, *but the **good news** is we are still here to **help** you.*

Some of the ways that we can assist you are:

Online Resources

- Bookmark links to our [online training videos](#) and [resource guides](#).
- Bookmark links to your favourite database from [the A-Z database](#) list or through the resources guides to get access to fulltext from home.
- Contact us to help you source easy to access and up to date learning resources for your subjects.
- Many eBook publishers have relaxed access to their content and we have compiled a [LibGuide](#) to additional resources that are not available through Primo.

Print Resources

- All loans have been extended to 27th June.
- Loan request options are not available and we cannot send out books for intercampus or home delivery.
- You can request copies of print book chapters to be scanned and emailed to you within Copyright restrictions.
- Interlibrary loan books cannot be sent out but scanned copies of chapters and articles can still be requested using our [interlibrary loans service](#).

Training Sessions

- Our training sessions offered through the Research Office PD calendar have been suspended for April, whilst we get used to working a bit differently, but they will resume in May, so watch for these sessions to be added soon:

Date	Title	Start Time	End Time
Thursday, 14 May 2020	Measure and promote your research: Impact and profiles	2.00pm	3.00pm
Friday, 15 May 2020	Finding funding opportunities using Research Professional database	9.30am	10.30am
Monday, 18 May 2020	Literature Review Using EndNote & NVivo – An Introduction	2.00pm	3.00pm

If you have any questions or need further assistance you can find the [Library's Faculty of Science team contacts](#).

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Research professional development calendar

There's no time like the present to explore the numerous online professional development sessions available to staff and HDR candidates. The key programs are HDR induction, the Supervisor Series and My Research Career, [learn more about these here](#).

In addition to these key programs, you may also like to check out the following that are available this month:



Data Visualisation

There are many ways to visualise and analyse research data. Visualisations and mapping can reveal and highlight trends and patterns in data that may not have been otherwise obvious. Presented by Gail Fuller, Manager of the Spatial Data Analysis Network (SPAN), this session will help participants to analyse, map and visualise their research data.

When: Wednesday 8 April, 2-3pm

Where: Online via Adobe Connect

[Register here](#)

The Reflective Supervisor: What can we learn from PREQ?

This session will provide an overview of the 2019 results from PREQ and plans to develop a similar annual student experience survey internally at Charles Sturt. It will include an opportunity for attendees to reflect upon and discuss what we can learn from the PREQ results and how the substance of the survey questions might inform the supervision and management of our HDR students.

Facilitated by Jennifer Podesta, Project Officer – HDR, the Reflective Supervisor is an online discussion forum for supervisors of higher degree research students at Charles Sturt. Each session will focus on a different topic of interest or case study to provide opportunities for supervisors to share experiences, reflect, and discuss management strategies and supervision best practice. Experienced and new supervisors are all welcome, and encouraged, to attend.

When: Wednesday 29 April, 12-1pm

Where: Online via Adobe Connect

[Register here](#)

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Finally..... I will survive



I'm sure many of you can relate to this little ditty about teachers going online! Check it out [here](#).

Please ensure you are looking after your health and wellbeing. There is lots of important information on the [My wellbeing](#) page including resources for working from home, how to access influenza vaccinations and support for your psychological wellbeing.

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Next Issue:

If you would like to contribute a story to the May 2020 issue please send it to **Deborah or Melanie** by the **24th of April**. The next issue will be released in the first week of **May 2019**.

Until next issue.....

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