



HDR Update

The iconic Canberra magpies are out in full force take care out there! And it is daylight savings time. Don't forget to change your clocks one hour forward from the 5th of October.

I'd like to update you on some important developments that affect you: the establishment of the **Graduate Research School** and progress on the replacement of the e-Forms system with a new candidature management system through the **HDR Candidature Lifecycle Project**. You can read about each of these developments below.

Check out the research from your cohort, with the [Visual Your Thesis](#) entries posted online. There is a prize for the one that gets the most views! Stayed tuned for the announcement of the judges' decision on October 21.

Professor Ann Evans

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Graduate Research)



Graduate Research School

The Graduate Research School will consolidate all the service delivery and support related to your PhD or MPhil in a dedicated team. It will be established beginning in October as part of the Research and Innovation Portfolio change plan implementation, but has been a goal of the ANU PhD Strategy over the past several years.

Why are we doing this?

The federated structure of the ANU has meant multiple layers and processes in the way HDR candidature is managed. Establishing a single consistent team working together on the common administrative and training aspects of your degree aims to reduce administrative burden on you and your supervisors while also allowing for the unique local research experience.

HDR Administrative support staff in Colleges and Schools combined with the Graduate Research Office staff will make up this team. There will still be staff located in the same places for now and they will continue to support you. The

Graduate Research School also includes the Researcher Development Team, who will continue their excellent training program to support your research skills training.

Over the next several months, the Graduate Research School staff will work together to collectively review all administrative processes supporting you as HDR candidates, to work towards clarity and equity across ANU. In the coming months I will be holding town halls to answer any questions and you have about the transition to this new state. For now you will continue to seek and receive support in the same way you always have.

HDR Candidature Lifecycle project

As part of the ANU Digital Plan, the Research Stream within Information Technology Services (ITS) is leading an initiative to enhance your experience as a Higher Degree by Research (HDR) candidate at ANU.

This initiative focuses on streamlining digital administrative processes by transitioning HDR-related eForm workflows into a new solution delivering a more efficient, user-friendly digital experience. The project has been in train for some time and we are now preparing to test the new solutions that replace the current eForms. We will soon be seeking your assistance to test the new system. Look out for further details in the coming weeks.

Research Fest 2025, Halloween Edition - The Horror of Research

Sometimes, research goes sideways. Experiments collapse. The stats betray you. Deadlines haunt your dreams. And just when you think you've got it all together... the data ghosts you.

Join us for:

- Candid HDR presentations about research methods, mishaps, and learning the hard way (Meet my Methods – Gone Wrong!)
- Expert Scary Situation sessions from the Researcher Development team
- Fun competitions like PhD as Haiku and Tattoo Your PhD
- Pizza-fuelled problem solving with a wizard/fortune

Oct 29 - 30 | [Research Fest](#)

Further Development Opportunities

ANU Disability Research Network Showcase



Join the ANU Disability Research Network for Disability Research in Conversation, a one-day event showcasing disability research at ANU. Featuring keynote speaker Sofya Gollan, the event includes panels on justice, gender, neurodiversity and Deaf film. Please register via the link below.

For further information, please contact [Molly Saunders](#) or [Laura Davy](#).

Oct 27 | [ANU Disability Research Network Showcase 2025](#)

Commission for Gender Equality in the Public Sector's PhD Program

The program presents students with a unique opportunity to undertake a PhD in partnership with government. It is open to students from the following disciplines: **social science, psychology, law and business.**

The Commission's PhD program is open to students whose work is focused on workplace gender equality with clear links or applicability to the Victorian context, and aligned with the goals and values of the Gender Equality Act 2020.



Interested applicants must be:

- Enrolled, or enrolling in a PhD program at any Australian university
- Able to financially support their research (through either a scholarship or self-funding)
- Able to regularly utilise a desk space at the Commission's office in the Melbourne CBD

For further information, including the application form, please visit the [Commission for Gender Equality in the Public Sector website](#) or reach out to [Jessica Megarry](#), Senior Research and Evaluation Officer.

Applications for Semester 1 2026 close: 31 October 2025

Journal article writing Bootcamp

Transform your research into published articles. Learn about journal selection, writing strategies, submission processes, and how to handle peer review across three comprehensive online sessions.



Nov 12 - 14 | [Journal article writing bootcamp](#)

Book a Research Consultation with Your Subject-Specialist Librarian

Whether you're refining your literature review, exploring databases, managing references, or staying current with research trends, we can help you:

- Identify and access key resources
- Develop effective search strategies
- Use reference management tools like EndNote
- Understand scholarly publishing and open access options





Alisha Nolan: subject librarian for Australian Indigenous Studies, Business & Economics

Cathy Burton: subject librarian for physical and life sciences, EndNote assistance

Nithiwadee (Wan) Chitravas: subject librarian for South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Middle East

Anne Newton: subject librarian for Law

Book a [free consultation](#) now!

October

Oct 9 | [ANUSA HDR Coffee Club](#)

Oct 9 | [Research Data Management](#)

Oct 2, 9, 16 | [Introduction to StoryMaps Training \(GIS103\)](#)

Oct 24 | [HDR Conference for the Centre for Heritage and Museum Studies](#)

Oct 31 | [Data Visualisation Competition](#)

November

Nov 17-19 | [Editing Bootcamp](#)

Nov 25 | [PR for Academics: Thinking Visually](#)

Funding Opportunities

Royal Commonwealth Society

Phyllis Montgomery Award 2026



The Royal Commonwealth Society ACT Branch invites applications for the 2026 Phyllis Montgomerie Award of up to \$5000 to help with expenses associated with a research or education project conducted in a Commonwealth country.

For guidelines, criteria, timetable, and application form, follow the [Awards link](#).

Any queries, please email contact@rcsact.org.

Applications close: 31 October 2025

From the Thesis Whisperer

Read the latest The Thesis Whisperer post: [Stuck in the middle](#)



with you

Tune in and listen to the latest Podcast Episode: If AI is the hammer, do we have the right nails?

Roll of honour of candidates approved to graduate



- Adriano Giuliani, PhD, CASS
- Anna Makushkina, PhD, CoSM
- Felix Suresh Kevin Thomas, PhD, CoSM
- Haiyang Xia, PhD, CBE
- Heran Xiong, PhD, CoSM
- Jarryd Louw, PhD, CASS
- Justin Wong, PhD, CoSm
- Mirco Lorenzon, PhD, CoSM
- Mohammad Zainuddin, PhD, CBE
- Muqin Zhang, PhD, CoSM
- Naomi Dinnen, PhD, CASS
- Penny Bronwyn Godwin, PhD, CSS
- Qianhui Chen, PhD, CoSM
- Sean Alexander Ward, PhD, CASS
- Xolile Ncube, PhD, CSS
- Zach Murray Karpinellison, PhD, CASS

Helpful services around ANU



- [Academic Skills](#)
- [Access and Inclusion](#)
- [Accommodation Services](#)
- [ANUOK Safety App](#)
- [ANUSA](#)
- [ANU Sport](#)
- [Careers and Employability](#)
- [Counselling Centre](#)
- [Pro Vice-Chancellor, Graduate Research](#)
- [Dean of Students](#)
- [Graduate Research Office \(GRO\)](#)
- [Library](#)
- [Medical Service](#)
- [Network for Early Career Academics \(NECTAR\)](#)
- [Office of Research & Innovation Services](#)
- [ANU Researcher Development](#)
- [Respectful Relationships Unit](#)
- [Security](#)
- [Statistical Support Network](#)
- [Tjabal Indigenous Centre](#)
- [University House](#)
- [Violence and Sexual Assault Support](#)

Contact

researcherdevelopment@anu.edu.au

Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor
(Graduate Research)

The Australian National University,
Canberra

TEQSA Provider ID: PRV12002 (Australian
University)
CRICOS Provider : 00120C
ABN : 52 234 063 906

