10th Annual Graduate Research Conference
September 1 – 2, 2016

utas.edu.au/research/grc
The Graduate Research Conference is the highlight of the academic year for those of us involved in graduate research. It is always scheduled to fall within the University’s Research Week so that academic colleagues and their higher degree by research candidates come together as community to celebrate research, reflect on best practice and take time to network. This year the theme of Research Week is ‘Engage, Collaborate, Innovate’, and we’ll be picking that up in the keynote address by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research), Professor Brigid Heywood, who will look at the changing landscape of higher degrees by research, where innovation and impact are the drivers for new knowledge.

This is the time when higher degree by research candidates from across the disciplines meet to network, share ideas and chat about their research. There will be a record number of posters on display this year and a legion of poster judges talking to candidates about their research. If you are not presenting a poster, do take time to browse those on display and relish the diversity of research that is happening at the University right now. You can also take the opportunity to tell us what makes a great supervisor and maybe earn your supervisor a spot prize.

Aside from the many workshops available to HDR candidates over Research Week, look out for sessions on mindfulness and on incorporating publications in your thesis during the conference. The three minute thesis (3MT) competition is always hotly contested and is a personal favourite, so do make every effort to come and soak up the atmosphere and join us for drinks and refreshments afterwards.

It is my sincere hope that the conference will provide you, as higher degree researchers, with support and inspiration, and will assist your research, now and into the future, in unexpected and productive ways. I look forward to seeing you there.

Professor Imelda Whelehan, PhD

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Training) & Dean of Graduate Research
Professor Brigid Heywood (BSc) (PhD) is Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) at the University of Tasmania. Professor Heywood has responsibility for the research and innovation strategy of the University, the University research institutes, research students, research infrastructure and commercialisation services.

Prior to taking up this position, Professor Heywood was the Assistant Vice-Chancellor Research, Academic and Enterprise at Massey University in New Zealand, where she led the development and implementation of the strategies, policies and standards to underpin its research and teaching effort. Preceding this position Professor Heywood held the office of Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Enterprise at England’s Open University. Her academic background and research career placed Professor Heywood as a leader at the intersection of medical sciences and inorganic chemistry and she has worked in diverse fields from process science to earth sciences, to advanced materials.

Throughout her academic and wider professional career she has always worked closely with business and industry, and has used those opportunities to advance her interests in enterprise and innovation as drivers to foster economic and social change and regenerate communities. In both the UK, Africa, South East Asia and more recently in NZ she has been associated with many successful IP spin-outs from Universities, has worked in developing new science parks, nurtured on-campus incubators for high growth potential businesses as vehicles to foster new modes of interactions between universities and industry and fostered student enterprise initiatives. She has said that “The opportunity to work at the interface between a university with a rich research portfolio and its various complex communities and publics to facilitate a transformation agenda was a key reason for choosing to work in Tasmania.”

Professor Brigid Heywood
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

WORKSHOP PRESENTER – PAMELA LOVELL

Pamela has worked as an Organisational Development consultant for over 20 years. Pamela’s interest in teaching MBSR came through her work with organisations where work/life balance seemed elusive and many people were finding the stress of everyday life overwhelming. Since 2007 Pamela has taught public courses in MBSR and in organisation settings. An accredited MBSR teacher with the Centre for Mindfulness, Pamela has 18 years of experience with mindfulness and has studied this work for 25 years.

Pamela Lovell
Director, Mindful Intent

WORKSHOP PRESENTER – PROF. DOM GERAGHTY

Professor Dom Geraghty graduated with a BSc Honours degree in Pharmacology from the National University of Ireland, University College, Dublin, in 1981, and completed his PhD at Deakin University, Victoria, in 1988. He moved to the University of Tasmania in 1991, establishing himself as both a teacher and productive researcher.

Dom is a long-time member of the Research Degrees Committee and its predecessors, and represents the University on Research Australia’s University Round-table. He plays an active role in developing the strategic research direction of the School of Health Sciences and the Faculty of Health, mentors many early career researchers and contributes to several career development initiatives of the University.

Prof Dom Geraghty has a broad portfolio of leadership roles that spans School, Faculty and University. He is pharmacologist with a particular interest in the potential of natural products to provide therapies for pain and immune disease.

Prof. Dom Geraghty,
Head, School of Heath Sciences
Deputy Chair of Academic Senate
A Turneresque view of the research landscape

The landscape for academic research endeavours is changing shape with knowledge exchange and transfer now at the forefront. It could be argued that the emergence of these new priorities requires the careful development of an amended framework to support researcher development, the nurturing of research and the management of intellectual capital. As an extension of this, the purposing of innovation and assessment of research impact have emerged as key pivots and they also demand a progressive and engaged response. This presentation will offer some reflections on how the doctoral challenge might be adapted to accommodate and indeed take advantage of these new drivers to the benefit of both candidates and their sponsors.

Presenter: Prof. Brigid Heywood
When: Thursday 1st September, 10:00am-12:00pm
Where: Stanley Burbury Lecture Theatre, Sandy Bay Campus
Open to: HDR Candidates, Supervisors, all Academics

An Experiential Introduction to Mindfulness

Mindfulness cultivates resilience by establishing a practice of restorative relaxation. The practice of mindfulness improves immune functioning and nervous system regulation, increases concentration, clarity and creativity, changes unconscious habits, creates new neural pathways to more positive emotions, enhances empathy and emotional regulation, and can help you to cultivate self-discipline and commitment, and access connection to your core values.

This workshop will introduce participants to mindfulness in an experiential way. Participants will learn about the benefits of mindfulness, based on long-term and current research, and take away a number of suggested mindfulness practices to try at home.

Presenter: Pamela Lovell
When: Thursday 1st September, 1:00pm-2:30pm
Where: Stanley Burbury Lecture Theatre, Sandy Bay Campus
Open to: HDR Candidates, Supervisors, all Academics, Professional Staff

Incorporating Publications in your Research Thesis

Publishing aspects of your research during candidature subjects your work to valuable peer review prior to thesis examination. In addition to allowing you to develop knowledge of disciplinary publishing conventions, HDR candidates that publish during candidature are advantaged in postdoctoral, academic and other professional job applications.

Candidates also benefit from publishable papers and submissions to journals/conferences being built into their thesis milestone plan. Such benefits include understanding and knowledge of the peer review process and an overall improvement of the quality and readability of their thesis. It also facilitates the thesis review process; prior publication gives theses reviewers the confidence that aspects of the thesis have already undergone a rigorous review process. In more general terms, research findings are available and contribute to the research community at the earliest possible opportunity.

Presented by Professor Dominic Geraghty (Associate Head Research), this workshop will summarise the basic principles of how to seamlessly include publications arising from your research into your thesis in accordance with the University’s guidelines. The workshop will also cover the recommended formats (their pros and cons), and how to plan for publication during and after thesis submission.

Presenter: Prof. Dom Geraghty
When: Friday 2nd September, 1:00pm-2:30pm
Where: Stanley Burbury Lecture Theatre, Sandy Bay Campus
Open to: HDR Candidates, Supervisors, all Academics
THREE MINUTE THESIS COMPETITION (3MT)

Friday 2 September, 2:30pm, Stanley Burbury Theatre, University Centre

The Three Minute Thesis Competition (3MT) is an oral research communication competition. Competitors must demonstrate academic, presentation and research communication skills and develop the capacity to effectively explain their research in language that is appropriate to an intelligent but non-specialist audience. The winner of the UTAS final will go on to compete at the Asia-Pacific 3MT Competition at the University of Queensland in late September.

Candidates literally have three minutes to present a compelling oration on their thesis topic and its significance to the world. Preparation of a 3MT requires candidates to consolidate research ideas, crystallise discoveries and pitch the work articulately and concisely, as if to the media. The talk should engage the audience without reducing the research to entertainment value only.

The three-minute-thesis competition (3MT™) requires a doctoral candidate to present their research using a single PowerPoint slide to a non-specialist but intelligent lay audience in 3 minutes. The competition was developed by the University of Queensland and this is the 5th year UTAS doctoral candidates are competing for the right to represent the University in a national 3MT competition.

2016 Finalists

Pearse Buchanan
Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS)

Tina Oldham
Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS)

Lavenia Ratnarajah
Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS)

Sam Cook
Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology (SET)

Jim Palfreyman
Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology (SET)

Emily Rudling
Faculty of Arts

Bruce Duncan
Faculty of Education

Lilyan Panton
Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology (SET)

Tanvi Shinde
Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology (SET)

Daniel Hoyle
Faculty of Health

Hoang Phan
Menzies Institute for Medical Research

Lucy Smejkal
Faculty of Law

Jessica Johnson-Mackinnon
Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS)

Kirstin Proft
Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology (SET)

Suzie Waddingham
Faculty of Health