Ann Ahern has joined the Office of Research Services and will be looking after workshops bookings, as well as Confirmations of Candidature and on-line Annual Progress Reports. Ann introduced a new system for registrants that will improve our service to you. Let us know what you think of it.

You can book now for the second session program;

» Preparing for Confirmation of Candidature (3 dates),
» Thesis Writing Circle
» **NEW** Intro to HDR writing for international candidates: 2 parts
» Publishing from your thesis It's a job: That means working nine to five but you get holidays
» Getting ready to write your literature review
» Presenting your research orally
» **NEW** Writing for Publication and Writing about data in higher degree research: a two part workshop.
» Final Stages

For more information and to book check out;

**Student Workshops at this link.**
Cotutelle Awarded

Dengji Zhao was awarded the grade of “Docteur en Informatique de l’Université de Toulouse” and PhD, University of Western Sydney.

Dengji received the highest grade for his oral defence. The University of Toulouse 1 official title for Dengji is “Docteur en Informatique” de “l’université de Toulouse” with the level “Très Honoré”. He has also been nominated for the best thesis award to the University of Toulouse 1.

The oral defense committee declared that Dengji’s presentation was clear and convincing and provided a nice synthesis of the dissertation which presents research of outstanding quality.

The committee was impressed by the amount of work; breadth and depth of the problems addressed. The answers to questions show the broad knowledge of the candidate and his ability to explain complex problems in simple words.

Dengji’s topic was: “Mechanism Design for Dynamic Double Auctions”

Warm congratulations to Dengji and his supervisors A/Prof Dongmo Zhang (UWS) and Prof Laurent Perrussel (Toulouse 1)

Three Minute Thesis Competition

This is the third year of the national 3 Minute Thesis Competition. Universities have taken up the offer to participate, first made by the University of Queensland in 2010, very enthusiastically and 3MT now features as a significant and much anticipated event at most universities. It captures external media attention, for example Robyn Williams, ABC Science Show, has championed it, as has Bernie Hobbs, also an ABC science communicator. It has recently been heard that the idea is growing like wildfire in Europe and North America as well. More than 25 universities from across Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific as well as a special guest from Hong Kong have confirmed their participation in the 2012 competition at UQ in October.

3MT is a terrific opportunity to showcase the work of research students in an entertaining and informative format.

This is an event for everyone, family friends and the community are very welcome; for their enjoyment but also to promote student research. Often people have little knowledge of what research students actually do and why it is important. Communicating research is a primary responsibility of anyone undertaking publicly funded work.

In the 3MT students present their work in 3 minutes with a single slide and on the basis that their presentation will understood by non-specialist audience.

James Oliver will be representing Science and Health at the UWS finals. James is working on “Bio-ethanol From Novel Substrates”
PhD Student Uses Lego Model Kit To Build a Handy Research Assistant

“Lego has the whole package,” says Daniel Strange, now a PhD student studying biomedical engineering under the supervision of Cambridge’s Michelle Oyen. “It’s got all the electronics, components, gears and motors that you need to build a prototype. And if a ten-year-old can use it, I hoped that I could.”

From Mo Costandi @mocost

Full story at; http://bit.ly/KebMSW

This article was taken from the July 2012 issue of Wired magazine.

Confirmation of Candidature

Confirmation of Candidature oral presentations can be made to a wider audience than the Confirmation of Candidature Advisory Committee. They can be held in an open setting within the School or Institute with academic staff and other candidates in attendance. The benefit of an open confirmation presentation is that the candidate receives a wider input of ideas and they can be a good exemplar for peers. Some Schools already practice this and the Research Studies Committee has advised that it should be available to all students.

Confirmation Advisory Committee

The Confirmation of Candidature advisory committee is not the same as the supervisory panel. Additional expertise should always be included, whether from inside the School of through external links. Talk to your supervisor if you have a suggestion for someone to be included on the Advisory Committee who would make a strong contribution.
**Going Overseas For Field Work?**

Then don’t apply for leave of absence, whether you are a local or international student.

If you are on leave you are not covered by insurance and you should not be using UWS resources, like the Library, or talking to your supervisor.

During leave the candidature clock stops and so does funding. You are really not meant to be doing your research while on leave.

If you are intending to undertake field work it is very wise to re-negotiate your supervisory agreements.

Contact m.krone@uws.edu.au for a list of things to consider.

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**The Rhoda Barr Australian Literature Collection at Hawkesbury**

**The Rhoda Barr Australian Literature Collection at Hawkesbury**

*Alison Hewitt*

*PhD Candidate*

*School of Health and Science*

The Rhoda Barr collection of Australian literature is a rich resource in the Hawkesbury campus library. It comprises novels and texts by Australian authors as well as works more broadly set or published in Australia.

I stumbled upon this marvelous collection quite by accident. Whilst searching for old vegetation and soil surveys in the online catalogue, a novel title caught my eye: Beyond Duck River by Angela Martin. It did not in the end contain much of botanical or ecological significance to my work, but was a very enjoyable read of historical fiction for the area, telling the story of a family that settled in Cabramatta, south western Sydney following World War I. In locating the book at Hawkesbury, I found it amongst an array of Australian titles with a plaque designating this as the Rhoda Barr Collection.

Here, are novels by Katharine Susannah Prichard such as the favourite Coonardoo, which was initially banned upon its publication in 1936 because it depicts a love story between a white man and a black Aboriginal woman. There are works by Peter Carey including his 1984 Bliss which recently toured as an Opera; and works by Tasmanian author Richard Flanagan including literary prize winning titles, such as Gould’s Book of Fish, The Sound of One Hand Clapping and his 2008, hauntingly beautiful novel, Wanting. There is Colleen McCullough, Tim Winton, Kate Grenville and Xavier Herbert on the shelves amongst others. And the collection grows each year with new additions from a trust that the Barr family established with the library some years ago.

The Rhoda Barr collection was established by retired staff-member Bill Barr, who was an agronomist and mechanics lecturer at Hawkesbury Agricultural College from 1958 through to 1978. Bill Barr established the Australian collection at the Hawkesbury library after his retirement and in memory of his beloved wife Rhoda.

After what began for me as an accidental discovery, the collection has become an area of the library that I actively seek out as a break from, but also a strengthener to, study, each enriching the other.

With thanks to Robyn Benjamin, Associate Librarian, Corporate Services for additional background to the collection.
2013 Fulbright Scholarships

To study/research in the United States

FULBRIGHT POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Package valued at up to USD 40,000, for study or research (8-12 months) towards an Australian PhD or enrolment in a U.S. higher degree. Up to twelve Fulbright Postgraduate Scholarships are offered in all fields of study, including many specifically sponsored scholarships.

FULBRIGHT POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship Package valued at up to USD 40,000, (conditions apply see website) this scholarship supports a 3-12 month research program for scholars who have recently completed a PhD and would like to pursue ongoing postdoctoral research. Available to applicants in all fields of study.

Find out more at www.fulbright.com.au

Applications open 1 June and close 20 August 2012

Vitea and Your CV

Updating your CV, job application etc and looking for words to describe your myriad skills? Research students very often underestimate the range and value of their skills.

Vitae, UK can help;


Introducing School Librarians

The Library responding to the changing needs of the UWS community recently appointed School Librarians to further support for teaching, learning and research within the new Schools, enhancing services for research candidates. Candidates within Research Centres and Groups will be supported by the School Librarian of the School to which the Centre/Group belongs.

Many candidates will have already been contacted by their School Librarian and have taken advantage of the many services on offer including:

» Induction to Library resources and services
» Advanced searching techniques including citation tracking
» Obtaining resources not held at UWS via document delivery or purchase
» Managing references
» Identifying and locating theses in your subject area
» Creating alerts to maintain currency in your field of research

Back: Paul Jewell, Linda Thomely, Kate Patrick, David Sinfield
Front: Kaysha Russell, Geoff Lattimore, Katrina Chaudhary
The Research Services Coordinator continues to provide publishing advice for research candidates, however the School Librarians will take on this role from 2013.

Below is a list of Institutes and Schools with the contact details of the corresponding Librarian for HDR candidates (not always the same person for Institute academic staff).

Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment – Katrina Chaudhary k.chaudhary@uws.edu.au or (02) 4620 3948

Institute for Culture and Society – Susan Robbins s.robbins@uws.edu.au (02) 9852 5458

MARCS Institute – Kate Patrick k.patrick@uws.edu.au (02) 9772 6408

Institute for Infrastructure Engineering – Linda Thornely l.thornely@uws.edu.au (02) 9852 5907

School of Business – Paul Jewell p.jewell@uws.edu.au (02) 9685 9358

School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics – Linda Thornely l.thornely@uws.edu.au (02) 9852 5907

School of Education – Lily Collison l.collison@uws.edu.au (02) 9772 6408

School of Humanities and Communication Arts – Kaysha Russell k.j.russell@uws.edu.au (02) 9862 5963

School of Law – David Sinfield d.sinfield@uws.edu.au (02) 9685 9101

School of Medicine – Geoff Lattimore g.lattimore@uws.edu.au (02) 4620 3390

School of Nursing and Midwifery – Rohini Patil r.patil@uws.edu.au (02) 9685 9331

School of Social Science and Psychology – Kate Patrick k.patrick@uws.edu.au or (02) 4620 3948

I strongly encourage you to make good use of the wide range of services and resources that UWS Library has to offer.

Susan Robbins
Research Services Coordinator
s.robbins@uws.edu.au (02) 9852 5458

Annual Progress Reports

On-line Annual Progress Reports (APR’s) were introduced this year for students who did not have to complete a report as part of School or Institute activities before the end of June 2012.

Students completing an on-line report have been contacted by the Office of Research Services via student emails with advice on how to use the system.

APRs are a chance to reflect on achievements and academic staff on supervisory panels and School/Institute Research and Higher Degree Committees are encouraged to give further advice that will enhance good progress.

APRs may initiate school or institute specific actions if a candidature is not progressing as well as is expected or if progress is considered unsatisfactory. Actions may include setting a series of tasks with due dates and a further review.

APRs are consulted if candidates apply for leave or an extension of candidature. It is very important to record anything that has affected your progress, for future reference.

The aggregated information from all UWS HDR candidates assists the University Research Studies Committee to review resourcing and policy directions.

Wondering what Twitter has to offer scholars?


Courtesy of; LSEImpactBlog @LSEImpactBlog
The report includes:

» A summary of work undertaken in the last 12 months, or since commencement. Advanced searching techniques including citation tracking.

» A timeline to completion

» Comment on progress in relation to expected completion

» Comments by the supervisory panel.

Reports will be reviewed by Schools and Institutes in August and by the UWS Research Studies Committee in early September.

The critical thing to remember is that problems within a research candidature are not uncommon and there are resources available that can be called upon to assist, so please use them.

Whether you are doing a report on-line or by paper it is always best to complete it together with you supervisor, if possible.

**Sunaina Presenting Her Work in Canada**

Sunaina Gowan presenting her paper “The Shifting identity of the professional workforce in Australian organisations: the Indian migrant experience” at the 2012 International Conference on Diversity in Organizations, Communities and Nations in Vancouver at the University of British Columbia on the 11th of June 2012.

Sunaina is enrolled in a doctorate in the School of Business and her Principal Supervisor is Dr Gregory Teal.

**NB; Do you see the letters “HDR” cropping up all over the place? Not sure what it means? It is a generic term in the university sector to denote research study (Higher Degree by Research). Research students are often called HDRs.**

**New Links**

» The PhD’s Guide to Academic Conferences Scientific American Guest blog; Pete Etchells.

» Sensational advice on Designing conference posters from Colin Purrington http://buff.ly/Pgp1AM
  #phdchat Great Link via Thesis Whisperer, Dr Inger Mewburn. RMIT Dr Inger Mewburn @thesiswhisperer

» How to get a job in academia when you finish your PhD http://buff.ly/P71oKJ
  #phdchat Also from Dr Inger Mewburn: Dr Inger Mewburn @thesiswhisperer

**Emerging Professions: Knowledge Broker**

A new career?

The Job Market  Emerging Professions: Knowledge Broker

By Sharon Ann Holgate June 8, 2012, Science Careers from the Journal Science

http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/previous_issues/articles/2012_06_08/caredit.a1200064
The University of Western Sydney’s (UWS) growing innovation capability was on show again at this year’s first Intellectual Property (IP) Evaluation Panel, which took place in May at the Female Orphan School, Parramatta Campus.

The UWS IP Evaluation Panel assists staff and students with their research, which may require protection and/or investment. UWS staff and students have the opportunity through UWS Innovation to present their innovations to the panel for assessment of patentability and commercial potential.

The IP panel comprised UWS academics, industry experts and a patent attorney. The broad expertise across the panel provides thorough analysis, commentary and recommendations to the presenters.

Our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Janice Reid, and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Andrew Cheetham, observed proceedings with much interest. Taylor McDonald from the School of Business was the student representative. She sat on the panel as a non-voting member.

During the day, Dr Anton Bogdanovych and Dr Chris Stanton from the School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics presented their real time controlled robot to the panel, Professor Andrew Shalliker and Michelle Camenzuli from the School of Science and Health presented their research where they have developed a single step reaction chromatography column and Mark Trudgett from the School of Science and Health presented a prototype instrument/detector for use in the field of chromatography.

Students from the School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics; Jonathan Weightman and Jarred Mack, presented their LiquidWeb Experiment. This was invaluable to the group as it was great preparation before their presentation at Australia’s CeBIT 2012 expo.

The panel was excited by the technologies presented which was strongly indicated by the great level of healthy discussion throughout the day. Our thanks to the dynamic panel members; Dr Siew-Lee Hew (Patent Attorney, FB Rice), Paul Levins (Intellectual Ventures), Derek Robinson (Agritechnology), Gar Jones (Director, ORS), Dr Ranjith Lyana-Pathirana (SoCEM), Prof Clive Smallman (SoB), Taylor McDonald (non-voting Student Representative) and Dr Fiona Cameron (UWS Innovation, Chair).

If you would like to know more about UWS Innovation and what services we provide to staff and students, please look at our website www.uws.edu.au/innovate or contact us on ip@uws.edu.au.

A group photo of attendees

Michelle Camenzuli is a PhD student, School of Science and Health who is supervised by Prof Andrew Shalliker.