Orientation

New Higher Degree Research Students joined the orientation program at Parramatta in March. Lunch at the Boilerhouse followed a welcome led by Professor Debbie Sweeney (Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) Health & Science). Speakers included students Tim Sutton and Jen Li, and a presentation by Munirah Shaik Kadir of her 2012 3 Minute Thesis talk given at the UWS finals.

Professor Deborah Stevenson (Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) Arts, Business, Soc Science) led a session after lunch for new scholarship recipients.

Tim Sutton, PhD student, at Orientation. Tim gave his insights as a current student at the Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment (HIE)

Jen Li, PhD Student, Institute for Culture and Society (ICS) speaking about the Confirmation of Candidature experience

New Higher Degree Research Students attending the orientation welcome

Lunch at the Boilerhouse
Guidelines for Editing Theses

The Dean and Directors of Graduate Study Australia have negotiated a revised set of guidelines for editing HDR theses. You can find them here: Institute of Professional Editors Limited (IPEd).

Your thesis must be your work and the role of an editor is very carefully defined so that it does not conflict with your or your supervisors responsibilities.

Candidature project funds can be used to employ an editor. Something to consider when you and your supervisor are reviewing candidature budget plans.

Why targets and deadlines don’t always work by James Hayton

How not to write a thesis from Times Higher Education

Story boarding the thesis structure by Pat Thompson

Mobile apps for searching scientific literature from Scientific American

Habits of networked academics by Joyce Seitzinger

Keeping your thesis examiner on track by Pat Thompson

Jorge Cham (PhD comics) and Comics Arts Conference

How to plagiarise by mistake by Inger Mewburn (Thesis Whisperer)

Congratulations Duong Nguyen

Duong Nguyen (PhD student) Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment, won 1st prize for her presentation: Characterisation of microbial symbionts of two thrips species and their importance for reproduction at the Australian Entomological Society - Scientific Conference.

The Australian Entomological Society is an incorporated, non-profit association which is currently gathering about more than 500 members from all states and territories of Australia.

Every year the society organises a scientific conference for all entomologists from Australia and other countries (either members or non-members of the society) to share
entomological knowledge in all its aspects in relation to Australian fauna.

There were 40 posters of both students and senior staff from different universities of Australia presented in the Australian Entomological Society - 43rd AGM & Scientific Conference in Hobart.

There was a rapid fire poster session in which each person had 90 seconds to talk about the content of the study presented on the poster.

Duong was awarded the 1st prize for her poster and the 90 second rapid fire poster presentation.

Holly Harrison's International Success

The School of Humanities and Communications Arts DCA student Holly Harrison has achieved international success with her composition ‘Frumious’ being selected for the 2013 Composer Workshop at the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music in Santa Cruz, California, July 27-31.

This is an amazing international success with an important orchestral workshop of Holly’s work with Marin Alsop, one of the world’s leading conductors of new music. Holly is one of only three participating composers chosen for this workshop internationally.

The five-day program involves three selected composers and seven participating conductors. Selected composers will have their work conducted by participating conductors, under the direction of Marin Alsop, and performed by members of the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra.

Three dedicated rehearsals will take place, culminating with an “In the Works” concert where each piece will receive two or three performances. Composers will receive recordings from the final concert.

Composition faculty, Kevin Puts, will offer guidance and seminars throughout, other Festival composers-in-residence will participate, and direct feedback will be offered from the players and conductors. For more information Cabrillo Music

Holly has also had the honour of her work being performed by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra see Holly and the MSO.

UWS Workshops open now

Click the link above to register for;

» Presenting your research orally
» Writing your Literature Review Part 1 & 2
» Managing Final Stages
» Writing your Thesis Introduction
» Writing about your data
» Publishing from your thesis
» Preparing for Confirmation of Candidature
AN 80,000 WORD THESIS WOULD TAKE 9 HOURS TO PRESENT.
THEIR TIME LIMIT.... 3 MINUTES.

TRANS-TASMAN 3MT COMPETITION

18th October, 2013
University of Western Sydney
Parramatta Campus
3pm

The Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) is an academic competition developed by The University of Queensland (UG), Australia for research students.

Competition Dates and Contacts for Schools and Research Institutions

UWS Final: August 23
Trans-Tasman October 18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School/Institute</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Competition Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MARCS Institute</td>
<td>Dr Paola Escudero</td>
<td><a href="mailto:paola.escudero@uws.edu.au">paola.escudero@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Wednesday July 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment</td>
<td>Dr Ben Moore</td>
<td><a href="mailto:b.moore@uws.edu.au">b.moore@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>To be announced shortly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute for Culture and Society</td>
<td>Dr Julie Thorpe</td>
<td><a href="mailto:j.thorpe@uws.edu.au">j.thorpe@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Tuesday August 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Science and Health/Complemed</td>
<td>A/Prof Caroline Smith</td>
<td><a href="mailto:c.smith@uws.edu.au">c.smith@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Friday July 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Science and Health</td>
<td>Dr Graham Jones</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Graham.jones@uws.edu.au">Graham.jones@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Friday July 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Medicine</td>
<td>Dr David Mahns</td>
<td><a href="mailto:d.mahns@uws.edu.au">d.mahns@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Friday July 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Humanities and Communication Arts</td>
<td>A/Prof Hart Cohen, Dr Wayne Peake</td>
<td><a href="mailto:h.cohen@uws.edu.au">h.cohen@uws.edu.au</a>, <a href="mailto:w.peake@uws.edu.au">w.peake@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Friday June 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Law</td>
<td>A/Prof Scott Mann</td>
<td><a href="mailto:s.mann@uws.edu.au">s.mann@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>To be announced shortly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Social Sciences and Psychology</td>
<td>Dr Danuta Chessor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:d.chessor@uws.edu.au">d.chessor@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Tuesday July 16 Kingswood Wednesday July 18 Bankstown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics</td>
<td>A/Prof Miroslav Filipovic</td>
<td><a href="mailto:m.filipovic@uws.edu.au">m.filipovic@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Thursday June 6 time approx 3pm-5pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Education</td>
<td>Dr Joanne Orlando and A/Prof Susanne Gannon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:j.orlando@uws.edu.au">j.orlando@uws.edu.au</a>, <a href="mailto:s.gannon@uws.edu.au">s.gannon@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Monday July 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Nursing and Midwifery</td>
<td>Dr Elaine Burns</td>
<td><a href="mailto:e.burns@uws.edu.au">e.burns@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Monday June 3 and Tuesday June 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Business</td>
<td>A/Prof Terry Sloan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:t.sloan@uws.edu.au">t.sloan@uws.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Tuesday June 4</td>
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Aimee Sing wins Ecological Society of Australia Conference prize

Aimee Sing won the ESA Conference prize for the best inaugural presentation by a student. This is a significant achievement especially considering the number of students who attended.

Aimee said ‘The ESA 2012 conference provided a fantastic opportunity to network and meet fellow researchers and students in similar and contrasting fields to my own. One of the highlights of my experience was a postgraduate day, conveniently run the day before the conference, which allowed students from different universities to talk about pressing issues in ecology, science and the current PhD format in Australia. There were a number of really interesting presentations and posters, and some great discussions and keynote symposia, which made the conference really worthwhile. I was pleasantly surprised to receive the award for best inaugural presentation which has provided me with some more confidence and motivation to continue with my research and aim towards publishing very soon. I’m very thankful to have had the opportunity to participate in this conference and hope to be able to attend more of these conferences in the future.’

Ecological Society Australia Conference site

Prize Winner Rosemary Cassidy

Congratulations to PhD student Rosemary Cassidy who won the Monash Criminology Postgraduate Award. This is awarded to the most outstanding presentation of criminological research by a current postgraduate. Rosemary’s research employs qualitative methods to explore experiences of university students as victims of crime through in-depth interviewing. Rosemary’s supervisors are Dr. Selda Dagistanli and Dr. Michael Salter.

The Monash University Postgraduate Prize, An Award for Best Presentation.

UWS Innovation

Dr Avtar Gill originally trained and worked as a doctor for 20 years before starting his IT studies at the University of Western Sydney, since then Avtar has made some great achievements and contributed significantly to the University.

Avtar’s combined knowledge of health and IT lead him to develop a health and wellbeing smart phone application.

“My work in medicine has given me an understanding of the health needs of Australian society” for which he received the 2012 NASSCOM Innovation Student Award at the CeBIT conference (pictured left). The CeBIT awards recognise outstanding achievement in the information and communication technology industry.

Avtar also attended the Innovation boot camp held at Australian Technology Park Innovations (ATPI). The boot camp explored ways to commercialise research through practical case studies, workshops and networking. The
topics touched on legal, theoretical and practical aspects of innovation, “Its best moments were when local entrepreneurs gave their experiences and lessons learnt during their journey”. The camp emphasised “the three P’s, Patience, Perseverance and Persistence” as the keys for any budding inventor/entrepreneur. “For me the Boot camp take home message was ‘If you have a dream-do it’ which is what I am doing.”

Avtar was also able to take part as the student representative in the UWS Innovation Intellectual Property Evaluation Panel. The UWS IP Panel is the University’s method of assessing a project’s commercial potential. UWS staff and students can present their innovations to the experienced panel with the prospect of securing support for provisional patent protection, full patent protection, prototype development support and general commercialisation advice. UWS Innovation and the IP Panel are keen to help students and staff with their commercial needs and to increase commercial awareness. “I have learned much from the pitches, presentation, discussions and feedback that day. I think this was an invaluable experience for any UWS student to be granted such a privileged invitation.”

If you would like the opportunity to sit on the IP panel as an HDR student representative, please contact Victoria Hirst at UWS Innovation on (02) 9685 9742 or email v.hirst@uws.edu.au

The IP Evaluation Panel dates for 2013 are:

Friday, 24 May 2013
Friday, 12 July 2013
Friday, 13 September 2013
Friday, 29 November 2013

Dr Avtar Gil and Dr Joanne Curry attending the CeBIT awards ceremony.

DCA student publishes novel of Antarctica

Jesse Blackadder’s new novel Chasing the Light: a novel of Antarctica (HarperCollins 2013) shows the outcomes of her doctoral research into the earliest women to reach Antarctica through fiction.

Jesse is a Doctor of Creative Arts student with the Writing & Society Research Centre and is due to submit her DCA thesis this year.

Chasing the Light follows the little-known journey of Ingrid Christensen, the first known woman to see Antarctica, and according to Jesse’s research, the first woman to land on the continent itself.

The book has been widely reviewed, with Bookseller & Publisher commenting “…a world that is both utterly gorgeous and terrifyingly dangerous… These women are achingly real… this is a wonderful example of painstakingly researched historical fiction from a bright Australian talent.”

Jesse’s research into the early female visitors to Antarctica has attracted wide interest. Her feature ‘Heroines on the
Ice’ appears in the March edition of Australian Geographic, and her essay ‘The first woman and the last dog in Antarctica’ won the 2012 Guy Morrison Prize for Literary Journalism. On a lighter note, her junior fiction novel about the last dog in Antarctica – inspired by the fibreglass guide dog ‘Stay’ who was kidnapped from Hobart in 1991 and remains in Antarctica today – will be published by ABC Books in July.

For more information go to: www.jesseblackadder.com.

Candidature Project Funds

Guidelines for Higher Degree Research students for the expenditure of Candidature Support Funds

These were written by the Research Studies Committee to provide additional guidance to students accessing candidature project funds and are to be read in conjunction with the policy Research higher degree candidature essential resources policy you will need your student login to access that document.

“The question for candidate project funds is NOT how much do I have?” But “What does this candidature really need?”

The policy offers a range of opportunities and with the exercise of judgement this allows Schools and Research Institutes to be flexible in what is provided to students.

An amorphous generalisation becomes a chic fit for the candidature

When applying for maximum sums;

» Requests must be justified
» Approval is at the discretion of the School/Institute
» Spending during the whole of candidature is taken into consideration
» Such requests are unusual, not made by all students, and normally not more than once per candidature

Conference travel overseas is usually taken in the second year or later and the student should be presenting. One Australian and one international conference per candidature is usual.

Candidature budgets are reviewed at Confirmation of Candidature and when completing Annual Progress reports. See the link above for more advice.

Attention all budding Entrepreneurs!
Free Business Pitch Opportunity
24 May on Werrington Campus

Have you got a revolutionary business idea or a fabulous research project? Yes? - Then test it!

On Friday May 24th 2013 one or more successful UWS students will have the opportunity to pitch their innovative project to our UWS IP Panel.

This is a great chance to get real world feedback on your idea, from a range of skilled experts with development support from the team at UWS Innovation. The panel consists of serial Entrepreneurs, Patent Attorneys, senior representatives from each of UWS’ Schools, and UWS Innovation.

Ekta Nankani, a PhD student from the School of Computing, Mathematics and Engineering had the opportunity to pitch to the panel before she took her project out to work with an external company. Ekta found the advice she received from the panel, and particularly the patent attorney, very valuable.

“One of the most challenging decisions for any research student is to manage their IP.
I was lucky to do an “Opportunity Pitch” presentation at the IP Panel and meet with senior researchers, industry experts and advocates to discuss my research topic; in return the feedback received was very valuable. Staff at the Innovation office are very supportive and always ready to guide students. Exposure to different intellectual property rights and issues, patenting, legal implications when commercialising research is quite important and all the higher research degree students should be aware of such matters.*

If you are interested in this unique opportunity to hone your pitch skills or jump out of your comfort zone and explore new territory, send an application to Victoria Hirst at UWS Innovation.

The application should be no more than 1-page long and include your contact details, a brief description of the idea and a statement about why the market needs your idea.

Submit your application via email to v.hirst@uws.edu.au by May 6 2013.

Alternatively if you would like the opportunity to sit on the UWS Innovation Intellectual Property Evaluation Panel as a student representative, we would love to have you.

If you have any questions or would like to participate please contact Victoria Hirst on v.hirst@usw.edu.au or 9685 9742.

Are you a Hawkesbury student?

Applications for the F. G. Swain Award To Promote Excellence in Postgraduate Research (Funded by the UWS Hawkesbury Foundation) are open.

The purpose of the award is to enhance the research outcomes of Doctoral students located on the Hawkesbury Campus and to promote the campus as a focus of excellence and innovation in research. It is named in honour of Prof Graham Swain, Principal of Hawkesbury Agricultural College over the period 1972 to 1988 and then as UWS Deputy Vice Chancellor and CEO of UWS Hawkesbury, one of the UWSA antecedents, from 1989 to 1993.

Prizes

The size of each annual award varies between $5,000 and $10,000 and may involve a single grant or multiple awards. 2013 Award allocation is a total fund of up to $10,000. The funds are to be spent within 12 months of notification of the award. The funds are to support a specific activity such as:

» travel for field studies or to collect research data
» additional research equipment
» running expenses for research
» software/hardware
» (* Equipment becomes University property at acquisition)

Applications Close Friday 24 May 2013

Applicants must be enrolled in a Doctoral programme at UWS, be based on the Hawkesbury Campus and be able to demonstrate good progress in their research. International, local, full or part-time students are eligible.

Enquiries:

Scholarships Development Officer, Office of Research Services
+61 2 4736 0966
HDRscholarships@uws.edu.au

A few words about PhD by Papers

At UWS PhD students may submit their examinable work as a series of published papers. All the rules are contained in the PhD Policy, see items 100 – 104.

At UWS we do this a little differently to some other universities. Papers must be accepted. This makes the role of the examiner different to a situation where the work has not yet been accepted. It also means that it is not suitable in disciplines where there are very long delays in getting papers accepted. This type of submission is most frequently identified as a plan early in the candidature but it may also be elected later in the candidature.

Usually the student will be first author, publication can be in a refereed journal, or as a book chapter in an edited academic volume and all of the work will have been completed during the candidature.

The publications are introduced with an overarching statement (min 10,000 words) that explains the research components in terms of temporal sequence and interdependence, and their contribution to the candidate’s personal and professional development, and to the field of scholarship.
The next and most important question to ask is;

**Does the scope and quality of the work meet the requirements of a PhD?**

It is possible to have four well respected papers that do not meet all of the requirements of the degree and that is what the examiner is asked to judge.

By the way; All doctorates (PhD, EdD, DCA, DCR, D Med, PhD Pol and Soc Thought, DBA) are awarded in recognition of original, independent and successful research of international standard in the discipline. A PhD candidate should make a substantial original contribution to knowledge in the form of new knowledge or significant and original adaptation, application and interpretation of existing knowledge. This is what will be judged.

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**Graduating in April?**

Warmest congratulations.

But please complete the student surveys that are sent to you. They really do make a big difference to student life by giving higher degree research academic leaders leverage to make changes for the better. It can be your legacy to future students.

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**School of Humanities and Communication Arts welcome and orientation at Bankstown and Penrith**

The Dean, Prof Peter Hutchings, encouraged students to view study as a full time 9-5 job and to cultivate relationships with other students as a source of collegial support and useful ideas. Prof Hutchings advised students that they should consider making a name early, starting off with conference papers and building up. His other (strong) advice is to write early.

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Footnotes is produced by the Office of Research Services.
For comments, questions or contributions please contact Mary Krone, m.krone@uws.edu.au