

# SWINBURNE CELEBRATES RESEARCH CONFERENCE 22-23 JUNE 2017



## PRESENTATION SYNOPSIS - DAY 1

### 9:40 **Keynote Presentation**

***Ms Leanne Harvey***

Ms Leanne Harvey will speak about the role of the Australian Research Council in supporting excellent Australian research, including funding opportunities for early career researchers.

### 10:30 **Mentoring**

***Prof Lester Johnson***

***Heidi Krebs***

***Yashaswini Vegi, PhD Student***

In this practical session Professor Lester Johnson will provide a framework which highlights the key points on being an Academic Mentor. Industry expert Heidi Krebs will talk about the two way relationship of mentoring a PhD student. Whilst, Yashaswini Vegi, who is currently undertaking the PhD Mentoring program, will offer her own unique perspective.

### 13:30 **Panel Discussion: Transitioning to a Research Career**

**Concurrent  
Session**

***Chair: Prof Lisa Given***

***Panel: Dr Nishar Hameed (ARC DECRA)***

***Dr Luke Downey (NHMRC ECF & CDF)***

***Dr Amie Hayley (NHMRC ECF)***

This panel session will explore the perspectives of three early career researchers who have successfully moved from their PhD research into an academic career, acquiring ARC and NHMRC funding to support their research interests. They will discuss the things during their PhD studies that provided the groundwork for their success, what lessons they have learned from the challenges they experienced, and who helped them along the way to get there.

The diverse perspectives of the speakers will show that while transitioning from a PhD to an early career research position can be challenging, various outlets exist to provide you support along the way, and there are a range of strategies that you can use to get there.

### 13:30 **Securing Research Opportunities and the Cost of Hesitation (Parallel Session)**

**Concurrent  
Session**

***Sue Barret, Managing Director Barrett***

This session focuses on the commercial, behavioural and psychological realities that are key to making Research a viable business stream for Swinburne University. Underpinned by three core business pillars: Strategy, Process and People, Sue Barrett will focus on helping you answer the following questions:

- **Strategy:** What does opportunity look like? What are you offering that is of value? Who is your target market? Why should they choose you? How do you find and win more research opportunities?
- **Process:** What can you learn from Natural Self Promoters? What does 50 years of empirical research reveal? What are the key processes you need to have in place and what are the core activities you need to do to consistently find and secure viable research opportunities?
- **People:** What personal qualities do you need to cultivate to proactively find and win viable research opportunities and build strong client partnerships in the 21st Century? How can you avoid the huge cost of hesitation? Why do too many people miss and lose opportunities as a result of the fear of hesitation?

Finding your answers to these questions will help you build your go-to-market action plan and navigate your way to finding and winning more research opportunities.

## PRESENTATION SYNOPSIS - DAY 1

### **14:30 Panel Discussion: Working with Indigenous Communities, the Key Issues**

**Chair:** *Prof Andrew Gunstone*

**Panel:** *Jill Gallagher AO*

*Terry McEvoy*

*Assoc Prof Kurt Seeman*

*Angela Burt*

This session will explore the key things to consider for conducting research with Indigenous communities, such as the ethical protocols that should be followed to ensure that the research is respectful of the perspectives of Indigenous peoples, how to engage with Aboriginal community controlled organisations to establish effective research partnerships, and how to ensure that any research is conducted in a culturally safe way.

This session will begin with a talk led by Jill Gallagher, CEO of the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO). Jill will discuss what VACCHO does and the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled organisations like VACCHO, and also how researchers might go about connecting with VACCHO and organisations like it to improve research quality and enhance outcomes for Indigenous communities. This will be followed by a discussion from each of the speakers about their varied experiences in engaging with community, and what they have learned from them. These discussions will demonstrate the diversity of Indigenous Australia, and the wide range of insights and innovative ideas that can be provided through engaging respectfully with Indigenous peoples and their perspectives.

### **16:00 Research Showcase: Astrophysics**

**Prof Matthew Bailes**

The ARC Centre of Excellence for Gravitational Wave Discovery (OzGrav)

100 years ago Einstein completed one of his greatest works, the General Theory of Relativity (GR). One of its predictions is that if stars can collapse to sufficient density they will form black holes, objects that have gravity so strong that not even light can escape them. Another of Einstein's predictions is that any two objects orbiting each other should radiate an obscure form of radiation known as gravitational waves. These waves are so feeble that Einstein himself thought they would never be detected.

Emitted gravitational wave power is at its peak when two black holes collide and last year astronomers announced that they had detected gravitational waves for the first time. In 2017, the ARC funded OzGrav, the ARC Centre of Excellence for Gravitational Wave Discovery led by Professor Matthew Bailes with its headquarters at Swinburne University of Technology. In this talk Professor Bailes will describe the 100-year quest to find and detect gravitational waves, and the research that will be pursued in the lifetime of the Centre. The talk will be aimed at the intelligent lay academic.

### **16:30 Research Showcase: The Future Self and Design Living Lab**

**Assoc Prof Sonja Pedell & Assoc Prof Simone Taffe**

The Future Self and Design Living Lab has core development capabilities in the area of innovative socio-technical systems and design solutions for health and wellbeing with a focus on older adults. This presentation will give an overview about key projects, the emotion-led design methodology and objectives of the Living Lab showcasing experiences working with community organisations (ACCESS, Health and Community, City of Wyndham and City of Boroondara) on holistic solutions in combining technology use, interior architecture and social interactions. We also talk about the benefits of integrating students in Living Lab projects and collaborating with our industry partners.

## PRESENTATION SYNOPSIS - DAY 2

### 9:40 **Keynote Presentation**

***Laureate Prof Peter Doherty***

Professor Doherty will speak on the challenges faced by researchers in today's society/political climate.

### 14:00 **Panel Discussion: Sustainable Value Proposition for Industry Research Engagement**

***Chair: Prof Matthew Cuthbertson***

***Panel: Anita Kocsis***

***Prof Jo Barraket***

***Prof Bronwyn Fox***

There are a few simple rules for success in creating a sustainable research engagement with industry eg

- Take care to understand the industry partner's needs
- Assemble a team with the right skill set to tackle the problem
- Make realistic promises, and deliver on them!

Leveraged funding from government programs can support the development of partner relationships and delivery on projects at various stages, but the funding is only a means to an end – and not an end in itself. The expert panel will work through some practical examples to illustrate both successful strategies, and common mistakes - and how to learn from both

### 15:30 **Panel Discussion: Disseminating and Communicating Your Research**

***Chair: Prof Mirko Bagaric***

***Panel: Julia Scott***

***Prof Alan Lau***

***Amanda Dunn***

Considering how to develop and disseminate your research so it achieves the greatest impact? Speakers in this panel session will explore key strategies that can help increase your citation rate, and expand the broader reach of your research both inside and outside of academic contexts. Key points that will be addressed include:

- How to massage your research writing to fit the requirements of upper quartile journals
- Where and how to disseminate your research so that it reaches the most relevant stakeholders
- Presenting your research in ways that allow it to be taken up in popular news stories
- Contrasting formats and delivery methods
- Dealing with nervousness
- Presentations, lectures and other formats
- Radio, Television and Print media
- Using effective communication to secure funding