

# Realising Potential: SOAR Ambassadors & Trained Research Support Coordinators

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# The SOAR Centre

Support Opportunities  
Advice Resources



# What is the SOAR Centre?

**S**upport for building research, professional skills & cultural transition

**O**pportunities for professional & career training & development

**A**dvice for peers and staff: in-person, online, group workshops

**R**esources for peers and self

Ambassadors go through comprehensive regular training as part of their employment, which emphasises boundaries in their role, and when, how and where to escalate issues.

# Supporting Student Wellbeing

- **Referral to relevant University Services - Academic & Admin.**  
Includes: Research consultants, writing advisors, ethics, library, supervisors, thesis examination, scholarships, visas, HDR coordinators, counselling, housing etc.
- **Safe and Friendly Contact Point.** As current students, understand issues with similar experiences
- **Support International Students.** Extra information and advice, settling in, especially during induction. Ambassadors come from a range of diverse backgrounds.

# Building Skills & Reducing Isolation

- **Academic Development.** Provide peer support for a range of academic and research related issues. See [“Meet Your Ambassadors”](#).
- **Run small group workshops** (SOAR Sessions) on a range of topics. These gatherings facilitate peer networking and help build confidence and introductory skills i.e. some students feel embarrassed asking 'stupid' questions like how do I do this, when it seems basic..
- **Host social events** to help students with study-life balance.
- **Off campus student support** through regular email or phone contact



# Coordinators, Research Student Support

x3

# Coordinators, Research Student Support

Assist students and/or supervisors with confirmation of candidature requirements, milestones, reporting, initiating change of supervisor , policy and procedure support, referrals and general advice

- **Individual induction** for all commencing HDR candidates. Allows candidates to ask questions pertinent to their journey and situation
- **Ongoing individual advice** with reminders about milestones to help candidates identify priorities
- **Pastoral care** including life issues such as home sickness, maintaining positive supervisor relationships, cultural and learning adjustments.