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National Meeting 15-16 April, 2024

G30 Lecture Theatre, Ground Floor, Western end of the Adelaide Health & Medical Sciences (AHMS) Building, University of Adelaide

Day 1: Monday 15 April

8:30 am	Registration	
9.00 am	Welcome & overview	Professor Clive Baldock, Dean of Graduate Studies & Researcher Development, Western Sydney University & ACGR President
	Welcome to Country	TBA
9.15 am	Welcome and introduction from University of Adelaide & University of South Australia	Professor Marnie Hughes Warrington, Standing Acting Vice Chancellor, UniSA TBA
	Session 1 – Looking ahead: Higher education and graduate research post Australian Universities Accord Chair: Professor Clive Baldock	
9.30 am	With the recent release of the Australian Universities Accord Final Report, the keynote panel will discuss the future of the higher education landscape and the implications for graduate research over coming years.	Professor Marnie-Hughes Warrington, Standing Acting Vice Chancellor, UniSA Professor Andrew Norton, Australian National University
10.30 am	Morning Tea	
	Session 2 – Supervisor training and professional development Chair: Professor Chris Abbiss	
11.00 am	It is a responsibility of institutions to provide appropriate training, education and support to supervisors. The purpose of this session is to discuss the management, structure, delivery and content of supervisor professional development across the sector.	Dr Jeanette Fyffe, Deakin University Professor Nellie Georgiou-Karistianis & Professor JaneMaree Maher, Monash University Dr Sarah Kinkel Miller, University of Technology Sydney
12.00 pm	Lunch	
	Session 3 - Fostering industry engagement: why and how Chair: Professor Wendy Wright	

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1.00 pm	Federal Government incentives are driving the emergence of various mechanisms to support graduate researchers to engage with research end-users. This session will explore the value proposition for candidates, for universities and for industry partners and discuss some examples of successful approaches including co-designed / co-funded projects and internships).	<p>Professor Carolin Plewa, University of Adelaide</p> <p>Professor Andrew Barton, Federation University</p> <p>Professor Phil Parker & Michelle Lopez, Australian Catholic University</p>
2.00 pm	Session 4 - Psychosocial safety and its importance in Higher Degree Research Chair: Professor Louise Sharpe	
	One of the risks in Higher Degree Research (HDR) training is creating an environment in which HDR students can experience a transformative research training. An environment of psychosocial safety is crucial to allow this. This session will examine psychosocial safety climate theory and discuss how it is relevant to the tertiary sector and HDR training specifically.	<p>Professor Maureen Dollard, University of South Australia</p> <p>Dr Amy Zadrow, University of South Australia</p> <p>Dr Daniel Nesor, University of South Australia</p>
3.00 pm	Afternoon tea	
3.30 pm	Session 5 – Research Study in the Era of AI Chair: Professor Justin Zobel	
	The emergence and growth of a wide range of AI tools is bringing many changes to the research environment. On the one hand is the enhancement of capability that these tools can bring to all researchers, in areas as diverse as data interpretation, creativity, visualisation, and exploration – and for some the innovation or discovery in their work may directly rest on an AI methodology. On the other hand these tools are easily misapplied in the hands of naïve users, while they enable shortcuts or even deceptions that undermine the purpose of research degrees. This session will explore the concept of AI literacy in the context of research and discuss approaches to management of both the opportunities and risks of use of AI in research study.	<p>Professor Justin Zobel, University of Melbourne</p> <p>This session will involve small group discussion, Q & A, and interactive activities.</p>
4.30 pm	Day 1 close	
6.30 pm	Conference dinner Ayers House, 288 North Terrace, Adelaide	

Day 2: Tuesday 16th April

8:45 am	Coffee		
	Session 6 – Special Interest Groups (G30 Lecture Theatre/ Chairs: Professor Ann Evans, Professor Imelda Whelehan, Professor Clive Baldock		
9.00 am	<p>HDR candidates wellbeing Chair – Professor Ann Evans (AHMS Level 4 – Room 4050b) Ensuring the wellbeing of research candidates encompasses more than the provision of mental health support. This session is an opportunity to share wellbeing initiatives and to consider the boundaries of support that universities can and should provide.</p>	<p>Review and governance of agreements Chair – Professor Imelda Whelehan (AHMS Level 4 – Room 4050a) Considering the volume of agreements coming through from industry, government, and philanthropic sponsors among others this session will explore issues such as who reviews, and risk manages? What is needed to protect a) university b) candidates c) supervisor’s ability to utilise/publish findings resulting from a partnership. Are prospective partners inclined to ask for too much? What is the TEQSA view on 3rd party agreements?</p>	<p>Developing a National Researcher Development Framework Chair- Professor Clive Baldock (AHMS G030 Lecture Theatre) Recommendation 26 in the recent Australian Universities Accord Final Report refers to “ensuring that training in entrepreneurial, business, teaching and leadership skills is offered through additional qualifications in parallel with research training in preparation for careers beyond academia”. This session will be an opportunity to contribute to a discussion regarding ACGR developing a Graduate National Researcher Development Framework.</p>
10.00 am	Special Interest Group report back		
10.30 am	Morning Tea		
	Session 7 - Challenging conversations, mediation and HDR complaint resolution – sharing best practice Chair: Professor Imelda Whelehan		
11.00 am	<p>Like most conflicts, issues involving research candidates usually start small; however, they can quickly get out of control. By the time you intervene, the solution is not likely to be an easy one, placing a considerable burden on you and stretching your skills in conflict resolution. Formal complaints are relatively infrequent because of the vulnerabilities individual candidates express in relation to the successful completion of their research and even the impact on their future careers because the complaints are often about their academic supervisors. Graduate Deans and postgraduate coordinators are often left to attempt to engineer solutions</p>	<p>Professor Jeremiah Peiffer, Murdoch University Professor Sandra Orgeig, University of South Australia Diana Reed, University of Adelaide</p> <p>This session will involve a short presentation and collegial conversation about best (and worst) practices in HDR complaint resolution. There will be some small group work considering questions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do academics have access to PD regarding difficult conversations? • How effective are informal complaint management processes? • Do you have mediation processes for early dispute resolution? 	

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	in an ultimately broken situation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there an advocate/dean of students function at your university? • What stops candidates raising concerns early on and are there preventative processes that help (eg. Shared expectations process) • What if a cohort complains? • When is it time to break apart the supervisory arrangement?
12.00 pm	NZ DDoGs ARTN Update Sponsor Updates	Tracy Riley, Massey University Catherine Murphy, Macquarie University & ARTN Committee member TBA
12:30 pm	Lunch	
	Session 8 – Selecting HDR Candidates Chair: Professor Ann Evans	
1.30 pm	Many challenges in HDR programs occur when the candidate is not the right fit for a project or for the program. Research candidates are typically with us for 3-4 years and work in a similar way to junior employees within an institution. However, the selection criteria and process is often quite different for staff and student applicants. This session explores different approaches to candidate selection.	<p>This session will involve small group work considering questions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What factors should be considered in selecting research candidate? Should these differ for PhD and MPhil? • What mechanisms could be used to ensure candidates are fit for the role? • How should we support supervisors in recruitment and selection? • How do you ensure your selection process is robust across an institution?
2.30 – 2.45	Meeting summary and closure	Professor Clive Baldock, Western Sydney University & ACGR President

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