



HDR Update

The rain is providing a refreshing end to summer. The weather is still warm enough to enjoy all the March activities Canberra has to offer.

Our February Thesis Bootcamp was our largest ever, with 91 HDR candidates participating and generating over 650,000 words across three focused days. The energy, commitment and collective momentum were extraordinary! A powerful reminder of what structured time, community and accountability can achieve.

Looking ahead, HDR Induction Week (7–10 April) will welcome our newest research candidates to ANU, setting them up for a strong start to candidature.

For those approaching a key milestone, Prof. Mewburn will be hosting a three-day Confirmation Bootcamp (17, 24, 31 March) to support candidates preparing for their confirmation of candidature. This online bootcamp is designed to help candidates understand exactly what examiners are looking for, map their research clearly, and submit with confidence.

Professor Ann Evans

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Training)



Improvements to the Program Leave Request in ANUHub

Since launching the new Program Leave Request in ANUHub (December 2025), we've been listening closely to feedback from both HDR candidates and staff. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to share their experience — your

input genuinely shapes how we improve our digital systems.

We're pleased to share several updates now live in ANUHub, all designed to make requesting and managing program leave simpler and more intuitive.

What's New for HDR Candidates

- ANUHub tile renamed to "Program Leave Request"
Better reflects that this request is for Program Leave, not Recreational Leave.
- You can now cancel a submitted leave request
Ideal if plans change before or after approval.
- New pop-up message for Personal Leave requests
A gentle reminder that Personal Leave should not be used for recreational leave in the Program Leave Request.

Your feedback continues to guide our improvements — please share your thoughts via the [Feedback Form](#).

What's Next?

We're getting very close to introducing the RRRR Training Milestone as a mandatory requirement for HDR candidates. This update follows extensive consultation and formal approval by the University's Academic Board as part of the 2024 HDR Milestone Review. The focus of this milestone is to strengthen safe, respectful and well-supported research environments across ANU.

More information will be shared soon — please keep an eye on your email and the [Graduate Research School SharePoint](#) for updates.

Development Opportunities

Journal Article Writing (JAW)

Bootcamp

Ready to get your research published? Are you writing journal articles as part of your PhD, or do you want to publish them to boost your CV on graduation? This intensive 3-day boot camp covers everything you need to know about academic publishing.



- Day 1: Focus on writing professional articles and overcoming writer's block.
- Day 2: Cover publication strategy, journal selection, author contracts and avoiding predatory publishers.
- Day 3: Tackle the submission process, peer review responses, and authorship considerations.

Each session builds practical skills through hands-on activities and real-world examples. Perfect for HDR students ready to build their publication portfolio and gain confidence in the academic publishing world.

Mar 11 - 13 | [JAW Bootcamp](#)

Oxford PhD Exchange (ANU to Oxford University)

The Oxford PhD Exchange (ANU to Oxford University) is a research candidate exchange program between Oxford University and the ANU. The exchange aims to enable excellent PhD scholars to enrich their research in an international setting.



The Oxford PhD Exchange is a tremendous opportunity for ANU Higher Degree Research (HDR) candidates to engage in independent research at Oxford University, audit classes, attend workshops and, network with academics working in their field. This opportunity is open to all disciplines.

Applicants can apply for an exchange period of one academic year, or one or two academic terms. Depending on the duration of the exchange period, ANU is able to nominate one or two HDR candidates each application round.

For further information and eligibility, please follow this [link](#).

18 Mar | Applications close

HDR Induction Week

Join us for a comprehensive 4-day long induction program designed for new HDR researchers at ANU. This in-person event features workshops, information sessions, and social activities to help you navigate your research journey and connect with peers across the university.



- Day 1: Welcome and Foundations
- Day 2: Research Project Management course OR Excursion, Social Event
- Day 3: Skills and Support
- Days 4: College and School Events Connection

Apr 7 - 10 | [HDR Induction](#)

Apr 8 | [Scholar's Dinner Registration](#)

Apr 8 | [Excursion](#)

Managing Research Data at ANU Training Module

Are you interested in strengthening your research practice? Explore our new online training module "[Managing Research Data at ANU](#)".



Built on the PAI-C framework, this self-paced course gives you practical, reliable strategies for planning, organising, storing, and sharing your data throughout the entire research lifecycle. With clear examples, flexible learning, and tools you can put to work right away, the module supports you in meeting

institutional and funder expectations while developing confident, sustainable data practices.

Please email repository.admin@anu.edu.au to request enrolment in this course.

March

- Mar 4 | [Research Ethics Drop-in Session \(In Person\)](#)
- Mar 4 | [Canberra Innovation Network - First Wednesday Connect](#)
- Mar 5 | [Oral Exam Drop-in](#)
- Mar 5 | [ANUSA Shut Up and Write Session](#)
- Mar 10 | [Female Founders Panel](#)
- Mar 12 | [ANUSA Shut Up and Write Session](#)
- Mar 16 | [Research Ethics Drop-in Session \(Online\)](#)
- Mar 17, 24, 31 | [Confirmation Boot Camp](#)
- Mar 18 | [PR for Academics: Writing for newspapers and magazines and The Conversation](#)
- Mar 19 | [PR for Academics: The Business of Writing](#)
- Mar 19 | [Accelerating Canberra's Energy Transition - Electrification of Transport, Buildings & Other Sectors](#)
- Mar 24 | [Fireside Chat with Instaclustr Founder Peter Lilley](#)
- Mar 25 | [Idea to Impact - Finding Market Need](#)
- Mar 26 | [PR for Academics: Telling Great Stories](#)
- Mar 30 | [Leaving academia: what are your transferable skills?](#)

April

- Apr 1 | [Oral Exam Drop-In](#)
- Apr 1 | [Research Ethics Drop-in Session \(In Person\)](#)
- Apr 8 | [Research Project Management Workshop](#)
- Apr 13 | [Research Ethics Drop-in Session \(Online\)](#)
- Apr 23 | [Prepping for Academia](#)
- Apr 23, 30, May 7, 14 | [Finding Balance – Skills for an Effective Relationship with your HDR Supervisor](#)
- Apr 29 | [Research Ethics Drop-in Session \(In Person\)](#)



From the Thesis Whisperer

Read the latest The Thesis Whisperer post: [Reducing the cost of your digital academic life](#)

Tune in and listen to the latest Podcast Episode: [Planning for 2026, fashion influencer style!](#)

Roll of honour of candidates

approved to graduate



- Fedor Kovalev, PhD, CoSM
- Hanwen Bi, PhD, CSS
- Henry Zhu, PhD, CSS
- Jennifer Munt, PhD, CASS
- Jiazhen Xu, PhD, CBE
- Jiwon Lee, PhD, CoSM
- Kathleen McDermott, MPhil, CLGP
- Leena Amrutha, PhD, CoSM
- Michael Carne, PhD, CAP
- Peidong Shen, PhD, CoSM
- Romitesh Kant, PhD, CAP
- Tom Lea-Henry, PhD, CoSM
- Yitian Chen, PhD, CSS

Helpful services around ANU



- [Academic Skills](#)
- [Access and Inclusion](#)
- [Accommodation Services](#)
- [ANUOK Safety App](#)
- [ANUSA](#)
- [ANU Sport](#)
- [Careers and Employability](#)
- [Counselling Centre](#)
- [Pro Vice-Chancellor, Graduate Research](#)
- [Dean of Students](#)
- [Graduate Research Office \(GRO\)](#)
- [Library](#)
- [Medical Service](#)
- [Network for Early Career Academics \(NECTAR\)](#)
- [Office of Research & Innovation Services](#)
- [ANU Researcher Development](#)
- [Respectful Relationships Unit](#)
- [Security](#)
- [Statistical Support Network](#)
- [Tjabal Indigenous Centre](#)
- [University House](#)
- [Violence and Sexual Assault Support](#)

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