

Graduate Research School
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Message from the Dean



Welcome to the August edition of Graduate Research News.

August and March are key months in the Graduate Research School calendar as the 31st of each month defines the census dates for enrolment of new students and completion for many other students. To all new students who arrive in Sydney this month, welcome to UNSW. Please join us at the Orientation for new students that will be held on Tuesday 26 August at 5pm in the John Niland Scientia Building. To those of you in the final stages of thesis writing, we look forward to celebrating with you as you hand in your theses later this month and move onto your new careers and life after your PhD or Masters degree.

In the last few months I have had the pleasure of visiting both Thailand and Malaysia to meet with prospective students thinking about undertaking a research degree at UNSW as well as UNSW alumni. One of the new projects the Graduate Research School has initiated this year is the establishment of an international research mentor network to offer prospective students contact with a UNSW alumni in their home country. We have had an enthusiastic response

from PhD and Masters graduates in Thailand and Malaysia, the first two countries that we are setting up the networks in, and I was fortunate to meet with a number of these students during my recent trip. If you are a current international research student, we will be inviting you to join these networks once you graduate. We hope that the first hand experience that you provide to students in your home countries will assist them in making important decisions regarding their research degrees.

Margaret M Harding

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Strategy)

Dean of Graduate Research

Important Dates & Upcoming Events

- 6 Aug - Thesis Writing Support Program ([Learning Centre](#))
- 14 Aug - Writing Selection Criteria & Resumes for Academic & Research Jobs ([Careers & Employment](#))
- 15 Aug - Applications for Library spaces close
- 27 Aug - Procrastination & Time Management ([Counselling Service](#))
- 27 Aug - International Researchers U-Nite ([ISS](#))
- 31 Aug - Census Date
- 1 Sept - Last day to enrol or vary your enrolment

Arc - Your Student Organisation

What is Arc?

Arc is UNSW's student organisation that helps you get more out of your time at university. Students can join Arc any time and gain access to career development opportunities, on and off campus discounts, events and parties, free legal advice and support services. Arc exists to support you throughout your postgraduate degree by making it a more dynamic and rewarding experience.

Members' Postgraduate Lounge

Arc's brand new Postgraduate Lounge is for you to meet with your fellow postgrads and relax (see following article).

Member Discounts and Benefits

Arc provides you with a range discounts and benefits on and off campus. On campus we provide discounts on products in our Arc retail stores, plus specials at the Unibar, Quad Food Court, UNSW Bookshop and Kudos Gallery @ COFA. Members receive a Welcome Pack on joining, with over \$400 worth of savings on goods and services. Members enjoy free access to computer labs, music rooms and meeting rooms. We also work with a range of local and national retailers off campus to provide special offers and discounts for our members.

Legal and Support Services

Arc provides you with free support services to assist with your study. We offer free legal advice and advocacy services to help you with any situation. This includes academic issues such as requesting special consideration or intellectual property contracts, as well as off campus legal issues such as tenancy problems.



Career Development – Secondary Testamur

Arc runs a wide range of volunteer programs aimed at helping students develop leadership, project management and communication skills. By volunteering, you gain skills recognised by employers through an official UNSW Secondary Testamur received upon graduation.

Networking and Connecting

We have over 150 clubs and societies bringing people together. Members also participate in Faculty societies and Arc clubs dedicated to postgraduate students such as the Commerce and Economic Postgraduate Executive Council (COMPEC). Clubs offer you great networking opportunities and a way to meet like-minded people.

Events, Activities and Parties

Arc hosts an array of events, activities and parties for you to attend. This social calendar includes activities such as Live Music, Pool Competitions, Foundation Day, Trivia and Session Parties where members receive free or discounted entry.

Arc is here to support you by helping you get connected, increase your career opportunities and save money. Be a part of it and join Arc.

To find out more, visit our website at www.arc.unsw.edu.au.

Postgraduate Lounge Launch – All Postgrads Welcome!

It's here!! The amazing Postgraduate Lounge, exclusively for postgrad Arc Members is ready for students to use. This stylish Lounge is a social space for relaxing, meeting up with friends or classmates, planning, study groups and research. Decked out with modern furniture and artwork, the Lounge is the perfect place to interact, unwind, or just get some peace and quiet.

Located on the Ground Floor of the Blockhouse, the Lounge features:

- Lockers for hire
- Kitchenette with dishwasher, crockery, cutlery, kettle, tea and coffee supplies
- Meeting areas with dividable walls
- Breakout rooms
- 4 x PCs with internet access
- Overhead data projector and screen
- Huge plasma flatscreen TV with Foxtel and



DVD/MP3 capabilities

- WiFi zones
- Dining table for 10

The Lounge will be available for use from Wednesday 6 August. Operating hours are 9am – 9pm Monday to Friday during Semester (swipe access is via your activated Arc Member card). Bookings can also be made at Arc Reception.

To celebrate the opening of this amazing venue, all UNSW postgrads are invited to:

Postgraduate Lounge Launch

Tuesday 5 August

5-8pm

Free nibbles, wine and music

Attention Female Mature-Age Students

Please come and join us for a delicious wine, cheese and chat night. Dedicated to mature-age women at UNSW (though all women are welcome), this event will give you a chance to relax with other women in a warm, comfortable environment. You do NOT have to be an Arc member to attend.

Where: Club Bar, on top of the Roundhouse

When: Wednesday August 13 (Week 3), 5-7pm

RSVP: by Thursday August 7 to women@arc.unsw.edu.au

unsw.edu.au

To help you make merry, one drink voucher will be given to each mature-age woman*.

This event is brought to you by the Women's Department and the Post-graduate Department of ARC, your Student Representative Council.

*You're classified as mature-age if you're post-grad, 21 or older when you started your current degree, or if you've been at uni longer than usual.

Postgraduate Research Student Study Space - Places Now Available!

Are you a UNSW research student who requires library access and a quiet location on-campus to conduct



your research away from the distractions of home?

There are currently some available

places for exclusive or shared use of computer-equipped workstations in the Postgraduate Research Student Study Space in the UNSW Library.

Applications are open until August 15, 2008. For further information please visit:

www.grs.unsw.edu.au/resources/libspace.html

AUGUST 2008

Volunteers wanted for Electroencephalography (EEG) and behavioral research study

Research relates to visual perception and attention and is conducted in the School of Psychiatry.

Participation time is approx 2-3 hours and subjects receive \$25 reimbursement of their costs.

Please contact Tamara Powell at t.powell@unsw.edu.au or on 9382 9267 at the Black Dog Institute for more info.

BLACK DOG INSTITUTE



Research Student Skills Development Wallplanner



The Semester 2, 2008 Research Student Skills Development Wallplanner will be available from August 8th. Printed copies can be collected from your School

Postgraduate Coordinators or directly from the Graduate Research School, Ground Floor, South Wing, Rupert Myers Building.

The Wallplanner lists a range of skills development and networking activities offered by UNSW service providers for postgraduate research students in Semester 2, 2008.

New activities will also be posted on the relevant service providers' websites throughout Semester 2, 2008, so regularly check their websites to see what opportunities might be available to you.

Meet Victoria Miller - New NICTA Research Administration Officer

Victoria has recently joined the Graduate Research School as the National ICT Australia (NICTA) Research Administration Officer. NICTA is a national research organisation with five laboratories in four Australian cities. UNSW is a member of NICTA and has over 100 research students based at the Sydney NICTA Laboratories.



Victoria is responsible for the implementation of administrative policies and processes relevant to the education and research training of



prospective, current and completing UNSW NICTA research students, including acting as the first point of contact for research student enquiries.

Victoria has many years of administrative experience at UNSW having worked in the Australian School of Business, the Division of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Resources) and previously in the Graduate Research School.

NICTA research students can make an appointment with Victoria in the Graduate Research School, Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm, or contact Victoria via phone 9385 4032 or email: v.miller@unsw.edu.au

Semester 2 Census Date Reminder

- All research students can now re-enrol for Semester 2 2008 if required. Re-enrolment forms can be downloaded from the Graduate Research School website. Research students must re-enrol no later than 1st September.
- If you wish to vary your candidature you must apply for this prior to 1st September. Variations of candidature include: leave requests, scholarship suspensions, changing from part-time to full-time enrolment and vice-versa, permission to work away from the university for a period of time and extensions to enrolment.
- Your enrolment status can be checked via MyUNSW.

www.my.unsw.edu.au

Please advise Iona Reid, Student Liaison Manager, in the Graduate Research School of upcoming events including seminars, conferences and any research student achievements or awards for incorporation into 'Graduate Research Student News' and our News and Events website listing.

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