Research Degree Program Director Contact Information

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This School Guide should be read in conjunction with the Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences Information Guide for Postgraduate Research Candidates 2004 which is available in pdf format on the Division Webpage where you will also find further useful information, some of which is included here.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome from Dean of Research Degrees


As a research student you will have enrolled in one of several types of research degree: a Doctor of Philosophy program; a Masters by Research program; or a Professional Doctorate program which includes a significant proportion of research. The mode in which you study will be a combination of: full time or part time; on-campus (internal) or off-campus (distance) and as an Australian or an overseas student.

The Government’s Research Training Scheme puts enormous pressure on Universities to ensure Research Degree students complete on time, so Research Education Programs have been developed to give you the skills to ‘hit the ground running’. For commencing students most Divisional sessions are in the first six months (or first year for part timers) of your candidature. You are expected to complete these, together with relevant sessions from the University-wide Research Education Program. In particular, don’t miss the vital Orientation session and its University equivalent. That’s how you’ll find the names of important contacts and the structure of systems. Continuing students will use this Handbook for information on the process of thesis writing, and links to a growing list of UniSA workshops. In addition you will present on your research at least once a year and attend the Division’s Postgraduate Research Forum.

Our Research Education Program can only be an introduction to research for beginning researchers. If it doesn’t suit your situation contact your School’s Research Degree Coordinator, your Supervisor or the program coordinator. They will either provide their own program or guide you to other places. For example, Art students have seminars run by the School of Art. In the case of those doing one of the Professional Doctorates, a separate section in the Handbook gives details of your course and contact names. Professional Doctorate students, please note that you will probably not need to attend the Divisional sessions until your second year when you have completed your course work and begun your research activities. Whatever your requirements, feel free to attend any of our sessions and access the huge range of online resources we have assembled.

It is my job as Dean of Research Degrees to provide the organisation and infrastructure to help you undertake a research degree. While your Supervisors and School Research Degrees Coordinator will provide you with day to day advice and support, I am also here for students if needed. Contact my friendly staff in the Divisional research office (H2-02, Magill Campus). Gail Mahon is the research project officer, and Samantha Millar looks after student records and systems.

I wish you well as you begin or continue your important research.

Associate Professor Bruce Johnson
Dean of Research Degrees
School of Psychology Research Degrees Coordinator

Professor Tony Winefield joined the University of South Australia as Foundation Professor of Psychology in 1999 from the University of Adelaide where he remains an Honorary Visiting Research Fellow. Tony is Director of the Centre for Applied Psychological Research, a Fellow of the Australian Psychological Society and the academic member of the State Psychological Board and Chair of its Registration Committee. He is also the University’s representative on the Channel 7 Research Committee. In 1993 he received the ‘Supervisor of the Year’ award from the University of Adelaide Postgraduate Students’ Association and in 2003 the Elton Mayo award from the Australian Psychological Society’s College of Organisational Psychologists for ‘Outstanding contributions to Industrial/Organisational Psychology Research and Teaching.’ He has supervised 15 PhDs to completion and published more than 150 articles, books and chapters. His research interests include the psychology of unemployment, organisational stress and animal learning.

The Dean of Research Degrees (Divisional position)

Associate Professor Bruce Johnson was appointed Dean of Research Degrees in August 2003. Prior to this, he was Research Degrees Coordinator in the School of Education for 5 years. He is an active and productive researcher working as a Key Researcher in the Centre for Research in Education, Equity and Work. Bruce’s research and supervision expertise is in the areas of school change, teacher development, and student welfare.

Bruce is responsible for such specific aspects of research degrees co-ordination as:
- organising the Research Education Program for research degree students
- ensuring student access to the support services and facilities for research students provided by the University and Division
- monitoring students’ progress throughout the period of their candidature
- approving examiners and the outcomes of the examination process
- representing the Division on University Research Degrees and Scholarships Committees

The Dean of Graduate Studies (University position)

Professor Edgar (Ed) Carson took up the position of Dean of Graduate Studies in July 2003. He was previously Dean of Research in the Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences. His research expertise is in the area of employment and labour market programs in Australia. He has particular research interests in the area of disadvantaged job seekers, including mature age workers, young job seekers, and long term unemployed. He has also undertaken research on more general aspects of social disadvantage and social policy, including housing issues
Divisional research office
You’ll find the research office at Magill Campus in the Amy Wheaton Building. (It’s the modern building on the northern side of the creek, next to Murray House pictured above.) Just go upstairs and through the glass doors to Room H2-20. Samantha Millar is there to take your leave and claim forms and to help with any queries. Sam also organises and takes part in the Divisional Research Education Programs. Gail Mahon, the research project officer, shares the room with her. Sam and Gail are part of your research community and an important part of your networking. Call in any time for information or just to say hello. And a warning -when you come to hand in your thesis they’ll snap your photo and add it to the students’ ‘wall of fame’ in the office.

Samantha Millar
Gail Mahon

Divisional Research Degrees Committee
The Divisional Research Degrees Committee ensures the effective management of procedures and guidelines relating to research degrees offered by the Division in accordance with University policies. For example, the Committee:

- monitors the submission and standard of research proposals, ethics protocols and annual progress reports in relation to University and Division requirements, and identifies areas of improvement OR need
- establishes processes for approval of research proposals
- manages the Divisional Research Degrees Management Plan and facilitates processes for its updating and improvement
- monitors promotion and publication of research degree programs
- monitors program and course review for research degree programs

Note: There is a research student representative on this committee. For contact details please call Samantha Millar on 8302 4372 or email Samantha.Millar@unisa.edu.au

Research Degrees Coordinators
Research Degrees Coordinators are in each School or, in the case of Education, in sections of the School. They are the primary points of everyday contact for research degrees students. For example:

- they address issues related to supervision
- they set up the panels to review research proposals
- they carry out the student interviews at the time of the Review of Progress
- in conjunction with Supervisors they recommend thesis examiners

Research degrees support fund
The Division makes some funding available to research degree students for expenses related to their research. Claims should be sent to Sam in the Divisional research office.

Each semester full time students can claim up to $200 and part time students $100 for research related expenses. Allowable expenses will vary dependent upon your area of study, however, in general they include photocopying, printing, stationary and materials required for exhibitions. All claims must include valid receipts. Funding does not carry over years.

Travel fund
Up to $1200 reimbursement for expenses related to attendance and presentation of a paper at a national or international conference is available during your candidature. Claims should be sent to Sam in the Divisional research office. While you can access this funding in whole or in part at any time throughout your term of candidature a maximum of $600 per claim is allowed for conferences attended within Australia. The full $1200 can be claimed for attendance at an International conference. All claims must include proof of registration and presentation at the conference (e.g. receipts and/or programs) and receipts related to expenses being claimed such as airfares and accommodation.
Sick leave
Candidates are entitled to up to ten days sick leave in any one year of candidature and this may be accrued over the tenure of the award. Scholarship holders may also receive additional paid sick leave of up to a total of twelve weeks during their award for medically substantiated periods of illness lasting longer than ten days. If this occurs, the tenure of the scholarship will be extended by that period.

Sick leave entitlements may also be extended to cover holders with family responsibilities caring for sick children or relatives, subject to the usual UniSA requirements. For further information see: http://www.unisa.edu.au/research/degrees/resources_currentstud/default.asp

Maternity leave
Once Australian Postgraduate Award and University of South Australia Postgraduate Research Award holders have completed twelve months of their award, they are entitled to a maximum of twelve weeks paid maternity leave during the tenure of the award. Periods of paid maternity leave are in addition to the normal duration of the APA/USAPRA. APA/USAPRA holders who have not completed twelve months of their award may access unpaid maternity leave. Non scholarship candidates’ maternity leave is included in their general leave entitlements.

Recreation leave
Candidates are entitled to up to twenty days recreation leave in any year of candidature and this may be accrued.

Leave of absence
Leave may be taken for a maximum of six months at any one time. The total period of the leave of absence accumulated in a given candidature will not normally exceed twelve months. If the University Research Degrees Committee deems the circumstances to be exceptional, a maximum total amount of leave of twenty four months may be granted. No further leave will be available after a total of twenty four months leave has been granted. This applies to both full-time and part-time candidates. A request for leave of absence should be made on the appropriate form, which can be found at: http://www.unisa.edu.au/orc/resdeg/docs/leave.rtf

Employment
The primary role of full-time research degree students is to work on their research and complete their thesis within the allocated period of candidature.

The University’s Research Degrees Committee recommends that full-time candidates undertake paid employment for no more than eight hours per week or for a total of the equivalent of eight hours per week over a twelve month period.

DIVISIONAL RESEARCH EDUCATION PROGRAM (REP)

Dr Wendy Bastalich hold the position of Learning Adviser – Research Education within the Flexible Learning Centre. She is located on Level 2 of the Playford Building at City East (next to the main CAPR area. She is responsible for the program which is is provided by the Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences for its PhD, Professional Doctorates and Masters by Research candidates. Information in the following section relates to the Divisional program. The timetable will be finalised in February and distributed via email to all candidates. The REP’s aim is to assist candidates in developing and refining their thesis proposal. In addition, it introduces candidates to the major support services which are provided by the Division. The program also provides a forum in which candidates can discuss their progress and concerns and review each other’s work.


Program for Commencing Research Degree Candidates
Candidates are required to attend sessions in the first year of their candidacy, usually over a six-month period with meetings held fortnightly. The duration of sessions varies, but typically last for three hours and are held in the evening. External candidates will be contacted by the Divisional research office or a facilitator to arrange suitable times for teleconferences which cover the same topics, but in a less formal way. Teleconference charges are borne by the Division, not the individual candidate. The REP is designed to prepare you to write your research proposal, develop your methodology and work towards presenting a paper at the Annual Postgraduate Research Forum. There will be opportunities to ask questions about the research degree process, meet other research degree candidates and learn some strategies for surviving (and enjoying) the process.

Program for Continuing Research Degree Candidates
This program is for candidates whose thesis proposals have been approved and are under way with their research. An exciting series of workshops has been planned. These will enable candidates to participate in methodological discussions, ethical matters and learn about research tools such as SPSS and NuDIST.

Program for Completing Research Degree Candidates
The completing program is designed to assist candidates who are in the final stages of writing their theses. This series of workshops will address topics such as thesis presentation, the examination experience and life after completion.

Requirement to present a paper
All continuing research candidates are required to present on their research. This requirement should be met by one or more of the following:

1. Conference presentation
You may choose to deliver a paper at an academic conference. If you would like assistance in planning and presentation you can ask your Supervisor and compliment their assistance by coming along to the Research Education Program.

2. Forum
Each year a Divisional Research Forum is held within the university. This is a full-scale conference and is developing into a significant event in the academic research calendar, with lively academic debate from visiting speakers, staff and candidates. In 2004 it will extend over two days – the evening of Friday August 6th and Saturday August 7th. If you have not presented a research paper at another venue or teleconference you should do so at the Forum, although it is highly recommended that you present here even if you have presented elsewhere. Talk to your Supervisor about it. You are required to submit abstracts prior to the Forum. All research candidates and staff in the Division receive an invitation to attend the Forum.

3. Topical seminars
Other seminars by staff members or visiting scholars will be publicised on the Divisional Research Degrees website. Attendance at these presentations is optional but strongly encouraged.

CONTACTS
School of Psychology Liaison Librarians
City East: Margaret Goedhart 8302 2792 Margaret.Goedhart@unisa.edu.au
Magill: Erina Newnham 8302 4451 Erina.Newnham@unisa.edu.au

Divisional research office:
Project Officer: Gail Mahon 8302 4038 Gail.Mahon@unisa.edu.au
Admin Officer: Samantha Millar 8302 4372 Samantha.Millar@unisa.edu.au

School of Psychology Research Degree Coordinator
Professor Tony Winefield: 8302 2156 Tony.Winefield@unisa.edu.au

Research services
Andrew Beveridge 8302 5069 Andrew.Beveridge@unisa.edu.au

Flexible Learning Centre Advisor - Research Education
Wendy Bastalich 8302 2760 Wendy.Bastalich@unisa.edu.au

University wide Research Education Program
Tori Hocking 8302 0158 Tori.Hocking@unisa.edu.au

Dean of Research Degrees:
Associate Professor Bruce Johnson 8302 4059 Bruce.Johnson@unisa.edu.au

Dean of Candidates:
Ms Julia Della Flora 8302 4388 Julia.Della-Flora@unisa.edu.au

Research Degree Student Handbook 2004
DOING A PHD IN PSYCHOLOGY
Minimum requirement
In order to enrol for a research degree in the School of Psychology (MSS or PhD) you need a good Honours degree in Psychology, or the equivalent. You may enrol either as an internal or as an external candidate. You may also enrol as a full time or a part time candidate. If you enrol as a full time candidate you are expected to complete the MSS within 2 years and the PhD degree within 3 years. (If you enrol part-time, the corresponding expectations are 4 years and 6 years).

Supervision
All PhD Students are required to have a Principal Supervisor and an Associate Supervisor. Only those members of the School who are listed on the University Research Register are available as Principal Supervisors. They normally hold PhD degrees and have experience of successful research degree supervision. Before you can be accepted by the School, you must find a Principal Supervisor who is willing to act. You are encouraged to make contact with one or more of the people listed below in order to discuss your research topic. Their research interests are listed and further information about their publications can be obtained through relevant databases (such PsycINFO) via the Library.

ACADEMIC STAFF AVAILABLE AS PRINCIPAL SUPERVISORS
(listed on University Research Register)

John Court (City East, Ext 21016)
- Rural health
- Raven’s progressive matrices
- Altered states of consciousness
- Ethics in counselling and psychological practice
- Cybercounselling
- Integration of Psychology and Theology

Andy Day (City East, Ext 21008)
- Offender rehabilitation
- Juvenile justice
- Indigenous psychology
- Process of change in therapy

Catherine Delin (Adjunct Senior Lecturer, City East, Tel: 8278 8273)
- Aspects of behaviour change, including effectiveness of "self-help" strategies
- Correlates of health and happiness
- Communications between professionals and clients
- Evaluation of therapies
- Effects of praise on behaviour
- Methodological issues including development of assessments

Maureen Dollard (City East, Ext 22277)
- Methodological issues in work stress research
- Organisational approaches to stress management
- Workplace violence, bullying, anger
- Rural work psychology, stress in farmers, exposure to farm chemicals
- Stress in service professionals (clergy, human service, academics, students)

David Haynes (Magill, Ext 24340)
- Carl Jung's theory
- Personality topography

Kevin Howells (City East, Ext 22404)
- Criminal behaviour
- Anger and its management
- Violent and sexual offending
- Suicide and self-harm in prisons
- Cognitive therapy
Kurt Lushington (City East, Ext 22334)
- Sleep and arousal disorders
- Circadian rhythms and behaviour
- Domestic violence and child abuse
- Ebooks and ecounselling
- Cherished memories

Jack Metzer (City East, Ext 22275 and Magill Ext 24435)
- Experimental analyses of behaviour; behavioural correlates of reinforcement
- Occupational mental health and stress
- Expert evidence; offender profiling
- Survey research; questionnaire design methodology
- Psychology of Volunteer Behaviour

Phil Mohr (City East, Ext 22465)
- Social psychology (psychology of adjudications and perspective-taking, prejudice, group influence)
- Applications of social psychology (e.g., in legal and sporting contexts)
- Use of film as an attitude-change medium
- Juvenile offending and juvenile justice
- Psychometrics
- Evaluation of psychological and criminological interventions

Nadine Pelling (City East, Ext 21092)
- Addiction
- Technology and internet use in Psychology and Counselling
- Supervision and the Development of Psychologists and Counsellors
- Counselling as a Profession
- Multiculturalism

Michael Proeve (City East, Ext 22450)
- Sexual offending and paraphilias
- Moral emotions: Shame, guilt, remorse, regret.
- Emotions in psychotherapy
- Bayesian approaches
- Mental disorders
- Forensic mental health.

Rob Ranzijn (Magill, Ext 24468)
- Life span development, especially in midlife and late life
- Psychological well-being and positive psychology
- Social gerontology
- Productive ageing and employment
- New directions in cognitive ageing

Paul Whetman (City East, Ext 22329)
- Experiential learning and video feedback in the classroom and the community
- Ministers of religion, their roles and relationships
- Disadvantaged groups, service access and peer mentoring

Tony Winefield (City East, Ext 22156)
- Psychological effects of unemployment
- Occupational stress
- Learned helplessness
- Animal learning
ACADEMIC STAFF AVAILABLE AS ASSOCIATE SUPERVISORS
(not listed on University Research Register)
The following members of the School are available to act as Associate Supervisors, in conjunction with your Principal Supervisor. Your Associate Supervisor's research interests could be more closely related to your research topic than those of your Principal Supervisor and consequently you may wish spend more time in consultation with the former. This is not a problem so long as your Principal Supervisor is satisfied with the progress and direction of your research. In addition to the people listed below, you may choose an Associate Supervisor who is external to the School, or external to the University. Again, such an arrangement must be acceptable to your Primary Supervisor, the RDC and the Head of School.

Cathy Balfour (Magill, Ext. 24661)
- Neuropsychology: hemispheric asymmetries, aphasia and apraxia
- Psychophysiology: human skill and performance

Stuart Byrne (City East, Ext 22470)
- Forensic psychology
- Behavioural disorders
- Emotional and behavioural disorders of children and young people
- Anxiety disorders, paranoia and depression
- Cognitive Behavioural Therapy

Mark Cescato (City East, Ext 22446)
- The social construction of reality
- Preventative psychology
- Self-development and transpersonal psychology
- Clinical psychology, cognitive behaviour therapy
- Meditation and relaxation
- Human sexuality

Greg Ireland (City East, Ext 22468)
- Parent training and family support
- EEG biofeedback/neuro feedback and its application
- Chronic pain typologies and relationship to treatment and outcome
- Aspects of forensic psychology

Lyn Leaney (Magill, Ext 24484)
- Application of social psychology to health, environmental and legal issues
- Impact of media on attitude formation (real or imagined)

Josie Luscri (City East, Ext 22441)
- Social psychology of the law
- Forensic psychology
- Student learning strategies
- The athlete's self concept

Ilona Reid (City East, Ext 22339)
- Specialization in transpersonal counselling: individual and collective psychology
- Comparative study of the theory and practice of counselling and psychotherapy

Denise Skinner (City East, Ext 21478)
- Paediatric sleep disorders
- Health psychology and lifestyles issues
THE WEEKLY SEMINAR PROGRAM
In 2004 the weekly seminars are held on Fridays during semester time from 12.10 pm to 1.00 pm in Room P1-39 at City East. The seminar Convener is Helen Marsden (City East, Ext 21006). All PhD students are expected to attend these seminars on a regular basis and are invited to present. In addition, the Department of Psychology at the University of Adelaide holds weekly seminars on Thursdays from 12.15 to 1.00 pm in the seminar room, Level 5, Hughes Building. The seminar convener is Dr Jane Blake-Mortimer. All staff and postgraduate students are welcome to attend these seminars.

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE FACILITIES AVAILABLE
The Barr Smith Library (BSL)
UniSA staff and students have limited reciprocal borrowing rights at the BSL and have walk-in access to its electronic data bases and electronic journals, some of which the UniSA library does not subscribe to. For example, the BSL subscribes to the electronic version of all APA journals. Also, the Web of Science data base at the BSL goes back to 1980, whereas at the UniSA library it only goes back to 1993. The Psychology subject librarian at the BSL is Maureen Bell (Ext 35214).

The University of Adelaide Club
Full membership of the University Club is available to all staff and postgraduate students at UniSA. Moreover, the annual subscription for postgraduate students is a nominal $5 per year (formerly $95).

WHAT YOU ARE ENTITLED TO EXPECT FROM YOUR SUPERVISOR
Your supervisor is your mentor who should provide the best support, help, and advice of which he/she is capable. You should be able to rely on your supervisor’s loyalty and willingness to back you whenever needed. PhD graduates often maintain a lifelong professional association and/or friendship with their supervisor. For example, former supervisors often act as referees for jobs or promotions.

Some important behaviours in supervisors
• Your supervisor should be approachable and accessible, either face to face, or via email/telephone.
• Your supervisor should give you prompt and constructive feedback on your written work.
• Your supervisor should offer good, sensible advice (although you must decide whether to take it).
• Your supervisor should never bully, harass, or belittle you.
• Your supervisor should never put his/her name on anything you publish unless he/she has made a significant contribution to it and should always obtain your agreement in advance.
• No supervisor is an expert on everything. Your supervisor should encourage you to seek advice from others who may be able to help you.
• Your supervisor should recognise and try to offer supervision that is appropriate for you. Some students require little direct supervision. Others need more direction and guidance.

Some important behaviours in PhD students
• You should provide motivation, energy and enthusiasm for your research project
• You should seek advice and feedback from your supervisor whenever you need it
• If your supervisor offers you good advice, take it.
• If your supervisor offers you silly advice, ignore it and seek advice from someone else.
• If you lack confidence or trust in your supervisor find another one
• Never conduct research before receiving approval from the University Ethics Committee
• Never falsify your results or plagiarise the work of others

The role of the Research Degrees Coordinator (RDC)
The main role of the RDC is to ensure that PhD students are progressing satisfactorily. Satisfactory progress is likely to depend on relations between student and supervisor. The RDC should be approachable and accessible for both students and supervisors. It is the role of the RDC to help resolve any issues that may be causing problems in the student-supervisor relationship, or, if they cannot be resolved, to help find a different supervisor.

Two final comments: 1. Completing a PhD is a form of research training. The most important quality is persistence. Very few holders of PhDs are geniuses (whatever they might like you to believe). 2. Although the University has no word limits for PhD theses, a reasonable length for most psychology PhD theses is around 50,000 to 60,000 words (exclusive of references and appendices). Also, theses can be printed double-sided. Remember, examiners don’t like having to read excessively long theses!