

# RESEARCH SERVICES QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

2023 Wrap Up  
15 December 2023

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## A Message from the Director

Colleagues,

In a time of change, it is important we recognise the achievements of our researchers and the people across the University who support their efforts to build our research capability and reputation. My team in Research Services plays a key role in supporting all aspects of the research lifecycle and the researcher journey. This inaugural edition of the Research Services newsletter aims to celebrate our research successes but also to communicate how Research Services supports this success.

I am particularly proud in the last 6 months to have launched the Competitive Grants Support Program which along with the formation of an Expert Review Panel will assist us in submitting more highly competitive ARC and NHMRC proposals. The launch was accompanied by the excellent news that Professor Bindi Bennett from the National Centre for Reconciliation, Truth and Justice, has been chosen to join the ARC's College of Experts. Along with Professor Adil Bagirov, this representation of the College gives Federation researchers a real window into what makes ARC proposals successful.

While we have highlighted some of our research achievements for 2023 below, I particularly wanted to thank my dedicated team of specialised research support professionals working across funding, finance, ethics, integrity, data, and development. These specialists are continuously building on their breadth of knowledge through supporting research activity and via professional development opportunities and accreditation.

It was particularly pleasing to attend the Australasian Research Management Society's (ARMS) conference in Sydney with a number of Research Services staff and to reconnect with hundreds of Research Management Professionals from around the country and the world. Research Management is a global profession and the majority of Research Services team members have completed their ARMS accreditation. Others are working through modules, and have undertaken professional development courses in business analytics, workshops on negotiating IP ownership, and supporting competitive research funding proposals. Through this professional development, we aim to continuously improve the support we provide to the research community.

Finally, we are looking forward to 2024, and with the aid of our colleagues in the COO portfolio, the rollout of some new initiatives including online funding and ethics application forms, the launch of our Early Career Researcher and Research Integrity Advisor Networks, and working with GRS, Library Services, People & Culture, and the new Research Executive, led by Professor Remco Polman, to deliver an enhanced range of professional development opportunities for our researchers.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Dr Mark Potter  
Director, Research & Innovation

## 2023 Highlights

### Successful Project Funding and Grants

Over the past year, our Federation University researchers were successful in being awarded funding for a range of projects including Nationally competitive Category 1 grants, Government, Industry, and Internationally funded research projects including support for PhD scholarships, as well as leading and participation in strategic research programs. Some of these successes include:

<p><u><i>ARC Training Centre for Optimal Ageing</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigators:</b> Prof Britt Klein, Prof Colette Browning  <b>Provider:</b> Australian Research Council (ARC)  <b>Scheme:</b> Industrial Transformation Training Centres (ITTC)  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$4,583,816  <b>FedUni amount awarded:</b> \$585,955</p>	<p><u><i>Design and delivery of a Victorian Koala population genetics and health status survey</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigator:</b> Dr Fiona Hogan  <b>Provider:</b> Department of Energy Environment and Climate Action (DEECA)  <b>Scheme:</b> Biodiversity Knowledge Acquisition Grants  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$158,500  <b>FedUni amount awarded:</b> \$118,827</p>
<p><u><i>Utilising Simulation to develop culturally responsive social workers</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigator:</b> Prof Bindi Bennett  <b>Provider:</b> Australian Research Council (ARC)  <b>Scheme:</b> Discovery Indigenous (IN)  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$760,356</p>	<p><u><i>REACH Intelligent Power Inverters for Future Community Micro grids</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigators:</b> Prof Syed Islam; Jiefeng Hu.  <b>Provider:</b> OZTRON Energy Pty Ltd  <b>Scheme:</b> Trailblazer  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$920,000  <b>FedUni amount awarded:</b> \$858,704</p>
<p><u><i>Taking a Systems Approach to Developing a National Nursing Workforce Strategy</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigators:</b> Prof Virginia Plummer; A/Prof Grainne Lowe, A/Prof Helen Hall, Prof Michael Olasoji.  <b>Provider:</b> Department of Health and Aged Care (Commonwealth)  <b>Scheme:</b> National Nursing Workforce Strategy  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$1,710,175  <b>FedUni amount awarded:</b> \$225,000</p>	<p><u><i>Renewable Lignik application for a circular bioeconomy</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigators:</b> Prof Thomas Baumgartl; A/Prof Andrew Greenhill; Andrew Hood; Jacqueline Panozzo.  <b>Provider:</b> CO2TECH Pty Ltd  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$230,000</p>
<p><u><i>Emerging Leadership Initiative: Roads to Reconciliation</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigator:</b> Prof Andrew Gunstone  <b>Provider:</b> Department of Families, Fairness and Housing  <b>Scheme:</b> Multicultural Affairs Policy Grants  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$450,000</p>	<p><u><i>Developing sea country literacy to decolonise research and Indigenize marine stewardship for Aboriginal Tasmanian benefit</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigator:</b> Prof Emma Lee  <b>Provider:</b> The Pew Charitable Trusts  <b>Scheme:</b> Pew Fellows Program in Marine Conservation  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$233,712</p>
<p><u><i>Bringing intelligence to battery management systems through a cloud platform</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigators:</b> Prof. Joarder Kamruzzaman  <b>Provider:</b> Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)  <b>Scheme:</b> CSIRO Industry PhD Program  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$236,000</p>	<p><u><i>Enhanced System Planning (ESP): 62.131: Enhanced System Planning Scenario Building</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigators:</b> A/Prof Gour Karmakar; Prof Joarder Kamruzzaman; Dr Rakib Shah; Prof Syed Islam.  <b>Provider:</b> Centre for New Energy Technologies Ltd (C4NET)  <b>Scheme:</b> C4NET Flagship program  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$340,000</p>
<p><u><i>Sensing and traceability in horticulture (Scholarship)</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigators:</b> Prof Wendy Wright; Prof Joarder Kamruzzaman; Prof Shyh Wei Teng; A/Prof Paul Pang; Dr Linh Nguyen  <b>Provider:</b> Department of Jobs Skills, Industry and Regions  <b>Scheme:</b> Agriculture Victoria  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$135,000</p>	<p><u><i>Transforming chronic health outcomes through digital innovation</i></u>  <b>FedUni Investigators:</b> Prof Shane Thomas; Prof Colette Browning; Prof Britt Klein; Prof Fadi Charchar  <b>Provider:</b> Department of Education  <b>Scheme:</b> Regional Research Collaboration Program  <b>Total Project Awarded:</b> \$3,616,000</p>

## ANZCCART Openness Agreement

This year, Federation University became a signatory of the Australian & New Zealand Council for the Care of Animals in Research and Teaching (ANZCCART) Openness Agreement on Animal Research and Teaching in Australia ('ANZCCART Openness Agreement'). Following similar initiatives in Europe and New Zealand, the Openness Agreement was launched in Australia in August this year. It requests its signatories, which include universities and other research institutes, commit to greater transparency in the use of animals for research and teaching.

Federation University welcomes this important initiative which will result in a better public understanding of research with animals and better outcomes for animals used in research. At Federation, we also appreciate the push to help our researchers further promote the great work they are doing!

To read more about the Openness Agreement, visit the ANZCCART website, [here](#). For more information about the work of Federation University researchers involving animals, stay tuned to the [Newsroom](#) and, from 2024, the [Animal Research Ethics website](#).

## College of Experts

Congratulations on successful nominations for the ARC College of Experts (College).

- Professor Bindi Bennett, National Centre for Reconciliation, Truth & Justice was successful in the nomination for the 2024 ARC College of Experts (College)
- Prof Bennett joins Prof Adil Bagirov who was appointed to the ARC College of Experts in 2022

The College plays a key role in identifying research excellence in the ARC National Competitive Grants Program, moderating external assessments, and recommending fundable applications. The College also assists the ARC in recruiting and assigning assessors and in implementing peer review reforms in established and emerging disciplines, as well as interdisciplinary areas.

## Competitive Grants Support Program & Expert Review Panel

In 2023, the Federation University Competitive Grant Support Program (CGSP) was launched to provide guidance and assistance to researchers planning to submit an ARC and NHMRC grant application. As a part of the program, an Expert Review Panel (ERP) comprised of competitive grants winning researchers of Federation University was established and candidates were provided with strategic professional development workshops, networking and peer review opportunities, and professional staff assistance for application-related advice, budget planning and RMS support. If you have been a part of the program, and would like to provide suggestions for improvement, please email the Researcher Development team at [researcher.development@federation.edu.au](mailto:researcher.development@federation.edu.au).

## ARMS Conference 2023

The Research Director and senior Research Services team members attended the Australasian Research Management Society (ARMS) Conference in Sydney with the theme *Shifting Sands: Embracing the Diverse Future of Research Management*. The keynote speaker Professor Seyedal Mirjalili examined the history, rapid evolution, and impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI), a topic that was further explored across the conference program through the lens of Research Management.

Supporting Indigenous research and engagement was a vital conference topic, and the FedUni team gained insightful perspectives and useful resources on collaborative and organic approaches to research contract development and co-design of research development support with input from Indigenous and non-Indigenous stakeholders.

Research Funding Coordinator, Jane Tuppen, highlighted some key learnings the team has drawn on since the conference that have informed the review of the following documents and processes:

- The Costing and Pricing policy for more accurate and competitive budgeting within the current market
- Research Agreement templates and clauses that more accurately and thoroughly address Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property (ICIP);
- More streamlined collection of data and approvals.



Australasian Research Management Society

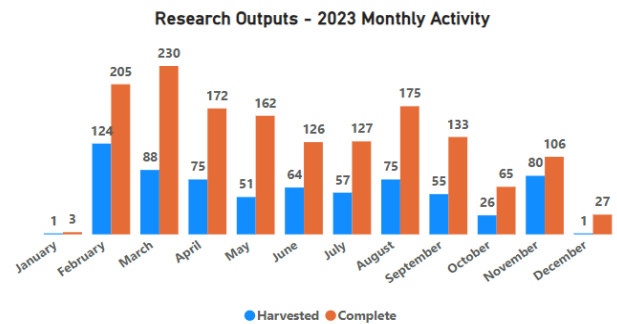
## 2023 Milestone Service Awards

Over the years, members of the Research Services team have made significant contributions across a range of research administration roles and shown ongoing dedication to the success of Federation University. Congratulations to the staff members listed below who have been celebrated this week for reaching their 10-year Service Milestones in 2023:

Joanne Davis - Research Administrative Officer  
 Louise Drohan - Finance and Research Officer  
 Fiona Koop – Coordinator, Research Ethics  
 Jane Tuppen, Research Funding Coordinator

## Publications Collection

The data and reporting team have completed assessment of 700 publication outputs generated by Federation researchers in 2023. There are some 2023 research outputs still to be completed by the first quarter of next year. A reminder that researchers can check their research output profiles here and report any missing publications to [research.reporting@federation.edu.au](mailto:research.reporting@federation.edu.au)



## Top Ten Cited Research Publication for 2023

<p><b>Rahman Muhammad Aziz et al. (2023)</b> <i>Global, regional, and national burden of diabetes from 1990 to 2021, with projections of prevalence to 2050: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021</i>. The Lancet 402 (10397)</p>	<p><b>Alif Sheikh, Rahman Muhammad Aziz et al. (2023)</b> <i>Global burden of chronic respiratory diseases and risk factors, 1990–2019: an update from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019</i></p>
<p><b>Balasubramanian Appiah Venkatakrisnan et al. (2023)</b> <i>Cognitive AmBC-NOMA loV-MTS Networks With IQI: Reliability and Security Analysis</i>. IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems 24</p>	<p><b>Peng Ciyuan, Naseriparsa Mehdi et al. (2023)</b> <i>Knowledge Graphs: Opportunities and Challenges</i>. Artificial Intelligence Review</p>
<p><b>Baghirov Adil, Sultanova Nargiz et al. (2023)</b> <i>Finding compact and well-separated clusters: Clustering using silhouette coefficients</i>. Pattern Recognition</p>	<p><b>Imran Muhammad et al. (2023)</b> <i>A smart healthcare framework for detection and monitoring of COVID-19 using IoT and cloud computing</i>. Neural Computing and Applications</p>
<p><b>Balasubramanian Appiah Venkatakrisnan et al. (2023)</b> <i>An intelligent heart disease prediction system based on swarm-artificial neural network</i>. Neural Computing and Applications</p>	<p><b>March Evita et al. (2023)</b> <i>Antisocial and Prosocial online behaviour: Exploring the roles of the Dark and Light Triads</i>. Current Psychology</p>
<p><b>Balasubramanian Appiah Venkatakrisnan et al. (2023)</b> <i>DQN-based resource allocation for NOMA-MEC-aided multi-source data stream</i>. Eurasip Journal on Advances in Signal Processing 2023</p>	<p><b>Hu Jiefeng et al. (2023)</b> <i>Smart grid evolution: Predictive control of distributed energy resources - A review</i>. International Journal of Electrical Power and Energy Systems</p>

## Looking Ahead to 2024

### Website Refresh

Over the summer you might start to notice some changes to the Research Services websites as we work to update information, standardise formatting, and add some splashes of colour. If there's any information or specific detail you would like us to include on any of our websites, please let the relevant team know ([Funding](#), [Ethics](#), [Performance](#), [Integrity](#)).

### ARC and NHMRC due dates

If you are considering applying to an ARC scheme next year now is a good time to get the dates in your calendar and start planning. Please go to our ARC and NHMRC due dates page [here](#) to access the current internal due dates, including EOI due dates.

[ARC NCGP 2024 - 2025 Scheme Internal Dates - v2](#) (Word doc, 47 KB)

A reminder that these schemes are very competitive and require commitment and time to plan and develop a well-structured and compelling application; hence a longer lead-in time.

With this in mind, we strongly recommend that all applicants (current or future – and for any scheme) participate and engage with our Competitive Grants Support Program (CGSP)

- please refer to the Researcher Development [Competitive Grants Support Program page](#).

### ARC Linkage Projects 2024

Do you want to partner with Industry, Government or community on solving problems with them via Research over a 2-5 year period?

Does your partner or partners want to double the investment they make into a Research Project?;

Do you want to be recognised for winning highly competitive ARC funding?

If the answer to these questions is “yes” then talk to the Research Funding and Research Development team about applying for an ARC Linkage Project in 2024.

Applications for [Linkage Projects](#) for funding applied for in 2024 Round 1 are now open in the [Research Management System](#) (RMS) and will close at **5:00pm (AEST) on Wednesday, 8 May 2024**.

### ARC DP25 2-step changes and process

ARC have recently announced a new 2-step application process for Discovery Projects for funding commencing in 2025. Commencing with an Expression of Interest (EOI) application. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit a full application. **Main changes to note:**

- To apply, you must complete the Stage 1 EOI application form. A full application may be submitted only if invited by the ARC.
- You cannot change Your EOI application after the EOI closing date and time unless invited to by the ARC.
  - Named participants, participating organisations, and the basic design of the research program must be specified in the EOI application and are fixed upon submission. Changes to these details are not permitted in a full application which has been invited following a shortlisted EOI application.
- There is no rejoinder process for EOI applications.
- DP25 EOI includes 3 sections:
  - Part A – Administrative Summary
  - Part B – Participant Details - including ROPE
  - Part C – Project Description - no more than 2 A4 pages, including:
    - PROJECT TITLE
    - PROJECT QUALITY AND INNOVATION
    - REFERENCES
    - ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS (IF REQUIRED)



**Key Dates:**

- DP25EOI Applications open in RMS: **22 Jan 2024**
- Internal compliance review: **6 Feb 2024**
- Final Internal Submission for DVCRI approval: **20 Feb 2024**
- Applications close in RMS: **27 Feb 2024**

Successful EOI applicants will be invited to submit a full application which will open in RMS on 11 April 2024.

**ARC DP25 Info Session: “How to Pitch an EOI” webinar**

On 29 November 2023, the ARC hosted a Webinar: “How to Pitch an EOI” to support the introduction of the EOI process for Discovery Projects 25. The presentation was recorded and you can watch the very informative tips provided by guest speakers, Professors Penny Brothers, Catharine Coleborne and Michael Mintrom here <https://youtu.be/gEFrZABjVPQ>

**Staff Spotlight / Dr Ankita Gagrani**

**Senior Coordinator,**  
**Researcher Development & Integrity**  
 at Mt Helen on Wadawurrung Country



**How long have you worked at Federation?**  
 13 months

**Can you tell us about a highlight of your career?**

Launching Competitive Grant Support Program to submit the highest quality and competitive applications to support an ongoing vibrant research culture at the university and further build the research capacity of the university.

**What are your priorities for 2024?**

The Researcher Development team is planning to launch Early Career Researchers (ECR) Network to support ECR research initiatives and a university wide Research Week to celebrate research at the Federation University.

**What do you like most about working at Federation?** Collaborative teams and a flexible and supportive work culture

**What do you think Federation offers to researchers?**

Federation offers researchers an exciting opportunity to give back to society through their cutting-edge research and innovation.

**ECR Network**

In 2024, the Research Services will launch an Early Career Researcher network. This network aims to provide career advancement and networking opportunities to ECRs at Federation University through events including workshops and informal gatherings. Network activities will be guided by an ECR steering committee. A call for expressions of interest to join the ECR network and steering committee will be announced via FedNews in early 2024. For more information, please contact the Researcher Development team at [researcher.development@federation.edu.au](mailto:researcher.development@federation.edu.au)

**Research Integrity Health Check**

In September 2023 KPMG completed an audit of research integrity functions and processes at Federation University. The team is working hard to implement the recommendations resulting from the audit. In 2024 we will focus on:

- Clear indication of who must complete research integrity training, as well as monitoring completions.
- Clearer processes to alert the Research Integrity Office (Research Services) of potential breaches of the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, and to manage potential breaches.
- Greater visibility of Research Integrity Advisors and their role.
- Greater collaboration between key areas of the University to clarify research data management (RDM) requirements and support researchers in RDM best practice.

If you have not yet completed Research Integrity training, we urge you to do so over the summer break! Details, including a link to the training platform, can be found on the Research Integrity website, [here](#).

## Do you know who your local Research Integrity Advisor?

As required by the [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#) ('the Code'), Federation University has a network of Research Integrity Advisors (RIAs) whose role it is to 'promote responsible conduct of research by providing advice on research practices and researcher responsibilities as well as advice to those with concerns or complaints about potential breaches of the Code' ([Research Integrity Advisors](#): a guide supporting the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, p. 1). RIAs are collegial folk with research experience, knowledge of the University's policies and governance structure. They cover most Research Centres, Institutes, and campuses. Current RIAs are:

- Alison Ollerenshaw
- Dylan Liu
- Gour Karmakar
- Kerrie Shandley
- Michael Barbagallo
- Rakib Shah

If you have any queries about the responsible conduct of research or have a concern about a potential breach of the Code, you can get in contact with your nearest RIA, or contact the Research Integrity Office. Note, the RIA's role does not extend to assessment or investigation of the matter.

More information can be found on the Federation University Research Integrity website, [here](#).

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## Research Services operations in January

Members of the Research Services Team will be taking various leave arrangements over the summer break which may result in reduced services during January 2024. We hope you will be understanding of resulting delays. Central mailboxes will continue to be monitored after the University shutdown, throughout January so please see the list of appropriate contacts below to direct your inquiry to the right place:

[director.research@federation.edu.au](mailto:director.research@federation.edu.au) - To reach the Director of Research

[research.funding@federation.edu.au](mailto:research.funding@federation.edu.au) - Research Grants and Funding, including Research Finance Team

[research.reporting@federation.edu.au](mailto:research.reporting@federation.edu.au) - Research outputs, IRMA, Find an Expert, research performance and reporting

[research.ethics@federation.edu.au](mailto:research.ethics@federation.edu.au) - Research Ethics, applications and queries

[researcher.development@federation.edu.au](mailto:researcher.development@federation.edu.au) - Researcher development

[research.Integrity@federation.edu.au](mailto:research.Integrity@federation.edu.au) – Research integrity matters and research integrity training

[research.degrees@federation.edu.au](mailto:research.degrees@federation.edu.au) - for any inquiries regarding HDR Candidates or the Graduate Research School

<https://federation.edu.au/research/contact-us-about-research>

## Suggested items

The next edition of the RS Newsletter will be published in Q1 2024. We welcome your feedback so please send any suggestions for future newsletter items to [kate.lucas2@federation.edu.au](mailto:kate.lucas2@federation.edu.au)

