

## 2nd ACUR Exchange Colloquium 1st February 2023

Notre Dame University, Broadway Campus, Sydney



## Speakers

**Professor Chris Moran, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Curtin University will be a keynote speaker talking about Industry-University Partnerships and the Student Experience**



Traditionally, universities were not seen as places where industry could interact with ease. Even though universities have a long history of university involvement, it is only in recent years where the concept of transacting has shifted towards relationship building. When universities develop relationships with companies, generally via formalising a partnership, opportunities for students abound. The next phase of development is to mature the situation so that the number of opportunities for students is balanced with the quality of the experiences. This will require changes and co-learning in companies and universities. This talk will outline an approach and discuss a range of experiences in three organisations; CSIRO, The University of Queensland and Curtin University.

Chris Moran is Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research at Curtin University responsible for the University's strategic goals in research and IP commercialisation and Curtin's Resources Technology and Critical Minerals Trailblazer funded by the federal government. Appointed Chair of the Australian Research Council Advisory Committee in 2022, he previously chaired the Universities Australia Committee of Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Research. He has a strong international and national reputation for his research and expertise in soil science, natural resources and water management, and has published widely in scientific literature and the broader media. He is an elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering.

**Professor Franziska Trede from the University of Technology Sydney will talk about Exploring the Synergies of Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) and Undergraduate Research in educating future professionals.**



WIL is an educational partnership between students, university and external partners with the shared goal of enhancing students' employability. Through exposure to authentic work-based practices students are enabled to develop professional practice capabilities that cannot be learnt from textbooks alone. This emphasis of WIL on skills, work-readiness and employment outcomes seemingly excludes the role of undergraduate research as being part of WIL. Narrow perspectives on WIL and undergraduate research engagement are not adequate to equip graduates for a future of further disruptions and uncertainties.

In this talk, Professor Franziska Trede will critique narrow approaches to WIL and undergraduate research engagement and outline a broader framing for an integrative approach that builds bridges between theory, research, practice capabilities and professional values. The compatibility and possibilities in pedagogical approaches and touchpoints between WIL and UG will be explored. Such an integrative approach will educate future professionals for a wide-life career.

Franziska Trede is Professor of Higher Education and Professional Practice at UTS. She is course coordinator of the Graduate Certificate in Higher Education Teaching and Learning where she teaches subjects on practising inclusion: working and teaching for social justice, and student agency and teamwork. Her program of research centres on professional identity development, agency, professional practice education, and educating the deliberate professional. She has published books, book chapters and journal articles and presented her work internationally. She serves on *Studies in Continuing Education*, *Active Learning in Higher Education*, and *International Journal of Work-Integrated Learning* editorial boards. She is the President of the *Australian Collaborative Education Network*.

**Emeritus Prof Angela Brew, ACUR Chair will talk about Preparing Undergraduates for Future Life and Careers: Bringing Together Communities of Practice.**



Angela Brew is the Founding Chair of the Australasian Council for Undergraduate Research (ACUR). Internationally recognised for her work on the nature of research and academic identity, she has published seven books including: *The Nature of Research: Inquiry in Academic Contexts (2001)*; *Research and Teaching: beyond the divide (2006)*, and over 250 papers. In 2009 Angela Brew was awarded an Australian National Teaching Senior Fellowship to enhance undergraduate research engagement. She is an elected Fellow of the Society for

Research into Higher Education (SRHE) and a Life Member of HERDSA.

**Professor Dawn Bennett from Bond University will talk about What Research Tells Us About How to Prepare Students for Employment**



Dawn Bennett is Assistant Provost and Director of the Transformation CoLab with Bond University. She is an experienced senior leader, an educational reformist and a passionate educator. Dawn's expertise is the enhancement of student success and graduate employability. She is an internationally known researcher with 300 academic articles and major reports and AUD\$6m in completed research funding. Her EmployABILITY Thinking initiative engages 60 institutions globally and holds the largest dataset of student-derived confidence data in the world.

**Associate Professor Kelly Matthews, The University of Queensland will be Exploring the Link Between Engaging Students as Partners and Career-Ready Graduates.**



Kelly will discuss the numerous beneficial outcomes of engaging students as partners in educational endeavours. Together, we will identify how those outcomes are career-preparing and how the process of partnership is central to those outcomes. Then I will focus our attention on equity, specifically drawing attention to which students get (and don't get) access to the many beneficial outcomes arising through partnership process.

Kelly Matthews is an Associate Professor (Higher Education) at the University of Queensland's Institute of Teaching and Learning Innovation. She is an internationally recognised scholar in the areas of curriculum development; student partnership in co-design and co-creation; professional development of university educators; and the scholarship of teaching and learning.

Kelly has co-created an impressive array of new structures and communities for change, both nationally and internationally, that facilitate teacher–student dialogue through partnership and shift culture. Through her international collaborations she has created the *Students as Partners Network* (now numbers 1000 students and staff); and co-founded the *International Journal for Students as Partners*.

## **Jennifer Campbell, Griffith University, will give an example of practice - Community-based research and Indigenous students**



From 2014-2022 the Kungullanji Research Program provided a summer research experience and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Kungullanji is a Yugambeh word meaning “to think”, therefore this program challenges students to think about research careers and to have a voice in research communities. It challenges us to think about undergraduate research as a modality for research training, creating new research communities and privileging Indigenous knowledges, voices and ways of doing research. The program has supported more than 100 research placements in various disciplines and is coordinated and led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff. It has influenced the trajectory of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, contributing to an increased students progressing to Higher Degree Research programs and employment in research positions.

Jennifer is a proud Aboriginal woman and a passionate advocate for improving equity and diversity in STEM. In an effort to achieve this Jennifer co-founded the Kungullanji Research Program and other initiatives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Jennifer is also a science communicator, engineer, and lecturer in the School of Engineering and Built Environment at Griffith University. Her research interests include environmental engineering and green infrastructure, undergraduate research education, problem-based learning, Indigenous perspectives in STEM education, and the integration of play in higher education.

**Dr Tai Peseta, will give an Example of Practice by exploring initiatives at Western Sydney University to develop students as partners**



Dr Tai Peseta is Senior Lecturer, in the Learning Transformations Team, Learning Futures Portfolio at Western Sydney University. She joined the university following academic appointments at The University of Sydney, La Trobe University and The University of Melbourne, with experience in the areas of professional learning of university teachers, research supervision development, curriculum renewal, students as partners, the scholarship of learning and teaching and the scholarship of academic development. As an internationally recognised researcher in higher education, she is a Research Fellow at Hiroshima University, and holds honorary appointments at The University of Sydney and Deakin University.

Our panel of past ACUR Presenters will give their perspectives on **how their Undergraduate Experiences Prepared Them**

**Olivia Jessop**, The University of Queensland

**Seak Lin Ly**, The University of Newcastle

**Chris Kilby**, The Cairnmiller Institute

**Supreet Saluja**, Macquarie University



**Olivia Jessop** is a 2nd year PhD student at The University of Queensland, working on surveillance and epidemiology of antibiotic-resistant gonorrhoea. She collaborates with Queensland Health and is studying at the University of Queensland where she also completed her undergraduate studies. She is passionate about diversity and accessibility in education. She participated in 5 undergraduate research projects/internships as an undergraduate, including in the United Kingdom. She wants to ensure others have access to those opportunities too.

Olivia has been an academic for 4 years in undergraduate maths and programming, has supervised 4 undergraduate research students, and currently completing a research project to increase engagement in online undergraduate workshops. She volunteers for the Global Student Forum writing policy recommendations for HDR student rights, and also for a Northern Territory initiative to teach programming courses, focussing on accessibility to Indigenous students. Olivia was the head of the Australasian Council for Undergraduate Research Student Committee in 2020, outgoing in 2021.



**Seak Lin Ly** is the lead analyst in charge of the Parasitology lab at Australian Laboratory Services. She is responsible for the Cryptosporidium and Giardia water quality testing for the whole Hunter region and parts of NSW.

Seak started undergraduate research during her 1st year enrolled in the Biomedical Science degree at the University of Newcastle. It all started with a meet-and-greet style session where local researchers presented their research field to 1<sup>st</sup>-year undergraduates and opened their labs for volunteer work.

She gained a lot of valuable experience volunteering in a lab. Seak spent any spare time between working and undergrad studies doing basic science research on the genetic expressions in our brain cells involved in iron metabolism and in rare brain iron overload disease animal models. Her undergraduate research experience helped get her foot in the door in the industry at her first job at Sydney Water.



**Chris Kilby** graduated with a 4-year Bachelor of Psychology (honours) in 2015 before completing a Master of Research in 2016 and PhD in 2020 all at Macquarie University. His personal research track focuses on understanding individual differences and stress, which all started in the final year of his bachelors when he explored the relationship between stress beliefs and how we think about stressful situations. Across his studies, he has served in a variety of research roles including a research assistant

in a psychooncology lab, a statistical consultant, involvement in research societies (student representative and later president of the Australasian Society of Behavioural Health and Medicine, as well as the executive assistant and assistant to the communications chair for the International Society of Behavioral Medicine), and has been involved in the organising and running of multiple research conferences. He regularly publish research and present at national and international conferences. He has been interviewed by Psychology Today, Body and Soul, and National Geographic. Today, he is the Associate Head of School for Learning and Teaching at the Cairnmillar Institute and applies his research skills to quality improvement in teaching practices. He teaches research and statistics at the Bachelor, Honours, and Masters level, and supervises honours and Masters research students. His is on the editorial board for the journal Stress and Health, and actively peer reviews for Q1 and Q2 journals. Chris currently co-leads the Working Around Youth worker Stress (WAYS) research group which examines the unique nature of stress experienced by youth workers and endeavours to identify viable strategies for minimising the impact of this stress on health and wellbeing.



**Supreet Saluja** from Macquarie University is a researcher based primarily in disgust. Specifically, she examines how the tactile sense and disgust aid in our avoidance of infectious diseases and their markers. For her PhD she has examined things like, what are the textural cues of objects associated with disease and disgust? When during contact with objects is disgust and disease-avoidance highest? and how do people signal (facially) the experience of touching, tasting and smelling disgusting stimuli, to each other? Outside of her PhD, she has more generally examined the

cultural (e.g., conservatism, parasite load) and individual (e.g., age, sex) predictors of interpersonal touch, the effects of COVID-19 on individual's disgust sensitivity, chemosensory perception (e.g., taste and colour cross-modal correspondences) and the role of hippocampal dependent learning on appetite regulation.

Next year, she will be doing a post-doc based in the Karolinska Institutet - examining whether sickness cues influence approach-avoidance behaviours, and whether kinship moderates the relationship between sickness and behavioural avoidance.