


Welcome to the latest Higher Degrees by Research Information Update. The aim of this publication is to provide staff with relevant and timely information about issues relating to higher degree administrative processes. In this issue:


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HDR Student's Consumables Allowance – New process under development

Administration for the Consumables Allowance for HDR Students is changing, in particular, the way in which students apply for reimbursement of their research expenses. The process is being developed with Financial Operations and has incorporated feedback from the Faculty Business Managers and a number of staff across the University. As per current practice, students will only be granted access to funding when they have achieved candidacy. The addition of a budget template will supplement the current candidacy approval process, and it is at the point of candidacy approval that students will be prompted to access Concur; the new student medium for reimbursement. Staff and students will be formally advised when the updated Candidacy document is available on the GRS website, and when the new process is launched. Students who have already attained candidacy will continue to apply for reimbursements per usual until further advised.

Turnitin for HDR Students

Last week the GRS launched Turnitin access for HDR Students via the *Research Integrity* training unit on Blackboard (in the menu it is called 'Originality Checking'). As most will know, Turnitin (text matching software), has been traditionally used at Curtin by academic staff. This new access, set up by Curtin Assessment Technologies staff, has been introduced specifically to allow HDR students to check their **candidacy proposal** and their **thesis chapters**. While students can currently use this functionality on a voluntary basis, there are plans to make it compulsory for HDR students as follows:

- Use of Turnitin for checking the **candidacy proposal** will be compulsory from **1 August 2015**, prior to submission of the Application for Candidacy. Students will be required to upload their candidacy proposal to Turnitin, and show and discuss the results of the Turnitin originality/similarity report with their Supervisor. Students will be asked to verify this on their Application for Candidacy (form will be amended accordingly).
- Use of Turnitin for checking the **thesis chapters** will be compulsory from **1 January 2016**. Students will be required to upload their thesis chapters to Turnitin and discuss the report results with their supervisor, before submitting the thesis for examination to the Graduate Research School.

The University Academic Board approved this process last year as part of a wider commitment to promoting academic integrity at Curtin. Queries about this new process can be directed to GRS.Training@curtin.edu.au. For more information about Turnitin, please see Curtin's Academic Integrity website: [What is Turnitin?](#) and [Turnitin for Students](#).

InSPiRE conference for HDR Students and Supervisors

This conference, a collaboration of the five Western Australian universities, runs from 29 June – 3 July, 2015. It aims to provide expert information and training for postgraduate researchers. Each university will host one day, with students from all universities welcome to attend. The topics will include research writing, supervision, opportunities and responsibilities in research, communicating and promoting research, and pathways to your future. The InSPiRE conference is open for registrations from both HDR students and supervisors. Supervisors are particularly invited to the supervision sessions hosted by Notre Dame on Tuesday 30th June (participation qualifies for the professional training requirement of the Register of Supervisors.) Please encourage your students to attend this important training opportunity. Students may claim the registration costs from their Consumables fund. To view the program and register, please go to: <http://www.waresearch.com/#inspire/c2mv>

3MT (Three Minute Thesis) Competition

This popular competition is now open for 2015. 3MT® celebrates the exciting research conducted by PhD students and aims to cultivate students' academic, presentation, and research communication skills. The competition supports their capacity to effectively explain their research in three minutes, in a language appropriate to a non-specialist audience.

3MT is a fun and rewarding competition that includes generous prizes including the grand prize to represent Curtin and travel to UQ for the Trans-Tasman final. Curtin also boasts the current Australian winner from 2014, Sarah Marley from the Centre for Marine Science and Technology. Please encourage your students to participate. Information about Curtin's 3MT competition is available from [Curtin 3MT](#) and [Competition Details](#). Or visit the 3MT official website at UQ <http://threeminutethesis.org/>

3MT - Curtin Heats - Monday, 24 August, 2015, venue: 500.1102AB:EX

3MT - Finals - Thursday, 3 September 2015, venue 213.104:LT (Tim Winton LT)

3MT - Trans-Tasman final at UQ - Friday 2 October 2015.

Qualitative Research Methods Workshops – presented by Dr Josephine Muir.

This series is open to both students and academic staff and provides introductory information on a number of different qualitative research methods. It is ideal for recently commenced students looking to improve their understanding of the

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<http://research.curtin.edu.au/about/hdrupdate.cfm>



practical applications of the various methods. Dr Muir is a senior research consultant with specialist skills in qualitative research. She has an established track record in providing strategic research and policy advice to government, non-government organisations and industry. Recent consultancies have focused on education, workforce development, residential planning and social impact analysis, as well as the role of science, industry and innovation in WA's economy.

- [Masterclass for HDR students - Case Studies, 19th June 2015](#)
- [Masterclass for HDR students - Questionnaires, 26th June 2015](#)
- [Masterclass for HDR students - Content Analysis, 17th July 2015](#) *Fully booked – please reply to this email if you'd like to be waitlisted.*
- [Masterclass for HDR students – In-depth Interviews, 24th July 2015](#)

Scholarships

The International Student Scholarships round for IPRS and CSIRS opens on 1st June until 31st August. Completion Scholarships and Publications Scholarships (Round 2) will open on 1st July and close on 31st July. GRS is introducing a Student Mobility Scholarship to allow student to undertake a 6 – 8 week research project with an international university, research organisation or industry partner. Applications will be accepted from 15th June to 31st July. Details of all scholarships can be found on our website at: <http://research.curtin.edu.au/postgraduate-research/postgraduate-research-scholarships/>.

Upcoming seminars

The following seminars/workshops have been organised for the coming weeks. Attendance at asterisked (*) seminars meets the professional development criteria for Entry to the Register of Supervisors.

- **Research Involving Humans: What you need to know about ethics ***
Thursday 4 June 2015, 10.00am-11.30am <http://seminars.curtin.edu.au/index.cfm?theme=14>
- **Research Data Management**
Tuesday 9 June 2015, 11.00am – 12.00pm <http://seminars.curtin.edu.au/index.cfm?theme=14>
The session will cover research data management (RDM) planning and discuss facilities like the RDM guide, the RDM Planning Tool and the Research drive.
- **Student/Supervisor Conflict: Practical steps to negotiate solutions (Supervisors Only) ***
Thursday 18 June, 1.00pm-3.00pm <http://seminars.curtin.edu.au/index.cfm?theme=14>
- **HDR Supervisor Induction ***
Tuesday 21 July, 1.30pm-4.30pm <http://seminars.curtin.edu.au/index.cfm?theme=36>
- **Who Writes the Papers? Authorship Issues**
Tuesday 1 September 2015, 10.00am-11.30am * <http://seminars.curtin.edu.au/index.cfm?theme=14>

Kate.

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