



**LA TROBE**  
UNIVERSITY

# LA TROBE RESEARCH



GENERAL ENQUIRIES  
**9479 1144**

September 2018

## Research Bulletin

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the September edition of the *Research Bulletin*. In this edition we have information on:

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All the best  
MaryAnne Aitken and Russell Hoyer

### Professor Keith Nugent to leave La Trobe

Professor Keith Nugent, our Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), has resigned to take up the role of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) at Australian National University.

Keith has made an enormous contribution to La Trobe, leading strong growth in the University's competitive grants research income, a stellar rise in the University's world rankings and the creation of new ground-breaking research partnerships. It is a measure of his achievement here that a GO8 university came looking for him.

I will greatly miss Keith's professionalism, calm perfectionism and steady hand in the research portfolio, and wish him all the best for his new challenge in the nation's capital.

Keith will stay with us until mid-November. We have already begun the process of recruiting a

successor. Keith leaves behind an excellent legacy on which the next DVC(R) can build, so I am confident that we will attract an extremely strong field of candidates.



**Professor John Dewar**  
Vice-Chancellor and President



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## Research Office Executive Director update

### Executive Director Job-share arrangements

I am delighted to announce that Alistair Duncan will join me in the role of Executive Director of the Research Office. We will commence the job-share arrangements in the week of the 24<sup>th</sup> September

The Executive Director job-share is a secondment for an initial 8 month period with a review in April 2019. The position will have MaryAnne Aitken and Alistair Duncan working 0.6EFT- each at three days per week with Wednesday as a full handover day. The position is on a rotational basis such that beginning the 24<sup>th</sup> September, Alistair will be the Executive Director on Mon, Tue, Wed and MaryAnne will be on Wed, Thur, Fri. The following week beginning the 1<sup>st</sup> October, MaryAnne will be working Mon, Tue, Wed and Alistair will work Wed, Thur, Fri and so on. MaryAnne and Alistair will both report to Keith and will jointly manage their direct reports. There is one email inbox- Executive Director Research Office ([erdo@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:erdo@latrobe.edu.au)) and the same phone number will be in use: ext 2162. Our new signature will be:

MaryAnne Aitken/ Alistair Duncan  
Executive Director Research Office

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Please bear with us over the next few weeks as this arrangement becomes fully functional and also please get in contact with Alistair, MaryAnne or Tricia if you have any questions. In addition to this there will be changes made in the Research Performance team to cover the Deputy Director Rankings and Performance role for 3 days each week. We will have further details on this soon.  
Many thanks MaryAnne

Dr MaryAnne Aitken

Executive Director, Research Office



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## La Trobe Staff Awards 2018

The La Trobe University Staff Awards recognise and reward excellence, in particular individuals or project teams that have made significant contributions to the achievement of the University's strategic objectives and embodied La Trobe's Cultural Qualities.

Key updates for 2018 include creating stronger alignment with the Cultural Qualities and 2018-2022 Strategic Plan, two new award categories and a new winner selection process for Vice-Chancellor's Living La Trobe's Cultural Qualities, as detailed below:

- New Award Category: Learning & Teaching Excellence has been added in response to 2017 post implementation review feedback
- New Award Category: Golden Lanyard Staff Giving Award is a new award to recognise the generosity of our staff, an idea that came from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor
- This year the Vice-Chancellor's Living La Trobe's Cultural Qualities will be selected from the shortlist of nominations across the other six award categories. The SEG nominated Assessment Panel will choose the winner for this award.

Nominations of individuals and teams are invited across the following six categories:

- Outstanding Student Experience
- Improving Student and Graduate Employability
- Research Excellence
- Learning and Teaching Excellence
- Operational Excellence
- Customer Service Excellence

Staff are encouraged to nominate their colleagues for an award, with individual and team nominations invited. All nominations must be received via the online form, via the intranet, by **5.00 PM Friday 5 October 2018**.

### KEY DATES

Monday 10 September	Nominations open
Friday 5 October	Nominations close
Monday 3 December	Awards Ceremony
Thursday 13 December	Winners Luncheon

## HOW TO NOMINATE

Nominations must be submitted via the online nomination form available at <https://intranet.latrobe.edu.au/staff-awards>

Please see attached further information on Staff Awards.

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## Accelerator Program Update

### Record applications for Accelerator Program

Months of planning, campaigning and travelling around regional Victoria has resulted in a record number of applications for the third cohort of the La Trobe Accelerator Program. Information sessions were held at La Trobe's Mildura, Shepparton, Bendigo, Bundoora and City Campuses to promote the accelerator and generous support was also offered from La Trobe's internal communications team across the university. The result was better than the team could've hoped for! 81 applications were received with 55% of those from Regional Victoria and a diverse makeup of undergraduate and post-graduate students, alumni, staff and members of the community. The program has just completed their boot-camp-style Primer with an Announcement Event presented by Professors John Dewar & Keith Nugent, and the full 12-week program begins next week. Congratulations to the efforts of the team.



Image: Dr Cerasela Tanasescu & Professor John Dewar at the LTAP Announcement Event on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> August

### AFR Higher Education Awards Winners



Professor Jessica Vanderlelie and La Trobe's Accelerator Program were award winners at the recent Australian Financial Review (AFR) Higher Education Awards, held on 28 August. Professor Vanderlelie won the Higher Education Emerging Talent Award, and our 2018 Accelerator Program collected the award for Community Engagement. Both beat out highly impressive fields to collect their honours.

Congratulations to Professor Vanderlelie and Dr Ceracela Tananescu, Director of the Accelerator Program and her team, for this recognition.

The awards were judged by an independent panel of eminent Higher Education veterans and are an AFR initiative to highlight at a national level the tremendous contribution that the Higher Education sector makes to Australian prosperity and quality of life. Only two other Universities (UNSW and Monash) received two or more awards. La Trobe's Autonomous Shuttle Initiative was a finalist for the Industry Engagement Award.

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## MedTech's Got Talent

### Applications for MedTech's Got Talent now open!

Do you have a napkin sketch of a medtech idea? Or figuring out your first customer milestone for your medtech product? If so, applications for [MedTech's Got Talent \(MTGT\)](#) 2018 are now open.

MTGT provides over \$80K in cash, specialised training and intensive mentoring to promising early-stage start-ups (anything from idea to prototype). The application deadline is **5pm Thursday 27th September**, and the online application form can be found [here](#).

If you're interested in applying and would like some advice or more information, please feel free to contact the [Innovation & Commercialisation](#) team.

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## Association for Tertiary Education Management Award: Research Management



The Association for Tertiary Education Management (ATEM) Award for Research Management was awarded to Dr MaryAnne Aitken, Executive Director of the Research Office at Latrobe University on Monday 10 September. Dr Aitken beat out a great field of nominees to receive this award and had this to say of her win “I am very grateful for the award and could never have done this without the great support I have had from Keith and every single person in my fantastic team in the Research Office.”

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## Research Focus Areas

### RFA Events in September and October

The Research Focus Areas are hosting a number of events in September and October.

In September, the Building Healthy Communities RFA held a workshop on “Complexity Science and Implementation Science” (11 September), the Transforming Human Societies RFA hosted a symposium on “Work, Technology and Disruption” (14 September), and the Securing Food, Water and the Environment RFA launched the first of the RFA membership forum series (17 September). If you have missed any of these events and you would like to receive information or connect with the organisers, please do get in touch with us via the RFA mailboxes.

Upcoming events in October:

- 8 October – Understanding Disease RFA membership forum and collaborative events for ECRs and Centres
- 11 October – Transforming Human Societies RFA membership forum
- 16 October – Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation RFA membership forum

Please make sure you visit our [RFA Events pages](#) on Unite for further details.

### RFA Funding Round opening on 1 October

The RFAs will open the next funding round for applications for the Grant Ready and Collaboration Ready schemes on 1 October. The round will close on 31 October.

The application forms and funding guidelines are currently under revision. Many thanks to all of the researchers and Executive Committee members who have provided feedback during the previous round. Although we do not expect major changes, please make sure to check out the new scheme documentation once released via the [RFA Useful Resources](#) site on Unite (expected 1 October).

Please also note that in support of prospective applicants, the RFAs will host a joint Drop-in Session on 17 October between 10am and 12pm. Further details to come on [RFA Events pages](#) on Unite.

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## New Research Centres

We are pleased to announce the establishment of two new research centres at La Trobe as part of the Research Centres Strategic Framework.

## [Research Centre for Health, Law and Society](#)

The [Centre for Health, Law and Society](#) is led by Professor Anne-Maree Farrell. The Centre examines the relationship between law and health, both 'on the books' and in practice. The Centre aims to increase our understanding of how law impacts upon ethical, social, political and equity issues at individual and population levels. Work of the Centre's researchers is focused in five areas: health governance; the human body; mental health and disability; public health; and gender and sexuality. The Centre is headquartered in the La Trobe Law School and interacts across the disciplines of health, public health and policy, disability, and law. Although the Centre has been in operation since 2016, it was formally approved at the most recent meeting of the Academic Board.

## [Optus La Trobe Cyber Security Hub: A Research Centre of La Trobe University](#)

Led by Professor Jill Slay, the Research Centre is developing a multi-disciplinary research agenda in Cyber Security. The Centre enables La Trobe University to build on its established relationship with Optus. Through the Centre there will be academic input into the growing national cyber security eco-system. Its focus is one of cyber security and cyber intelligence tools, techniques, law, ethics and regulation. It will extend existing contextualised expertise in machine learning, and other AI techniques, for cyber security, information and cyber law and policy, cyber security skilling and training, and cyber security ethics. Based in the School of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, disciplinary expertise will be drawn from the La Trobe Law School and other areas of the University.

w: [latrobe.edu.au/researchers](http://latrobe.edu.au/researchers) | e: [researchoffice@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:researchoffice@latrobe.edu.au)

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