



**LA TROBE**  
UNIVERSITY

## Research Bulletin: March 2021



### Bringing research and industry engagement news to you

Welcome to the March issue of the Research Bulletin.

During the past month, I was proud to attend two important La Trobe events. Firstly, I hosted La Trobe's International Women's Day event. I was joined by three diverse women leaders for this event (Dr Mishel McMahon, Cecilia Milagro Bravo Huaynates and Jenna Boyd), as well as our Vice-Chancellor Professor John Dewar. It was an opportunity to celebrate our achievements with regards to gender equality and also challenge ourselves to think about the work which is still to be done. You can read more about this event and some of our gender equality initiatives, including our Women's Academic Promotions Support Program and our Carer's Conference and Travel Support Fund, in this month's issue of the Bulletin.

The other significant event I attended was the announcement of funding for our Digital Innovation Hub and our Bio Innovation Hub. These new Hubs will help businesses grow by giving them access to our research expertise in food, agriculture, health and wellbeing, and digital technologies. The Hubs will also enable our researchers to form stronger connections with businesses and industry. It is an exciting new innovation which I hope many of you will be part of in due course. More details about the funding announcement and the Hubs are in this month's newsletter.

Also in this month's Research Bulletin, you can hear about our upcoming events, including an Engagement Forum and two Impact workshops. And we have an announcement on our successful Linkage grant recipients.

For those of you taking advantage of the up-coming long weekends (Easter and the Wellness Day), I hope you have an enjoyable and relaxing break. For those of you who are unable to take a break at this time, I hope you have some leave to look forward to in the near future.

For now, please take a moment from your day to enjoy the Research Bulletin.

All the best

Sue

**Professor Susan Dodds**

**Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Industry Engagement)**



## In this issue

### In this month's edition:

- New hubs are catalysts for innovation
- How Digital Collaboration is shaping the future of education
- New Academic Profiles now live

- Addressing gender equality at La Trobe
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## New hubs are catalysts for innovation

Funding was announced this month for our new science and technology hubs. The new La Trobe Hubs will help businesses grow by boosting access to our world-leading research expertise in food, agriculture, health and wellbeing, and digital technologies.

The new hubs will create 170 jobs including those during the construction phase, which will begin in May. The Hubs are expected to be complete in 2022. Businesses – from start-ups to small to medium-sized enterprises – will have the opportunity to become tenants in the bespoke facilities located in our Research and Innovation Precinct.

More details about the Digital Innovation Hub and Bio Innovation Hub are in our [media release](#).



*1 - Minister Gayle Tierney, Professor Andrew Hill, Professor John Dewar, MP Anthony Carbines, La Trobe PhD student and researcher Bree Mellberg.*

## How Digital Collaboration is shaping the future of education

In 2020, Cisco, Optus, Curtin and La Trobe University established the [National Industry Innovation Network \(NIIN\)](#), a new model for industry and universities to collaborate in addressing real-world industry challenges and responding to long-term national interests.

Recently, the NIIN released a paper, [How Digital Collaboration is shaping the future of Education](#) by Professor Mark Griffin and Professor Aniruddha Desai, that highlights the importance of secure digital

collaboration in the shift to hybrid learning environments. It not only aims to better understand the key challenges and opportunities faced when working remotely but addresses some of the unforeseen risks of a distributed workforce.

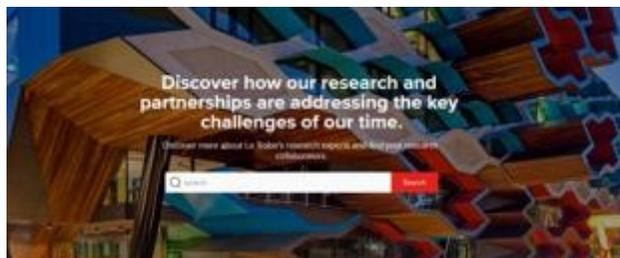
In March, Martin Stewart-Weeks from independent advisory practice, Public Purpose, sat down with experts from the four foundation members of the NIIN in an online event discussing key points and applications of the paper. The event also focused on the importance of digital collaboration in the shift to hybrid learning environments and covered critical insights to support the education sector in making informed decisions to successfully scale the implementation and adoption of collaboration technologies in the workplace. [Click here to view the recording](#) of the event. Contact the Industry Engagement team if you would like to find out more about the NIIN.



## New Academic Profiles now live

La Trobe's [refreshed Academic Profiles](#) are now public – check out what yours looks like in the new format! There are great new features and much more flexibility in how you can present your academic and research narrative. Make sure you take full advantage of them. Here's where you can find all the information you'll need to develop your profile page in effective ways:

- The [Digital Academic module](#) (from the RED team) features a new section devoted to 'La Trobe Academic Profiles'. The module is all about developing an online presence – why and how you'd do it. It also discusses specific platforms and practices. The new Academic Profiles section shares effective ways for researchers to make the most of the new features through their research and career narratives.
- The [Library guide for the profiles](#) provides an overview of the interface, and step-by-step instructions for populating the profile fields well. The Library Research Partnerships Team are available to support you through this transition period and are offering training and drop-in sessions. If you have any enquiries about Academic Profiles, contact the [Library Research Partnerships Team](#).



## Addressing gender equality at La Trobe

We are committed to providing a safe working and learning environment where gender equality is actively promoted, gender stereotypes are challenged and gender-based discrimination is called out and addressed. We are serious about ending gender-based violence and we know that this begins by addressing gender inequality in all its forms.

### Call for participants: Women's Academic Promotions Support Program

In our commitment to addressing gender inequality and removing the barriers to the career progression of women, trans and gender diverse staff, this year we are once again running our Women's Academic Promotions Support Program. The program will run fortnightly from April - May 2021 to enable you to submit promotion applications to your Head of School by 28 May.

### Carer's Conference and Travel Support Fund

We are also continuing to offer our Carers Conference and Travel Support Fund and in recognition of the increase in online conferences, this fund is now also available when presenting at a conference from home.

More information about these important initiatives are [on the intranet](#).



2 - Professor Susan Dodds hosted our recent International Women's Day event

## Why representation matters: Launching the La Trobe Pride Wiki editathon

It matters that queer voices and other underrepresented groups are marginalised - find out how you can help fix this using Wikipedia! This session during Pride Week launches an exciting new Wikipedia editathon project that aims to redress the underrepresentation of various groups, including trans, gender diverse, and LGBTIQ+ La Trobe University staff and alumni.

**Why can such a project make a difference?**

Hear from our savvy line-up of guest speakers about the consequences of underrepresentation, how it's being addressed through Wiki, and how you can be a part of the solution! Features Tasha Weir (SAGE Athena Swan), Quinn Eades (HuSS), and Thomas Shafee (Library).

On Friday 16 April, noon to 1pm. [REGISTER NOW](#)



## Learning opportunities



### **Strategic Engagement for Impact**

*The pathway to Impact is paved with good engagement.*

**Monday 19 April, 1-2pm**

In this session we'll consider how to generate an engagement plan which meets your Impact goals. Stakeholder engagement, managing communications, generating targeted outputs and various other engagement considerations will be discussed. This workshop is well suited for **early career researchers**, **but all are welcome**. [Register here](#)

### **Evidencing Impact**

*Increasingly, granting agencies are seeking evidence of the impact academic research has beyond academia.*

### **Wednesday 21 April, 1-2pm**

In this workshop we'll discuss the challenges of evidencing impact and collaboratively generate strategies for evidencing impact for research projects. Participants will be encouraged to consider their own research and generate an impact evidencing framework in the course of the workshop. The workshop is open to **all researchers**, regardless of career stage or discipline. [Register here](#)

### **Supervisor Development opportunities in March and April**

The RED program for supervisor development continues apace through March and April with a number of opportunities for participation:

- 30 March, 1-3pm: [Chairing Progress Committees](#)
- 20 April, 1-3pm: [Preparing Progress Support Plans](#) (consider attending even if you have not yet had to engage with the PSP process – this workshop will help you understand how it all works). More information about supervisor development [is available here](#)

**New Growing Researchers Online (GRO) modules now live!** There has been plenty of work happening on the suite of GRO Modules available for La Trobe Researchers, and here are some shiny new additions:

- [GRO Academic Writing](#) (new in 2021) – useful for supervisors to recommend to their graduate researchers!
- [GRO Orientation](#)
- [GRO Progress and Candidature](#) (new in 2021)
- [GRO Research Integrity](#)
- [GRO Intellectual Property](#) (new in 2021)
- [GRO Digital Academic](#)

Each GRO module can be accessed anytime by La Trobe researchers (staff and graduate researchers) to explore the topic at hand. Note that [GRO Digital Academic](#) has new information to help craft an effective Academic Profile and the new [GRO Intellectual Property](#) module will be very beneficial to ALL researchers who need an update on this vital aspect of knowledge management.

### **Upcoming Campus Plus workshops**

These Friday lunchtime webinars are a very accessible way to expand your practice and enhance your skills. Offered by Campus Plus, the following titles are coming up in May and June:

- May 14 - [How to grow your R&D funding](#)
- May 28 - [How to identify undiscovered University IP](#)
- June 11 - [Hints and Tips for managing your patent portfolio](#)

### **Engagement Forum: The Commercialisation Journey**

*Wanting to make impactful change with your research? What does this journey look like and how can I get help?*

Wednesday 12 May, 2-3pm

Hosted by our Industry Engagement team, *The Commercialisation Journey* will provide an opportunity to hear from La Trobe researcher, Professor Conor Hogan, who, in partnership with a major industry partner, is working on commercialising his research into a market-driven product. [Register here](#)

All Engagement Forums are recorded and [can be found here](#).



## Opportunities



### Global Markets Accelerator Program – Round 2

La Trobe Innovation and Entrepreneurship are pleased to announce that applications for the second round of the [Global Markets Accelerator Program](#) will open in April.

The Global Markets Accelerator Program is open to start-ups already trading and looking to scale globally. Working with our partners in India ([T-Hub](#)), Indonesia ([Innofactory](#)), Singapore ([Singtel Optus Innov8](#)) and Europe ([imec](#)), the start-ups will work through two distinct phases:

Success for this program would see participants expanding business in their chosen market/s, hiring staff, aligning with La Trobe for research opportunities, grant bid submissions, creation of Industry PhDs, PG/UG Internships or other exciting partnerships and collaborations.

If you are working with an organisation(s), or know a start-up that would be a great fit for the program, please invite them to [connect with us](#) to learn about the problem they're working to solve, and to explore how a place on the program can be of direct impact and value.

### Pitch It Clever

Pitch it Clever is an annual competition run by Universities Australia challenging early career researchers to communicate their research and why it matters to non-specialist audiences via short videos. Your challenge is to create a one to two-minute video that clearly unpacks your research and how it can be applied. Describe the problem or challenge, your findings and how they translate. Your video needs to capture the attention of not only university leaders, but industry, government, potential donors and the public.

A selection of university Vice-Chancellors will judge shortlisted videos to determine the winner of this coveted award. Submissions close on 30 April. [Find out more](#)

### **Tall Poppy Awards (Australian Institute of Policy and Science)**

The 2021 awards are open to researchers working in all fields of science, including biomedical, engineering, mathematics, technology and other applied or cross disciplinary sciences. For further information, application form (includes a reference from your nominator) and assistance see [Nominations 2021 - AIPS](#) or contact [Dr Sue Rogers](#) in the Research Office. **Closing date: 5pm, Tuesday 6 April**

### **David Syme Research Prize**

Nominations are invited for the David Syme Research Prize. The Australia-wide prize recognises the best original research in Biology, Physics, Chemistry or Geology produced in Australia during the past two years. For more details and assistance, please check the [University of Melbourne website](#) or contact [Dr Sue Rogers](#) in the Research Office. **Closing date: 5pm, Wednesday 28 April**



## **From the Grants team**

### **Major Grants Development Support Program**

#### *NHMRC Ideas Grants*

As we work towards the upcoming deadlines for the NHMRC Ideas Grants, we encourage all applicants to activate or register for a Sapphire account if you have not already done so. This also applies to all your CI and AIs that will be named on your applications.

Please note the email with instructions from Sapphire will be sent via [Sapphire.Mail@healthandmedicalresearch.gov.au](mailto:Sapphire.Mail@healthandmedicalresearch.gov.au). Please be advised that this email from Sapphire may be held up in your junk/spam/postmaster or mimecast. It is most likely being held in mimecast. To release the email from mimecast login to <https://login.mimecast.com/u/login/?gta=apps#/login>. Select the email, then the thumb up to release the message and make sure to permit to sender so it is not held in mimecast in the future.

### **Key dates for NHMRC Ideas Grants:**

Applications open in Sapphire. Guidelines available on <a href="#">GrantConnect</a>	10 March 2021
Minimum data due in Sapphire for Research Office to review	1 April 2021*
Minimum data NHMRC deadline	7 April 2021
<a href="#">PRIME proposal initiated</a>	
La Trobe internal deadline for compliance and eligibility check	12 April 2021
<a href="#">Start CA PdCCRS Proposal in PRIME</a>	19 April 2021
CI provides Research office with final copy of CA PdCCRS additional questions for compliance check in PRIME	
CI submits to RAO in Sapphire	9am 3 May 2021
RAO submits to NHMRC	
NHMRC submission deadline	5pm 5 May 2021
RAO submits CA PdCCRS additional questions	10 May
CA-PdCCRS submission deadline	5:00pm 12 May

School/Centre	Funder & Scheme	Total funding applied
<b>College of Science, Health, and Engineering</b>		
La Trobe Rural Health School	2020 Dementia Ageing and Aged Care Mission	\$1,882,941
	Australian Department of Health - Primary care Rural Innovative Multidisciplinary Models	\$390,710
	Exercise and Sports Science Australia Seed Grants 2021	\$5,000
	VicHealth Impact Research Grants	\$198,000
School of Allied Health, Human & Sport	Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation – Innovation Grants	\$299,780
	MS Research Australia Incubator Grants 2021	\$24,790
	Australian Physiotherapy Foundation 2021 Seeding Grant	\$20,000
School of Cancer Medicine	VicHealth Impact Research Grants	\$593,000
	Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation	\$295,246
School of Engineering and Mathematical Science	2020 MRFF - EPCDRI - Improving Diagnosis in Cancers with Low Survival Rates	\$959,102
	National Foundation for Australia-China Relations Grant	\$70,000
School of Life Sciences	NIC Research Program National Intelligence Postdoctoral Grant	\$298,190
	Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation – Innovation Grants	\$50,000
	Bill Borthwick Student Scholarships - Victorian Environmental Assessment Council	\$2,475
	Australia and Pacific Science Foundation Research Grants	\$36,492
	Department of Defence – Next Generation Technologies Fund	\$3,434,102
	Hermon Slade Foundation	\$153,535
	The Australian Flora Foundation	\$4,197
	American Parkinson Disease Association	\$190,000
	International Association for the Study of Pain Early-Career Research Grants	\$25,955
	School of Psychology and Public Health	Organization for Autism Research
American Academy of Sleep Medicine		\$199,602
VicHealth Fellowships for Early Career Researchers		\$228,000
VicHealth Impact Research Grants		\$200,000
School of Nursing and Midwifery	King Salman Center for Disability Research	\$26,182
	VicHealth Impact Research Grants	\$200,000
Judith Lumley Centre	2020 Indigenous Health Research Fund	\$1,499,041
<b>College of Arts, Social Science and Commerce</b>		
School of Humanities and Social Sciences		
La Trobe Business School	VicHealth Impact Research Grants	\$200,000
La Trobe Law School		
School of Education	VicHealth Impact Research Grants	\$200,000
La Trobe Asia	National Foundation for Australia-China Relations Grant	\$293,315

*\*Please note that due to Easter the University is closed Friday 2 – Tuesday 6 April (inclusive) therefore we require minimum data in Sapphire prior to this break.*

If you have any questions regarding Sapphire or Ideas Grants, please contact [Dr Leah Kivivali](#) (x3122)

### **Fellowship Support Program**

**NHMRC Investigator Grants:** The NHMRC Investigator Grants are due on Wednesday 31 March and the Grants Team is in the final days of compliance and eligibility checking all applications prior to submission. Thanks to all the researchers for working with us during this time. Please contact [Dr Leah Kivivali](#) if you have any questions.

**ARC Future Fellowship and DECRA Rejoinders:** ARC Future Fellowship and DECRA applicants have received their accessors comments. Grants Team members have worked with the applicants in providing feedback on their rejoinder responses which have been submitted to the ARC.

## Grants Team outreach

We are happy to come along to Centre/Department/Discipline meetings to speak about the services and support the Grants Team offers researchers at La Trobe. Please feel free to contact [Deepa Balakrishnan](#) (Senior Manager, Research Grants) to organise a time if you are interested.

## Grants recently submitted

*Note: Only Schools which submitted grants in the timeframe are included in this table.*

Upcoming funding opportunities can now be found in PRIME. [Guidelines](#) for searching and saving searches are now available. Please Start a Proposal to notify the Research Office of your interest, or [contact us](#).

## La Trobe University and the University of Bayreuth (Germany) Funding Opportunities Webinar – April 14 1pm

La Trobe and the University of Bayreuth (Germany) have a strategic partnership which includes a joint PhD Program. In this information session Dr Irina Herrschner, the manager of the University of Bayreuth's Melbourne Gateway Office, will outline the opportunities for La Trobe University staff to leverage this relationship. This includes opportunities or research collaborations, exchange and funding programs. [Register here](#)

## In the media

### \$1.53m in ARC Linkage grants awarded

Congratulations to [Professor Cheryl Dissanayake](#), [Dr James Van Dyke](#) and [Dr Ryan Phillips](#) for your recent Linkage Project grant success. Details of their projects, the other researchers involved and our researchers with Linkage grants being led by other universities are in our [media release](#).

### Archaeologists are uncovering the remains of an ancient burial site

Our researchers are combining archaeological methods and traditional knowledge to investigate Aboriginal carved trees and burials in NSW, on Wiradjuri Country. This research project is a collaboration with the Central Tablelands Local Land Services (NSW Government), Wiradjuri Elders and community, and Orange Local Aboriginal Land Council.

[Watch the 9 News coverage](#).

### Scientists Are Watching Proteins Repair DNA In Real Time

[Dr Donna Whelan](#)'s research on DNA was featured in IFL Science. [Read the story here](#).

## Quest: Research. Discovery. Impact

Our Quest newsletter showcases the breadth of research at La Trobe and is sent out to partners and collaborators every quarter. You can check out the latest issue and encourage your contacts to sign up for it, [via our web page](#).

