



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

School of Drama, Fine Art & Music

Guidelines for Postgraduate students

Dear RHD candidate,

Welcome to postgraduate study at the University of Newcastle. This is a time for scholarly reflection and engagement as well as commitment to your creative practice. I hope that you will enjoy your time with us and that your period of postgraduate study is productive, exciting, and an opportunity for growth and development.

This set of guidelines is provided to assist you in understanding the policies and procedures, responsibilities and opportunities that are part of your candidature within the School of Drama, Fine Art and Music. There is an initial overview listing the primary features of your candidature, which is then followed by more detailed information on each of the areas. You should also consult the Office of Graduate Studies website - <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/research/rhd/index.html> - for further information. Don't forget, your supervisor/s are your first port of call (after this guide) when you have any queries and they can advise you on where else to access information.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Vella', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Professor Richard Vella

Head of School DFAM

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Introduction

The School of Drama, Fine and Music (DFAM) is part of the Faculty of Education and Arts (FEDUA) at the University of Newcastle. The School is committed to the development of research and research higher degree students in our creative disciplines. Many of our students go on to productive careers as practicing artists, musicians, composers, dramatists, performers, curators or arts administrators, as well as entering the ranks of academia.

To further the interests of our research DFAM has a Research and Research Training Committee, which meets regularly and reports to the Faculty's Research and Research Training Committee. The Faculty Committee reports, in turn, to the University Research and Research Training Committee. The DFAM Research Training Committee is the one directly concerned with issues and policies for RHD students in DFAM. This committee also assesses applications for Research Training Scheme (RTS) funds (see below).

Each discipline in the School runs its own postgraduate seminars. In addition, there is a DFAM-wide workshop aimed at those well into their writing (the Chapter Writing Workshop). All students are encouraged to attend this workshop when they have reached the appropriate stage i.e. when they have substantial pieces of writing to share with the group. For further information on this workshop, see below.

Dr Angela Philp

Deputy Head of School DFAM (Research)

DFAM Contacts:

Dr Gillian Arrighi

Lecturer, Drama

Postgraduate Convenor, Drama

Tel: 4921 5007

Office: SRR212, Social Sciences Building, Callaghan

Email: Gillian.Arrighi@newcastle.edu.au

Dr Rosalind Halton

Senior Lecturer, Music

Postgraduate Convenor, Music

Tel: 4921 8950

Email: R.Halton@newcastle.edu.au

Office: CON118, Conservatorium of Music, City Campus

Dr Angela Philp

Deputy Head of School (Research)

Lecturer, Art History and Theory

Postgraduate Convenor, Fine Art

Deputy Head of School (Research), DFAM

Tel: 4921 6763

Email: Angela.Philp@newcastle.edu.au

Office: Gallery Studio 6, University Gallery Building, Callaghan

Dr Jocelyn McKinnon

Lecturer, Creative Arts

Ourimbah Campus

Tel: 4348 4051

Email: Jocelyn.McKinnon@newcastle.edu.au

Office: HO1.25, Humanities Office Building, Ourimbah Campus

Office of Graduate Studies

The Office of Graduate Studies (OGS) undertakes administration of Research Higher Degree students and processes. This is located in the Chancellery Building on the Callaghan Campus. OGS coordinates admissions, annual progress reports, examination of RHDs, and Resources, Support and Training in addition to those available within your own Faculty or School.

The OGS website includes a Candidates Guide, available at <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/students/research-higher-degree/current-students/>

This includes information on

- Candidate administration and faculty staff
- Enrolment and Induction
- Management of Candidature
- Fees and Charges
- Research Thesis
- Progress
- Examination

In addition the OGS website includes information on Induction Programs and Confirmation Year requirements, which should be read by all commencing RHD candidates.

The University provides all commencing RHD candidates with a laptop. Commencing candidates must be enrolled and have a student card before a laptop can be issued. Terms and conditions of accepting a laptop are available on the OGS website.

Overview of candidature and milestones

Starting Out

The Office of Graduate Studies runs induction programs

All candidates are encouraged to register and attend a live induction session as this provides an opportunity to ask questions and meet fellow candidates and relevant people from various administrative services and faculties.

We also have an online induction program. This can be undertaken in addition to, or, in place of the live session. At least all new RHD students must complete one of the induction options provided by the Office of Graduate Studies, generally within six weeks of commencing. To access the online induction, log in to [Blackboard](#) and 'Induction for Research Higher Degree Students' will be listed on your course list. Instructions for completing the induction are available within the program. The online program also provides you with a useful resource to refer to during your candidature. You may also be invited to attend an induction session conducted by your Faculty. At this session you will be provided with Faculty and School policy and procedures in respect of postgraduate studies and you will be introduced to the Faculty and School administration. It is important for you to attend your faculty induction session as practices and expectations can vary between faculties. Faculty or School staff will be responsible for settling you into your School, introducing you to members of the School and, ensuring that you have basic facilities such as a desk and chair, access to a phone, a mail delivery point, and access to computing and photocopying facilities.

DFAM

It is important to meet with your supervisor early on to discuss your overall project and to establish a schedule of regular meetings. It is a good idea to meet with both your supervisors together at this stage to work out areas of responsibility and a shared understanding of the project. A joint meeting like this should also be undertaken at least once a year.

Meet with the post graduate convenor in your area (Drama - Dr Gillian Arrighi; Fine Art - Dr Angela Philp; Music - Dr Rosalind Halton; Creative Arts - Dr Jocelyn McKinnon,) to talk about any issues of concern or to organize any aspects of your candidature still unresolved (such as appointment of a second supervisor if you don't already have one).

Make contact with the postgraduate student representative in your area.

Meet with technical and administrative staff who may have responsibilities for your space, equipment access etc. Ensure you are aware of the access policies in your area.

The First Year

In your first 3 -6 months:

You should ensure you meet with your supervisor early on to discuss:

- your progress and to establish a regular meeting schedule
- how to develop a draft literature review
- whether your supervision arrangements are working satisfactorily.
- whether there are courses/conferences that you might attend.
- how to ensure all the possible ethical implications of the project have been considered and whether you may need to submit an application for ethics approval
- methods for keeping research data and records.
- any significant changes since starting that may affect your capacity to complete your project

Confirmation

University policy states that in order to progress from provisional to confirmed status, candidates are required to undertake a confirmation process within twelve months of commencement of candidature on a full-time basis or part-time equivalent and shall satisfy the following requirements:

- a) the provision of a written document containing at least:
 - * a critical review of recent work in the field
 - * an updated research proposal
 - * an updated plan of research
 - * an updated timetable for completion of the thesis
 - * a comprehensive statement of the resources required to complete the project within the funded period;
- b) the provision of an oral presentation, given to a Confirmation Committee at a seminar; and
- c) the provision of a verbal defence of the research proposal before the Confirmation Committee.

The Confirmation Committee will determine an outcome following the completion of the confirmation process. There are four possible outcomes:

- a) candidature is confirmed;
- b) candidature is confirmed with conditions;
- c) the candidate is required to revise their work and undertake a second attempt at confirmation within three months; or
- d) a recommendation is made to the Committee for termination of candidature.

Normally, a student may not undergo a third attempt at confirmation. In exceptional circumstances, the Dean of Graduate Studies may approve an additional attempt at confirmation.

Any significant changes to the thesis topic must be approved by the Pro Vice-Chancellor (or nominee).

The candidate, the supervisor and the Head of School shall submit progress reports as specified by the Committee. The candidate's failure to complete this requirement may result in a recommendation being made to the Committee for termination of candidature.

DFAM Confirmation Committee and Process:

The committee will ask you to do a roughly 30 minute presentation on your work - you may choose to use images (e.g. in a PowerPoint presentation) or sound where appropriate. The committee may ask questions about any of this material. There will be a chance for you to raise any issues you have.

You should prepare the following materials, which will need to be provided at least a week prior to your confirmation session:

A document of no more than 15 pages that includes

- a 250-350 word abstract of your project

- the central research question you are investigating - the ability to express this fairly succinctly will assist in how everything else then follows suit

- your methodology - i.e. how you are going to actually do the research - does it involve archives, interviews? Identify use of primary vs secondary sources. How does the exegesis link to practice and vice versa?

- a chapter outline - including a brief description of the contents of each chapter

- a literature review - this need not be exhaustive, but should include a survey of the current writing/thinking in your area of focus, who are the current (or important past) writers, what is the current state of the field, which material will be most helpful and which thinkers/writers in the field whose work you may diverge from or reject (and give reasons) - this will involve listing bibliographic references and discussing some of them briefly to explain their influence on you.

- a timeline for completion (e.g. chapters by particular dates, studio/performance prep etc)

- any issues which you think might impact on your progress (e.g. resources? ethics application? supervision? other issues?)
- images/ recordings of your work - perhaps on a PowerPoint or a memory stick (up to you to determine which suits) (only needed on the day)
- a summary of progress to date including preliminary data, methods and resources developed etc
- a brief argument for the relevance and importance of the study,

Upgrading from Masters to PhD

If you are hoping to upgrade from Masters to PhD then the time to do it is at Confirmation. If you want to do this later on in your candidature, you will have to undergo another Confirmation process. It is not generally recommended that you apply to upgrade your candidature. It is often better to complete a Masters research degree first before moving on to PhD work. However, if you have a project that you can demonstrate is of sufficient scope and originality to be of PhD standard then you may apply to upgrade. Firstly, you *must* consult your supervisor/s. In addition, you should have completed a substantial piece of work that shows you can work at the higher level and in a timely manner. You should also be able to prove this work is already of PhD standard. You should be able to provide a revised timeline, revised abstract and sufficient material to show the merit of the material at the higher level. It is probably also useful to consult with the DFAM Research Convenor before you proceed.

Subsequent years

Annual progress reporting and review procedure

Progress Reports

All Research Higher Degree Candidates are required to complete an annual progress report in November each year. Some candidates will also be required to complete a mid-year progress report in May/June.

The report is an opportunity for you to reflect on and measure your progress, your supervision, the resources that are available to you and to identify any barriers to meeting your completion targets.

A mid-year progress report will be required if:

- Concerns were expressed with regards to your previous annual progress report.
- Your Research Training Scheme (RTS) entitlement has expired.
- You are an international student (this is a requirement of the Australian Government).
- You have applied for leave of absence in the next semester. (The mid-year report will replace the annual report).

As the completion of the report is a requirement of your candidature, if you do not complete a report when requested you may be asked to show cause as to why your candidature should not be terminated.

There are three parts to the report:

Section A - Candidate's Report: This is a confidential report which will not be shown to your supervisor.

Section B - Supervisor's Report: This is a confidential report which will not be shown to your candidate.

Section C - Joint Report from candidate and supervisor on completion targets.

Please answer questions candidly, as the identification of difficulties will allow problems to be addressed. You are welcome to seek advice from the staff of the Office of Graduate Studies before completing the report, if required.

Comment will be sought on such matters as:

- The extent to which progress in terms of the research program agreed with the supervisor has been achieved;
- The extent of the interaction with the supervisor in terms of the agreed program of consultation;
- Status of ethics clearances;
- Presentation of research (seminars, publications);
- Any factors which are affecting the progress of work adversely or otherwise;
- Anticipated completion time, and reasons for changes to the anticipated date from previous reports on progress;
- Availability of training and support.

RHD Academic Progress Reports Procedure

The Progress Report procedure allows for independent candidate and supervisor reports and a joint report identifying progression and completion targets.

Summary of Requirements

The candidate is responsible for:

- Completing Section A and returning it directly to OGS by the date requested on the form.
- Jointly completing Section C with their supervisor and returning it to OGS by the date requested on the form.

The supervisor is responsible for:

- Completing Section B and returning it directly to OGS by the date requested on the form.
- Jointly completing Section C with the candidate, in time for the report to be submitted to OGS by the date requested on the form.

The Office of Graduate Studies is responsible for receipting and collating each section of the report. The Dean of Graduate Studies reads every report, notes any issues of concern and then forwards the reports to the relevant Head of School (or nominee) and Assistant Dean (Research Training) for comment and response to any issues raised. The Assistant Dean sends the report back to the Dean, where any outstanding issues are further investigated.

The blank reports are available to download from the Forms web page.

Submission of Thesis for Examination

The following guide is drawn from the University's policy on thesis submission.

A candidate shall give to the Office of Graduate Studies not less than two months written notice of intention to submit the thesis for examination.

a) A candidate shall submit to the Office of Graduate Studies the number of copies of the thesis as prescribed in the relevant Schedule, in the format prescribed in the Thesis Preparation and Submission Guidelines; together with a certificate signed by the candidate that the thesis complies with Clauses 48 a) and b). It is a requirement that an electronic copy of the final corrected version of the thesis is lodged with the Australian Digital Thesis Program.

b) In the case of a JARHDP, candidates shall submit their thesis in accordance with the conditions stipulated in the Memorandum of Understanding.

The supervisor shall provide a report:

- a) advising that the candidate has completed the program under the direction of the supervisor; and
- b) confirming that the thesis is of sufficient Merit to warrant examination.

In the event that the supervisor does not provide the report required under Clause 54 within two weeks following submission, or that such a report is unfavourable, a candidate may make a request in writing to the Pro Vice-Chancellor (or nominee) that the thesis nevertheless be accepted for examination. The Pro Vice-Chancellor (or nominee) shall seek:

- a) the comments of the supervisor on the thesis; and
- b) such other information as the Pro Vice-Chancellor (or nominee) may require; and shall determine whether or not the thesis will be accepted for examination.

The candidate shall make the required thesis declaration at the time of submission of the thesis as prescribed by the Committee.

The candidate must have completed any courses required for the degree before the thesis is submitted.

Examination of Thesis

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (or nominee) shall appoint the number of examiners as prescribed in the relevant Schedule.

The names of examiners shall not be disclosed to the student prior to the submission of the thesis, nor released after the examination process is completed unless the examiner(s) specifically approves the release of his/her identity, subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Only the Dean, Graduate Studies (or

nominee) may communicate with the examiners regarding the examination process while the thesis is under examination. Breaches of this provision in relation to communication with examiners will be referred to the Committee and may be interpreted as misconduct within the terms of University policy.

Each examiner shall submit an independent, written report on the merits of the thesis which shall contain an assessment of the thesis in relation to the stated thesis objectives and as a requirement for a research higher degree. The report shall include one of the following recommendations:

- a) award: the thesis be classified as passed - the examiner may specify this category for a thesis which only contains errors of presentation. The Committee will require that the candidate correct such errors as outlined in the Examiner's Report to the satisfaction of the Faculty as specified by the Committee, within the timeframe specified in Clause 71; or
- b) require: the thesis be classified as passed conditionally, subject to amendments, as outlined in the Examiner's Report, being made to the satisfaction of the Faculty as specified by the Committee – the examiner may specify this category for a thesis which requires correction of deficiencies other than errors of presentation, but which are not of sufficient importance to warrant submission for re-examination by the original examiner; such amendments must be made within the timeframe specified in Clause 72; or
- c) revise and resubmit: the thesis be submitted in a revised form for re-examination by the original examiners – the examiner may specify this category for a thesis which requires major, substantive amendment and submission for re-examination by the original examiner within the timeframe specified in Clause 63. In the Examiner's Report, the examiner shall provide detailed guidance to the candidate to assist revision and the thesis must be resubmitted together with a statement by the candidate outlining the revisions that have been made; or
- d) fail: the thesis be classified as failed, without right to resubmit the thesis, on the basis that a significant amount of additional research work and/or major, substantive revision will not raise the thesis to an acceptable standard.

The Committee shall consider the reports of examiners, and any other recommendations prescribed in the relevant Schedule and shall:

- a) recommend to the Dean, Graduate Studies that the candidate be admitted to the degree subject to any condition that the Committee may impose and submission of the electronic copy and hard-bound copy of the thesis as outlined in Clauses 71 to 75; or
- b) permit the candidate to amend, or revise and resubmit the thesis; or
- c) require the candidate to undertake further oral, written or practical examinations;
or

d) recommend to the Dean, Graduate Studies that the candidate not be admitted to the degree, and that the candidature be terminated.

A candidate will be permitted to amend, or revise and resubmit a thesis for examination once only.

A candidate permitted to revise and resubmit a thesis shall re-enrol as a candidate for the degree. The revised thesis shall be submitted within a period of one year from the date on which the candidate is advised of the result of the first examination, otherwise the candidature shall be terminated by the Dean, Graduate Studies. A candidate permitted to revise and resubmit a thesis must submit the revised thesis for examination at the same level as previously examined.

Where the examiners' recommendations are not unanimous, before making any recommendation, the Committee may take one or more of the following actions, namely:

- a) appoint the additional examiner;
- b) appoint an arbiter;
- c) invite the examiners to confer with each other and/or with the Committee, with a view to the presentation of a consolidated recommendation;
- d) direct that the candidate undertake such further examinations either oral, written or practical as the Committee may specify.

Defence of Thesis

Before recommending to the Dean, Graduate Studies that the degree not be awarded, the Committee shall invite the candidate to provide an academic defence of the thesis, in oral and/or written form, in response to the reports of the examiner(s).

Appeals Procedure – Thesis Examination

A candidate may lodge an appeal against the outcome of the examination of the thesis on the basis of process, but not against evaluations in the assessment of the Examiners' Reports, nor against the Committee's recommendation to the Dean, Graduate Studies.

Appeals Against Classification of Theses as Failed

A candidate whose thesis has been classified as failed may, within 28 days of the date of the letter of notification of the failed classification, appeal in writing against this classification to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research). Appeals will be permitted on the following grounds only:

- a) procedural irregularities in the examination of the thesis or in the conduct of any examination which forms part of the determination of the result. In this case it is

necessary for the candidate to demonstrate that an aspect(s) of the examination process, as determined in these Rules, was not appropriately followed and that this caused, or was likely to have substantially contributed to, the award of a fail grade; or
b) documented evidence of prejudice or bias on the part of one or more of the Examiners.

Upon receipt of an appeal, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) shall review all relevant information to determine if a case exists for reconsideration of the fail classification of the candidate's thesis. In such cases, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) may resolve that:

- a) the candidate be permitted to resubmit the thesis for examination by a new examiner or examiners; or
- b) the thesis be confirmed as failed.

The new examiner shall examine the thesis and submit a written recommendation to the Committee under the same provisions as the original examiners as prescribed in these Rules.

Award of the Degree and Availability of Thesis

To qualify for admission to the degree a candidate shall have been enrolled and satisfied the requirements prescribed in the relevant degree Schedule, and in the case of candidates enrolled in a JARHDP, the Memorandum of Understanding. The resulting qualification for candidates enrolled in a JARHDP, will be that stipulated in the Memorandum of Understanding: either a single degree jointly awarded, or two separate degrees.

In accordance with Clause 60a), a candidate awarded the degree is required to correct any errors of presentation as specified by the examiners and to submit a hard-bound copy and an electronic copy of the thesis within one month of official notification of the examination outcome.

In accordance with Clause 60b), a candidate required to make corrections to the thesis to the satisfaction of the Faculty is required to submit a hard-bound copy and an electronic copy of the thesis within six months of official notification of the examination outcome.

Any copies of the thesis submitted by the candidate shall become the property of the University. The copies are subject to any confidentiality agreements entered into by the University, the candidate and any sponsoring body of the research.

The University will retain any soft-bound office copies of the submitted thesis until such time as the final hard-bound copy and the electronic copy are submitted. The hard-bound copy will be lodged with the University library. The candidate must lodge the electronic copy with the Australian Digital Thesis Program.

Once the hard-bound copy and electronic copy have been received, the Dean of Graduate Studies makes a recommendation to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), President of Academic Senate and the Vice-Chancellor that the degree be awarded. A research candidate is deemed to have qualified for the award of the degree on the date the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), President of Academic Senate and the Vice-Chancellor approve admission to the degree under delegated authority from Council.

The copy of the thesis deposited in the University Library shall be available immediately to any person for consultation or copying unless the candidate makes an application to the Dean, Graduate Studies. The Dean, Graduate Studies shall consider this application, taking into account advice from the supervisor and Head of School, and may determine that the thesis will not be made available without the written consent of the author for a specified period.

Subject to any determination under Clause 76, the Library may supply in any medium, a copy of the thesis upon request to any person or library.

See also Examination of Theses in the Creative Arts Guideline at <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/000826.html>

This notes that:

With regard to thesis examination for research programs that include a substantial creative component in fine art, music, drama, design/illustration, audio visual, multi media or creative writing, the Rules Governing Research Higher Degrees state: In the creative and performing arts, the submission may consist primarily of items such as an exhibition, a design project, a portfolio of literary or musical compositions, a sequence of recitals, recordings, audio visual, multimedia or other creative productions. In this case, the exhibition, design project, portfolio, recitals or productions shall be accompanied on submission by a scholarly written work of critical analysis, “the exegesis”, undertaken during the period of candidature. This must provide a rationale for the techniques and strategies adopted in the creative component, and must situate them in relation to a theoretical and/or historical cultural context. Where appropriate, it may include a sustained account of the creative process.

Although there is no prescribed word length for the accompanying exegesis it is recommended that this should normally comprise 12,000 - 25,000 words for a Masters and 20,000 - 35,000 words for a Doctoral submission and should not normally exceed 40,000 words excluding appendices, tables and illustrative matter.

In the case of exhibitions by Fine Art RHD students, the candidate is required to provide a CD with images of the exhibition for the examiners in advance of their visit.

Managing your research

Managing a Research Higher Degree can occasionally be a stressful process.

There are a few things worth bearing in mind to keep your stress to a minimum:

- Remember to put in variations to candidature with plenty of time, especially if you are applying for a leave of absence.
- Establish a timetable for your work and try to stick to the goals you set for yourself. If you are having trouble meeting any of your goals, discuss it with your supervisor early on – don't leave it till it gets out of hand.
- Present your written work to your supervisors in a clear and legible format – leaving wide margins and using double spacing enables space for comments.
- Don't isolate yourself from fellow students, colleagues and staff – they are a potential support group who may have already confronted similar problems/issues and be able to offer helpful advice right when you need it.
- If you are experiencing any difficulties in your supervisory relationship, whether differences of opinion or approach, or interpersonal problems, try to discuss this with them. If this is not possible, you are welcome to approach the Research Convenor in your area or the Deputy Head of School (Research) who may be able to suggest ways of resolving things.
- Try to keep on top of things – doing a little often is better than long periods of inactivity followed by bursts of energy.
- Re the exegesis – write early, write often – even if you think what you are writing is rubbish at first. The process of writing is part of the process of thinking. You won't bring ideas to the page as fully formed gems of wisdom. This is why you won't do just one draft, but many – it's all part of the learning process.
- ideally your practice and your writing go hand-in-hand – each should inform the other. Don't think of the exegesis as something to be tacked on at the end of creative process.
- Remember to have a life outside the RHD process!

Services

Student Hubs are located at Shortland Union (Callaghan campus); the Hunter Building (Callaghan campus); City Precinct (cnr Auckland and King streets); and the Ourimbah campus.

They are a one-stop shop offering places to work, eat, and get advice and referrals from trained staff about issues relating to your studies. For RHD students their services include: admissions advice; computer access and wireless enabled areas; credit information and advice; enrolment advice; official transcripts, parking permits; policy advice; printers, photocopiers and scanners; referrals to counseling, Dean of Students, Disability Support Services, Graduate Studies, loans and welfare; student ID cards; scholarships advice; and travel concessions. See their website at: <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/students/hubs/>

There are also access areas known as **Information Commons** located in Auchmuty Library, the City Hub, and at the Ourimbah campus. These are open 24 hours a day during semester and give you access to computers, printing, photocopying, and scanning. You will need to have your student card encoded in advance to use the Night Owl service at Auchmuty library. See <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/library/aic/services.html> for further information.

Libraries

The University of Newcastle Library has four buildings. The main site is **Auchmuty**, located near the Shortland Union on the Callaghan campus. It houses traditional collections, including rare books and archives, information services and study facilities. It is home to the Information Common.

The **Huxley Library**, located in the Hunter Building, Callaghan campus, specializes in Fine Arts, Education and Nursing., as well as housing the Toy Library and the Curriculum Resource and Media Centre.

The **City Library** is located on the first floor of University House in the Newcastle CBD. It accommodates the library services and collections of the Faculty and Conservatorium of Music, as well as the Graduate School of Business and the Newcastle Legal Centre.

The **Ourimbah Library** supports joint University-TAFE disciplines and courses.

See <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/library/index.html> for further information, including electronic access and opening hours.

Student email

All students of the University of Newcastle are automatically granted a student email account on completion of enrolment. Official University correspondence to students will be sent via this email account, so you should check your student email account regularly.

Initially your email address will include your student number - c1234567@uon.edu.au.

IT Services is currently consulting with a number of student bodies to establish a naming alias that reflects the student name, that is acceptable to students and technically viable.

There is no charge for the use of student email, although printing on centrally managed printers does incur a charge.

IT Services provides black & white and colour printers for student use on a cost per page basis.

Printers are located in teaching laboratories and general access areas including the student hubs and libraries at the Callaghan and Ourimbah campuses and the City Precinct.

Undergraduate and research students at other locations should check with their local IT support staff regarding printing facilities.

Printing for postgraduate students in DFAM is available in each of the discipline areas. It is free, however students should observe copyright legislation.

Postgraduate student association

NUPSA – Newcastle University Postgraduate Students' Association

The association's website is at: <http://www.nupsa.org.au/>

Phone: +61 02 49 21 8894

Fax: +61 02 49 21 8895

E-mail: nupsa@newcastle.edu.au

Mail address:

NUPSA

Box 5 Hunter Building

University of Newcastle

Callaghan New South Wales 2308 Australia

The NUPSA Office is located in Room A150 Hunter Building, Callaghan Campus. The office is open part time Monday to Friday, with core hours being 9.30am to 2.30pm.

As an enrolled postgraduate student, you are automatically a member of NUPSA. It is useful to check the website regularly for their newsletter and for notice of upcoming events. The association can assist you if you are experiencing any problems with your studies.

Language and Academic Skills Unit

See website at <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/unit/centre-for-teaching-and-learning/learning-development/>

Learning Development works with students and academic staff to help all students learn and write effectively at all stages of their degree program.

The unit teaches Academic Skills, English Language proficiency, and Maths skills relevant to most disciplines across the university.

Workshops

You can develop skills in academic writing and learning through:

- general Academic Skills workshops for all undergraduate and postgraduate students
- a series of seminars and events for Research Higher Degree students in each faculty

If English is not your first language, you can develop English Language skills through:

- general ESL workshops for undergraduate and postgraduate students
- workshops in English reading, writing, speaking and listening which students can access by completing the Diagnostic Academic English Language Test (DAELT)

To register for workshops, and to find out more about the DAELT, go to the Learning Development Blackboard Course on the Language and Academic Skills Unit website.

Additional Research Skills Training

Information Research Skills are taught on-line through the Library website <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/library/training/libraryresearch.html>

Topics covered include:

- The Search Strategy
- Evaluating Information
- Essay and Report Writing
- Information Literacy Tutorials
- Software Tutorials
- Internet
- Referencing

Counselling Service

The Counselling Service is available to students free of charge, on a confidential basis at each of the campuses at the University of Newcastle. All staff are professionally trained psychologists or social workers and are here to help you clarify and resolve a range of issues, which might otherwise interfere with academic or personal effectiveness. Such issues include - adjustment to University life, personal and family difficulties, anxiety, depression, bereavement, relationship problems, situational stress, and course-related problems such as examination anxiety, motivation etc. The Service offers both individual counselling and groups.

International Student Counsellor

Michael Romeo, the International Student Counsellor is based at the Callaghan campus of the University of Newcastle. He specialises in helping international students. Difficulties encountered by international students include settling into life in Australia, coping with Australian learning styles, dealing with other students and teachers as well as a range of personal and study issues.

The Counselling Service has a website at <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/counselling/>

You can find appointment information on the website.

Callaghan Campus

To make an appointment with a counsellor:

- **By Phone:** (02) 4921 5801
- **In Person** (HA209, Hunter Building, opposite the Griffith Duncan theatre stairs)
- **By Email:** counselling@newcastle.edu.au (Please provide a phone number in your email so we can contact you if required.)

Walk-in appointments

If your need is urgent you can attend a walk in clinic at the following times.

Please arrive early as there are limited spaces available.

- Mondays and Wednesdays between 2:00pm and 4.00pm

Central Coast Campus

To make an appointment with a counsellor:

- **By Phone:** (02) 4348 4060
- **In Person**
- **By Email:** student-support-ourimbah@newcastle.edu.au

If your need is urgent, please phone for a same day appointment.

Where we are

We are in the Student Support Unit, adjacent to the Library.

We see students from TAFE Hunter Institute and The University of Newcastle.

Sports and Recreation Association

The Forum is managed by Newcastle University Sport (NUsport). NUsport is associated with The University of Newcastle and was officially registered as a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee on 15 May 2001. NUsport was formed through the amalgamation of The University of Newcastle Sports Union and The University of Newcastle Sports & Aquatic Centre Ltd. NUsport became responsible for the administration of all sport and recreation on the Callaghan campus on 25 February 2002.

The award winning NUsport is a leader in the health and fitness industry and manages a suite of contemporary facilities in convenient locations including:

- The Forum Sports & Aquatic Centre, The University of Newcastle, University
- The Forum Health & Wellness Centre, Harbourside, Newcastle
- The Squash & Tennis Pavilion
- Ray Watt Pavilion
- Five sporting ovals
- NUsport Rowing Pavilion (located at Berry Park near Maitland)

These facilities as well as a diverse offering of programs and activities are designed to meet the needs of our local community as well as sporting groups, University staff, students and business people. Supported by the knowledge and experience of our highly skilled team, our activities and our programs are designed to help our community lead a healthy lifestyle.

See the website for further information -

<http://www.theforum.org.au/page11847/Home.aspx>

DFAM Facilities/Discipline Resources

As a postgraduate student in DFAM you are entitled to the following facilities:

- access to a desk or cubicle or studio space
- access to a computer (see lap top program)
- printing
- photocopying
- stationery
- envelopes and postage

More specialised resources may be required according to the nature of your project and candidature. These needs should be discussed with your supervisor or the head of your discipline area. You are also eligible to apply for RTS funds during your candidature. (See 'RTS Program')

Printing, photocopying, and scanning facilities are available for all RHD students in the various discipline locations (Drama, Fine Art and Music).

In addition, there is a computer room (Gallery Studio 2) for use by Fine Art RHD students. This room provides PC and Macintosh computers and a quiet space in which to write, study and research.

Referencing style

Drama recommends that students use the Chicago Style Manual as a guide for referencing in their written work.

Fine Art recommends that students use the Chicago Style Manual as a guide for referencing in their written work.

Music – please consult with Dr Rosalind Halton

University Code of Practice for Research Higher Degree Candidature

See the website at <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/000061.html>

The principal purpose of the code of practice is to ensure that supervisors, their respective academic units and Faculties, and the candidates, are aware and clear about their minimum responsibilities, the responsibilities of each other and of the University. The University acknowledges that research candidates have a right to effective supervision. However, candidates do have responsibilities to adhere to the University's rules, to be proactive in completing all components of their research and thesis, to maintain progress and to communicate with their supervisors. As part of the enrolment process, candidates and the University are required to acknowledge and accept that the following clauses describe the respective rights and responsibilities of both parties and form the basis of understanding and commitment between them. Whilst functions, responsibilities and the relationship between supervisors and candidate will vary according to the research discipline, especially with regard to the provision of physical resources, the fundamental principles outlined in the Code apply to all Faculties, academic units, supervisors and candidates.

This Code of Practice includes:

Responsibilities at Institutional Level

Responsibilities at the Faculty / Academic Unit Level

Responsibilities of Supervisors

Responsibilities of Candidates

The website also includes information on:

Intellectual Property Policy 000831

Intellectual Property Procedure 000832

Human Research Ethics

Animal Research Ethics

Rules Governing Research Higher Degree Rules 000830

Doctor of Philosophy Schedule 000091

Master by Research Schedule 00216

Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research

Responsible Conduct of Research Policy 000873

Complaints Resolution Policy 000745

University Policy Library

Occupational Health and Safety

Support and Funding Opportunities

RHD Project/Conference Funding Support

- Research Training Scheme (RTS)

Guidelines

Students can seek support to research, realize or document essential components of their project, or to attend relevant conferences.

Financial support through the Research Training Scheme:

All RHD candidates have access to \$1500 per year (full-time equivalent study). The total amount available over the life of the candidature is currently:

- \$5,2350 – PhD (3.5 years full-time or part-time equivalent)
- \$3,000 – MPhil (2 years full-time or part-time equivalent)

Candidates will be provided with a free laptop in addition to their \$1500 per annum (pro rata).

Unspent monies from one year can be carried into the next (see notes below). RHD candidates must apply for access to financial support, which may be used for:

- computer software and associated hardware
- conference registration and associated costs in presenting a conference paper
- conducting fieldwork, including travel
- reimbursement for essential research books
- miscellaneous research costs
- thesis printing and binding
- thesis production for digital or web-based outcomes

Students should consult the following weblink to the Office of Graduate Studies that will explain the kinds of resources which can be supported through the Research Training Scheme:

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/research/rhd/docs/Domestic_prospectus_2010.pdf

Eligibility

Students may apply for assistance at any time during their candidature. Each case will be assessed on its merits. However, students will be expected to show evidence of substantial progress in their chosen research field and have the written support of their supervisor/s.

Applications for funding of project costs cannot be made without a justification of the expenditures listed on the application form (via quotes or other relevant documentation) and a statement detailing why the expenditure is essential to the completion of your degree. This must be in the form of an attachment to the Application Form which is available from Anthony Line in the DFAM administration office (Anthony.Line@newcastle.edu.au). This attachment should include:

- a brief statement on the aims of your research
- a brief description of your research method

- a justification of the cost of budget items
- a statement on the necessity of these expenditures in the completion of your research.

Applicants for conference funding support must be presenting a paper or its creative equivalent relevant to their research. In exceptional circumstances, consideration may be given to RHD applicants who are able to present an argument as to how attendance at the conference without presenting a paper will enhance the quality or progress of their research studies. Funds may be carried over into the next year or later of your candidature if necessary.

Grants for conference attendance will be considered with regard to conference registration fees, the costs of return travel from Newcastle to the conference venue at the most economical rate and accommodation costs directly relevant to the conference. Where the conference fee includes the cost of accommodation, papers, and so on, these should be identified separately.

NUMBER OF GRANTS

While the dedicated amount of funds per annum is limited to the amounts identified above the funds can be called on when needed. Students are requested to plan in such a way as to restrict the number of separate submissions for that funding in any one year. In the case of support for conference attendance applicants are advised to have preliminary discussion with their supervisors and select the conference that is, on the grounds of location, likely attendance, and so on, the most appropriate for the presentation of the particular piece of research.

APPLICATION

The application should be sent in the first instance to Anthony Line electronically at the following address: Anthony.Line@newcastle.edu.au

Prerequisite checklist for R&RTS postgraduate funding support

It is important that all applications for R&RTS postgraduate support clearly articulate the significance of the requested funding to their research project by demonstrating the following.

1. All applications should be typed using template provided (including all attachments). Handwritten applications will not be accepted.
2. Demonstrate a clear articulation of the relationship between the research project and the funding request.
3. Provide a letter from supervisor that specifically supports the funding request.
4. Include merchant invoices or quotations for any proposed expenditure items in application.
5. All support for funding needs to be acquitted through a written (typed) statement submitted to the Chair of the R& RTC. This acquittal should be no more than one A4 page and should report the benefits to your research. This should be forwarded to the Chair within six months of the receipt of the funding.

Applicants should acknowledge that these guidelines provide an important opportunity to present your research projects in a professional context. The committee considers clearly defined and well presented applications to be an integral part of research protocol.

Please note that it is the student's responsibility to have the application signed by the principal supervisor BEFORE the application is submitted.

SELECTION PROCESS

Applications will be reviewed by the School R&RT committee.

Applications for project costs will be appraised on the basis of your justification of your request, and your demonstration that the expenditure is essential to the completion of your research. Applicants need to be able to demonstrate anticipated outcomes that are clearly specified in relation to their research field and thesis topic.

The national and international significance of the conference you wish to attend and your paper's/creative work's contribution to the field of research both need to be explicitly addressed in an application for conference funding, as this will be considered by the committee in the selection process. The prospect of publishing the paper, whether in the form of published conference proceedings/catalogue, or a national/international journal, will also be advantageous, although it is not essential.

If your application is successful, to receive the funding you will be required to:

- provide receipts (e.g. of registration, travel payments)
- expend the funds by **December 3 2010**, or indicate that the funds have been fully committed.
- submit a completed report form, providing details of the outcomes of the project.

You should be aware that expenditure should be approved beforehand rather than hoping for reimbursement after the event.

Subsequent applications for School research funding are contingent upon the submission of a satisfactory report on outcomes from previous grants. Please note: this should be sent to the Research Convenor, DFAM (Dr Angela Philp), with a copy to Anthony Line. (See application form.)

Prizes and Scholarships

A large number of scholarships and prizes are available to students studying in the School of Drama, Fine Art and Music (incorporating The Conservatorium). These are in addition to University-wide scholarships.

Detailed information about each of the scholarships and prizes listed below is available at <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/drama-fine-art-music-conservatorium/students/scholarships-prizes.html>

Scholarships

Drama, Fine Art and Music (Tertiary)

- The Pauline Snow Scholarship for Strings
- The Philip Emlyn Thomas Keyboard Scholarship
- Con Ellis Scholarship
- The Harrison Scholarship for Singers
- The Michael Dudman Undergraduate Scholarship for Organ
- The Nina Doratis Scholarship for the Viola
- William Bowmore Undergraduate Scholarship in Cello
- William Bowmore Endowed Postgraduate Scholarship in Cello
- The John Sinclair Cormack Memorial Scholarship
- Jennie Thomas Travelling Art Honours Scholarship

The Conservatorium (Community Music)

- William Bowmore Scholarship
- Florence Austral Memorial
- Robert Alva
- Guy.R Derkenne Memorial
- Kezie Fraser
- Robert Morgan
- Hazel Evans
- Newcastle Comedy Players
- NBN Television
- Newcastle City Council
- Belmont Rotary
- Newcastle Rotary
- Newcastle Independent Theatre Company
- Hunter Region Free Masons
- Newcastle Gilbert and Sullivan
- Yamaha Australia

Prizes

- Newton-John Memorial Music Prize
- Frank Hutchens Memorial Prize

- Joe Punshon Memorial Award
- Jessie Reid Dyce Memorial Prize in Drama
- Frank Duncan Memorial Scholarship (Prize)
- Dr Maurice Sendak OBE and Mrs Betsy Sendak Prize
- Valma Barker Memorial Prize for Strings
- Music Lovers Club Prize for Composition
- The Madge Hoy Prize
- Dr Brian & Dr Rohma Cummins Painting Award
- Dr Brian & Dr Rohma Cummins Drawing Award
- David Jones Memorial Prize
- William Fletcher Foundation Awards

FEDUA Publication Award

Every year, the Faculty of Education and Arts awards up to **five prizes** for a publication by a Research Higher Degree or Honours Student currently enrolled in the Schools located in the Faculty from the following areas:

- Wollotuka: School of Aboriginal Studies
- School of Education
- School of Drama, Fine Art and Music
- School of Humanities and Social Science

The prize involves **\$1000 and a certificate** attesting to the award.

Entry requirements:

- Currently enrolled students within the Schools in Faculty of Education and Arts at the University of Newcastle, with Principal Supervisor residing in the Faculty.
- The student must show outstanding quality as demonstrated through a peer-review process such as acceptance of an article for publication in an A* journal, however a publication of 'A' quality may be considered under special circumstances. In the case of creative work, documentation of its significance in recognised journals of public record and/or objective appraisal from external experts in the publication of the current year.
- Individuals are only eligible to receive one prize per round.
- Student must provide a signed statement about their contribution to the work and that of their co-authors relating to:
 - Conceptual and theoretical development of the study /100%
 - Data collection and analysis /100%
 - Interpretation of findings /100%
 - Written contribution /100%
- Evidence provided to support the quality of the publication or in the case of creative works, copies of reviews (including Ranking and Review Reports), published catalogues, or expert evaluations.
- Supervisor statement in support.
- Copy of the article or page proofs and evidence of publication date.
- A maximum of two prizes per candidature.
- An abstract of the student's research project is to be provided by the student.

The entry will be considered by a sub-committee formed by the Faculty Research

Training Committee, and the finding will be endorsed by the Committee. The selection committee reserves the right to not award a prize in any particular category.

Students who have any questions relating to the prize can email Julia.Dunn@newcastle.edu.au

RHD Seminars

Each of the disciplines of Drama, Fine Art and Music run their own postgraduate seminar programs. You should consult the Postgraduate Convenor in each of these areas for information about times and locations.

You are strongly advised to participate in the available seminar programs. These offer you both training in and increased understanding of research requirements and also opportunities to connect with other postgraduate students and staff. This also provides a valuable social and intellectual network and links to inter-and cross-disciplinary engagement and understanding

Dialogue with other researchers is an important part of your academic and creative development. While you may not share the same approaches and ideas, you may find that you learn more about your own work and achievements through being part of a broader conversation and by seeing how other people negotiate and manage their candidature.

Fine Art Research seminars for postgraduate students are held every second Tuesday of semester in VA111 (Photomedia building).

Music Research seminar – Thursday 11-1 in UNH 143. Meets most weeks in full term.

Postgraduate Performance Forum, Concert Hall, Thursday 2- 2.30pm. Dates are advertised on Blackboard, Announcements.

Music students are strongly advised to check Blackboard regularly and to use the Discussion Board.

DFAM Chapter Writing Workshop

If you are in the later stages of your postgraduate work and have already, or are planning to have, one or more chapters written then please consider the following **opportunity**:

Every second Thursday from 4-6pm in VA111 (in the Photomedia building on the Callaghan campus) there is a chapter-writing workshop (maximum 10-12 people) that assists postgraduate students in writing their theses or exegeses.

It consists of small group discussion, sharing chapters in a supportive environment. The group discusses one person's chapter per session and will look at both positive factors and things that aren't working so well. Discussion is based around investigations of argument, style, content, theoretical base, structure and research. It is not necessary for people to be familiar with each other's work, rather the point is to be objective and helpful and to share the common problems of writing in an academic context. It will also simply help you get the writing done. So if you'd been suffering from writer's block then this workshop may help.

It is cross-disciplinary and is open to all DFAM postgraduate students.

You will need to register for this workshop with Angela Philp so that you can receive the chapters to read in advance of the workshop session. It is important for the success of this group that people commit to a regular attendance as the group needs a comfortable and supportive environment in which to present work.

If you'd like to find out more, please contact Dr Angela Philp on 4921 6763 or by email Angela.Philp@newcastle.edu.au

Annual Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Conference

Each year DFAM will run at least one, and possibly two, postgraduate conferences for its students. These will run over one or two days. Students will be asked to present either an overview of their project (practice and exegesis) or a focus on a particular aspect of their project, to an audience consisting of other students, staff from DFAM, academic colleagues from the wider University field, outside specialists and other interested persons. At the end of each presentation will be an opportunity for question and answer sessions and discussion about the issues/concepts raised by the candidate. These conferences are intended to be interdisciplinary. They offer a forum in which to present work to a wider audience and to receive helpful feedback and advice. They are also useful in developing skills in conference presentation and public speaking.

Music postgraduate students are highly recommended to join the Musicological Society of Australia (MSA), and to register their topic with the MSA Thesis Register. <http://www.msa.org.au/>

Ethical Conduct of Research and Ethics Approval:

This is required when your research involves human subjects: for example, through interviews or other direct interventions; or where your research may have significant consequences for others. If your research involves animals you may also have to apply for ethics approval.

Human Research Ethics

See website at <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/research/human/>

The University of Newcastle is committed to the highest standard of ethical practice in research involving or impacting on humans. All human research projects conducted at the University or by staff and students of the University require approval from the University's Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) before the research can commence. The HREC has responsibility for reviewing the ethical acceptability of research and ensuring compliance with regulatory and legislative requirements and University policies relating to human research. The principal point of reference for the HREC is the ***National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research***. The primary purpose of the National Statement is the protection of the welfare and rights of participants in research. It is binding on all institutions and organisations that receive research funding from the Australian government.

Review Process

For human research requiring ethics approval, the University uses a risk assessment review model. Applications are reviewed for ethics approval using one of three assessment levels based on the risk to participants posed by the research. Two of the levels provide for expedited review of applications. This has streamlined the process for researchers and resulted in a reduction in processing time for the majority of applications.

Research Ethics Advisors (REAs) are located in Faculties to assist researchers, both staff and students, to design ethically acceptable human research and assist them through the ethics approval process. REAs are the first 'port-of-call' for researchers requiring assistance or advice on human research ethics matter.

Supervision

Your relationship with your supervisor is critical to your progress. It is recommended that you establish a regular meeting schedule with your supervisor/s to ensure that you receive the advice you need and to keep your work on track. Your supervisor will invariably be a busy member of staff and should not have to chase you to make contact. Please ensure that you maintain regular contact, whether in person, by mail or email, or even telephone contact.

Staff available for supervision:

(Please consult the Research Convenor in your discipline for advice or for supervisors on the Conjoint Staff list.)

Drama:

Dr Gillian Arrighi

Circus and physical theatre: performance analysis and historiography; popular entertainments in the Victorian and Edwardian eras; children in the theatre, 1885-1920; mask performance and actor training with masks; intermediality: intersections of live performance and new media technologies

Dr Carl Caulfield

Russian avant garde theatre; script writing; British political theatre

Professor Michael Ewans

The translation and staging of Greek tragedy and comedy; the reception of Greek tragedy and epic into modern drama and opera; the German and Austrian expressionist theatre and opera of 1900-25; the relationship between music and drama in opera from Gluck to the present day.

Fine Art:

Mr Brett Alexander

Dr Andre Brodyk

Expanded painting and drawing; interdisciplinary practices; installation art; painting paradigms; drawing paradigms; biotech art; genetic art; art & science intersections; agencies of materiality; performative research - practice as research.

Dr Brodyk's practice-led research is a critical and technology-mediated practice, which explores the use of biotechnology recombinant process and materials as models of material creativity. This research engages with new critiques of materials and protocols of biological science and technologies at the micro and molecular levels as the agencies of new expression. The creative work is therefore a

performative art practice realized via the agency of multimedia installation in cross-disciplinary collaborations with scientists.

Associate Professor Allan Chawner

Assoc. Professor Chawner's research consists of performances that reflect on the translation of time as experienced in music. He applies Photomedia to map location and community and investigate the connection between temporal notions of spatial experience.

His research presently ranges across music performance in major venues, art exhibitions in public galleries, environmental, historical and heritage representation and reflection on the architectural and social landscape. He publishes, performs and exhibits his work to a wide audience, and this work is usually collaborative.

He has produced photographic exhibitions that are large scale static installations as well as major individual works in public galleries.

Mr Glenn Henderson

The three-dimensional possibilities of drawing, employing notions of time and space; the relationship between sound and sculptural form; site-specific sculpture/the Australian landscape; sculpture in the urban environment; synaesthesia and artmaking.

Ms Miranda Lawry

Photomedia: her imagery investigates the notion of trace within the landscape, evidencing both historical marking and contemporary presence to redefine notions of identity, memory and 'place'. Media investigations include early photography technologies, digital imaging photomedia interventions, artist books and installation.

More broadly her research concerns collaborative engagement with a focus on determining a multi level framework that enables the arts to have intrinsic value within and beyond the art gallery. As a founding member of the University of Newcastle Arts/Health Research Centre Miranda has contributed to a number of commissioned installations in the health sector and the private sector.

Dr Kit Messham-Muir

Art history and museology, particularly focusing on affect, emotion and war, examining the ways in which objects, sites and images can evoke powerful emotional responses in visitors to museums and galleries. His published work includes examination of the role of empathy, memory and affect in Holocaust museums and memorials, particularly focusing on the phenomenology of darkness. He has also worked in the area of government arts policy and cultural grants.

Dr Angela Philp

Art history and theory including feminism and women's art history (in particular the Sydney Society of Women Painters 1910-1934), historical and contemporary Australian art, Aboriginal art, and the art market. Museology- the rhetorical gap between the aspirations of the new museology (for museums to be the 'new town square' and 'safe places for unsafe ideas') and the modernist structure of the art museum in particular; all aspects of museum practice and theory.

Associate Professor Pam Sinnott

Assoc Professor Sinnott's main studio area is ceramics, however she also exhibits mixed media sculpture and digital images. Her conceptual investigations focus on two strands. In one area they challenge women's expected role in the domestic sphere. Other works respond to issues in relation to sexuality. Both bodies of work seek to question the validity of social and institutional perspectives which inhibit and oppress within what is thought to be 'normal'.

Mr Kris Smith

Music:

Mr Christopher Allan

Voice, vocal music from the 17th and 18th centuries, recitative in opera and cantata, voice science and its integration with studio teaching, posture/body alignment and vocal performance, the treatment and interpretation of text, speech/modal voice and its usefulness in promoting effective phonation and a variety of vocal colour.

Dr Jim Chapman

African music, World music, music analysis and performance, cross-cultural composition, documentary making and online teaching delivery.

Dr Susan Collins

Mr Ian Cook

Ms Helen English

Dr Rosalind Halton

Performance; research illustrated by performance; editing from original source materials; music of 17th – 18th centuries, especially Italian and French; performance practice; transmission of musical styles; music and imagery/word-setting.

Mr John Kellaway

Trumpet specialty – solo recital, orchestral, jazz and natural baroque brass. Research interest – community music-making. Conducting specialty – band and orchestral direction (including opera performance).

Dr Philip Matthias

Dr Gian-Franco Ricci

Mr Nathan Scott

Ms Anthea Scott-Mitchell

Mr Colin Spiers

Colin Spiers is a composer and pianist whose broad area of expertise lies in the area of nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first century classical music composition from both a practical and analytical perspective. He has considerable experience in composition and piano pedagogy as well as analytical techniques including the

models developed by Reti, Schenker and Forte. Research interests include various issues relating to creativity in composition (including theoretical and philosophical aspects related to jazz improvisation in the 1960s and 70s, with particular reference to Keith Jarrett).

Professor Richard Vella

Composition, interdisciplinary performance, film music, music theatre, music theory, hermeneutics and music.

Ms Linda Walsh

Video music collaboration and composition; Oboe reed making application of physics and acoustic data; electromyography for musicians.

Creative Arts (Central Coast):

Dr Sean Lowry

Dr Lowry teaches in or researches the following: painting, new media, art history and theory, critical postmodernism, anti-modernism, appropriation art, post-production, relational aesthetics, institutional critique, digital production methodologies, video installation, performance, sculpture and installation.

Dr Jocelyn McKinnon

Dr McKinnon's research interests include the areas of Community, Political and Intercultural Performance. She also has a particular interest in the acquisition, production and distribution of knowledge via the creative arts. Dr. McKinnon is the founding Artistic Director of several experimental theatre companies.

Past thesis/exegesis topics in DFAM

See also the Australian Digital Theses Repository – <http://adt.caul.edu.au/>

Drama - Research Higher Degree Recent Completions

- 2004, Jim Garner, *Deviance and Disloyalty: Historiographical Discourses in Representations of the Cambridge Spies*, PhD
- 2004, Gillian Arrighi, *The Neutral Mask: Its position in Western actor training and its application to the creative processes of the actor*, M Creative Arts
- 2005, Clare Irvine, *Making It New: Innovation in Australia's Youth-specific Theatre Field*, PhD
- 2006, Evan Williams, *Going to the Theatre: An Investigation of factors affecting theatre attendance in Sydney's entertainment district from 1896 to 1920*, MA
- 2007, Rebecca Conroy, *Performing Resistance: Oppositional Performance Practices in Contemporary Indonesia*, PhD
- 2007, Gillian Arrighi, *A Circus and its Context: The FitzGerald Brothers' Circus in Australia 1888-1906*, PhD
2007. Stuart Gregg, *CATSCANS / DOGMA: creating new music-theatre*, M Creative Arts

Fine Art - Research Higher Degree Recent Completions

- 2007, Ashley Carr, *The Life and Work of Anne von Bertouch (1915-2003): Reflections on History, Memory and Place*, MA
- 2007, *Analogue-Digital: Integrating Digital Techniques in Traditional Image Making*, MFA
- 2008, Cressida Goddard, *Beneath the Skin*, MFA
- Alexia Sinclair, 2008, *The Regal Twelve*, MFA
- 2008, Jacqueline Morgan, *Unmasking Claude Cahun: Self-Portraiture and the Androgynous Image*, MFA
- 2009, Annemarie Murland, *Migration, Memory and Landscape: Recontextualising Personal Experience Through Contemporary Abstract Painting* PhD
- 2009, Elizabeth Wright, *The Golden Boot – photographic representation of the woman's limb deficient body*, MPhil
- 2009, Jessica Maiden, *Reviving Augustine: Examining the Gestural Body as Language in Photomedia*, MPhil

Music - Research Higher Degree Recent Completions

MCA

(In composition, a portfolio + exegesis
In performance, 4 recitals + exegesis)

Richard Hair (2008) *Developing Twenty-First Century Art Music Repertoire*

Jodie Petrov (2009) *The Flute and Mythology*

Lesa Scully (2008) *The Maturing Trumpeter: an Insight into the Physicality, Mentality and Practicality of the 21st Century Performing Trumpeter*

Jordan Wett (2009) *PEDALLING PIANO MUSIC: The Performers Educated Ear Is The Ultimate Guide.*

Kathryn Sullivan (2007) *French Baroque vocal music: A Performer's Guide*

Essential UoN documents

Various candidature forms are available at:

<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/students/research-higher-degree/forms.html>

For Current Candidates

Scholarship Forms

- [Scholarship Allowances \(PDF\)](#)
- [Scholarship Extension \(PDF\)](#)

Progress Report Forms

- [Section A - Candidate's Report](#)
- [Section B - Supervisor's Report](#)
- [Section C - Joint Progression/Completion Plan](#)

Candidature Variation Forms

Please note that this form covers:

- Change of Address
- Change of Load
- Change of Name
- Change of Research Topic
- Change of Supervisor
- Coursework Component Request
- Extension of Candidature
- Leave of Absence/Scholarship Suspension
- Off-campus candidature
- Transfer of Program - Masters to PhD/PhD to Masters
- [Candidature Variation Form - Word version](#)
- [Candidature Variation Form - PDF version](#)

Thesis Examination Forms

Thesis Examination Forms

- [Australian Examiners' Honorarium Payment Form \(Word\)](#)
 - [Appointment of Examiners \(for supervisors\)](#)
 - [Thesis Preparation and Submission Guidelines \(Word\)](#)
 - [Intention to Submit Thesis](#)
 - [Application for Embargo on Thesis/Dissertation \(Word\)](#)
 - [Corrections Approval](#)
 - [Thesis by Publication Information Sheet \(Word\)](#)
 - [Thesis Examination Application \(Word\)](#)
-