

PhD Plus Alumni Mentoring Program 2021

2021 Pilot



Photo: Holly Treadaway

Mentoring is a partnership fostering the professional growth of someone else, through guidance and sharing of knowledge, skills, information, and perspective.

The University of Canberra (UC) PhD Plus Alumni Mentoring Program is designed to help UC PhD Candidates in their current and future research and careers. The aim of the mentoring program is to match PhD graduates or UC alumni industry/sector professionals with current PhD candidates in a similar industry or research area.

Mentees will obtain valuable support, advice, and feedback during their PhD candidature that will be beneficial into the future. They will receive help and advice with their candidature and how to pitch their research, exposure to different ideas and approaches, as well as insight into transitioning within, or back to, the industry. The mentoring program will also enable candidates to build and grow potential networks. Mentees will receive encouragement, suggestions, and feedback in their PhD candidate journey and beyond.

Mentoring Arrangement

You will be matched with a mentor based on industry and research area for a period of 15 weeks. During this time, you will need to commit to meeting with your mentor a minimum of four times in person, over the phone, or virtually. There may also be opportunities available to shadow your mentor and work directly with them on specific projects within your research area.

Mentors can share with you, their real-life experience, writing tips, and provide advice on the submission processes, insights to transitioning in or back to the workforce and career advice, and how you can translate your research into everyday communications.

Intended Outcomes

- Obtain feedback on career ideas and plans
- Explore alternative career options and pathways
- Consider potential employer industries or organisations
- Identify and market transferable or generic skills
- Receive advice on how to pitch research
- Build and grow potential networks
- Receive encouragement, tips, and feedback during PhD candidate journey

Mentee Commitment

Mentees are expected to attend all events and activities related to the program (where feasible to do so) and to be an active participant in the program. Requirements and approximate time commitments of the program are below:

- Expression of Interest online; May 19 - June 20, 30 minutes
- Attend an orientation at UC; 15 July, 1.5 hours
- Attend a mentoring workshop online; 19 July, 3 hours
- Preparation time (reviewing documents and preparing for meetings); 2-3 hours over 15 weeks
- Meet with your mentor a minimum of four times in person, over the phone, or virtually; 4-5 hours over 15 weeks
- Respond to a mid-point survey; 23-29 August, 10 minutes
- Attend a Wrap-Up event at UC; 1 November, 1.5 hours
- Respond to a final survey; 1-7 November, 20 minutes
- Total time commitment: approximately 15 hours over 15 weeks

Eligibility

You are eligible to apply if you are in your second, third or final year of research.

What Next?

Submit your Expression of Interest by 20 June 2021. You will be matched with a suitable mentor based on industry and research area and you will receive a match email 12 July.

Expressions of Interest open: 19 May 2021

Expressions of Interest close: 20 June 2021

Please submit your Expression of Interest [here](#).

Further Information

For questions, help and support, or if any problems arise in your mentoring relationships, please contact the Graduate Research team at, PhD.Plus@canberra.edu.au