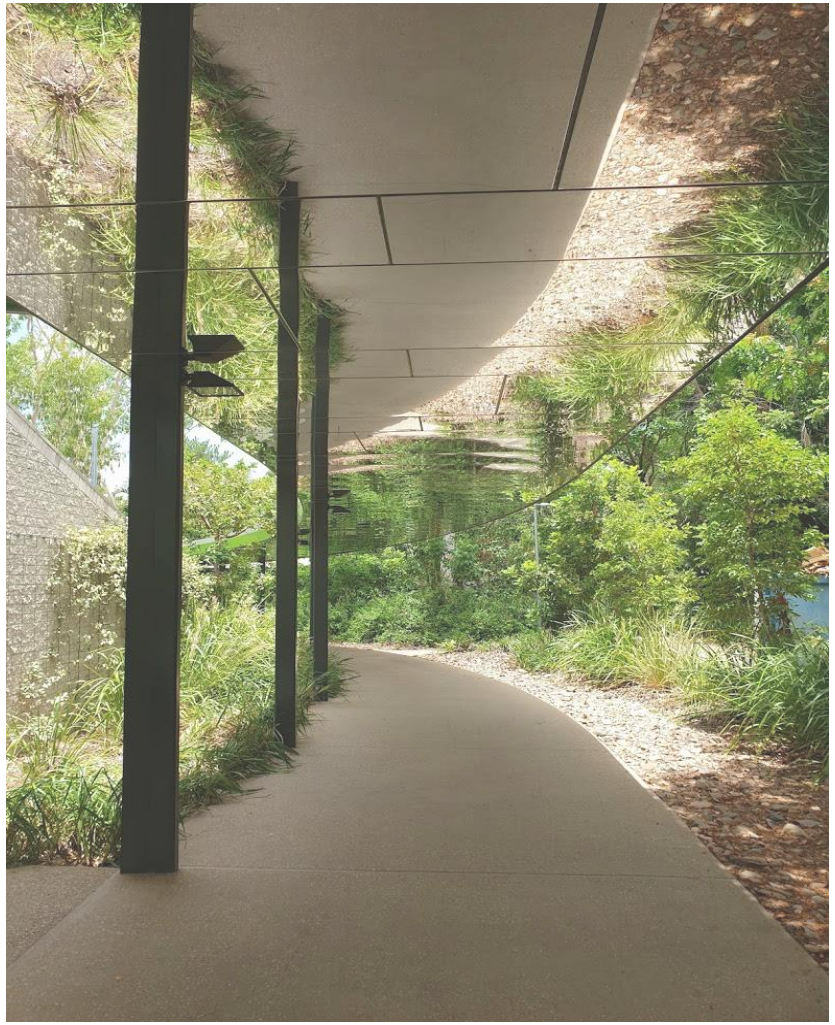
HDR Candidate Forum
April 2020

Professor Christine Bruce
Dean, Graduate Research School



Please mute your microphone when not speaking
and turn video off if your connection is unstable. This session will be recorded.

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Agenda

- Introductions and background
- Lobbying for support – the national position
- Specific information for JCU HDRs
- What's next?
- Messages from the PVC (International) and the Provost
- Questions and open discussion

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Present in the forum

- Professor Christine Bruce: Dean, GRS
- Professor Hilary Whitehouse: Deputy Dean, GRS
- Professor Chris Cocklin: Provost
- Professor Melissa Banks: PVC (International)
- Dr Lauretta Grasso: Manager, GRS
- Members of the GRS staff, RESC and candidates

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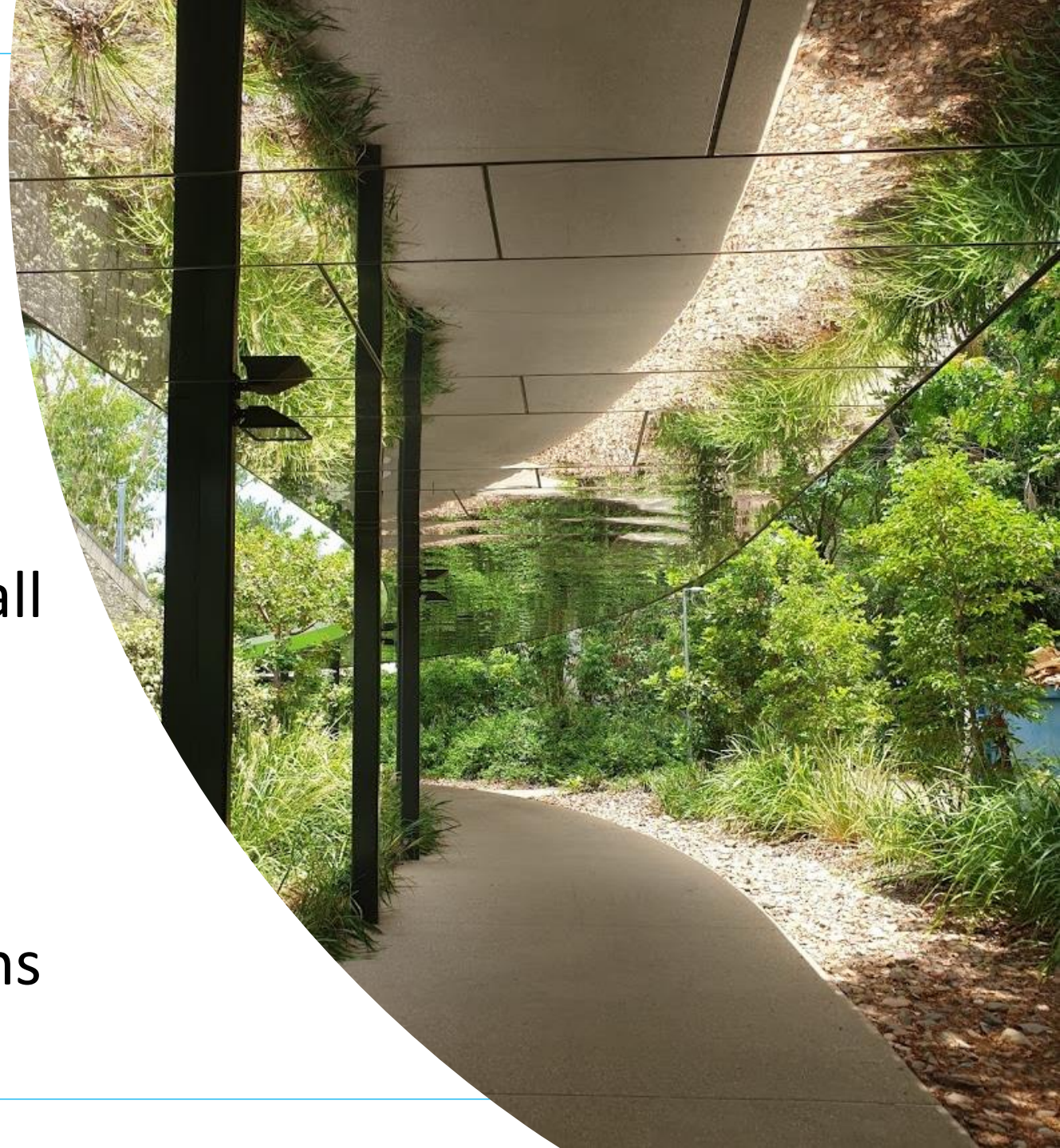
The University is Open

Your Advisors, Colleges and the Graduate Research School are all here to keep working with you, and help you navigate through these coming weeks and months



Professor Al McEwan:
Chair, Australian Council of Graduate Research April 2020

"Now, more than ever, Australia needs its research students. Graduate research education programs are critical to our nation rebuilding both its economy and international linkages as we emerge from the COVID-19 crisis. Our current graduate researchers are not only key contributors to the nation's research agenda, …… engaging with and supporting industry partners including SMEs as well as maintaining important international linkages and partnerships."

Your PHD is one of your best assets for the future – you are the next generation of the world's researchers.

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Lobbying at the National Level

- Australian Council of Graduate Research
  for income and other support for HDRs
- Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations
  on behalf of domestic and international students
- International student lobbying
  Professor Banks to speak more to this later

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Specifics – we are asking you to:

- stay closely in touch with your advisors
- make plans for continuing your studies
- document impacts on you and your research
- keep checking our GRS COVID information
- keep progressing as much as you are able – some are even well placed to do more..

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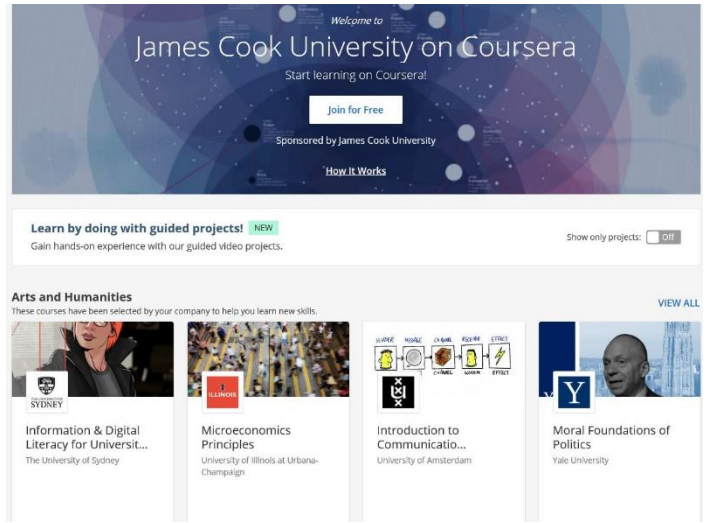
Specifics – Professional Development and Milestones



- Induction has moved online
- SKIP will move online
- Free access to Coursera is now available
- Many online options exist with more to come
- Milestones can continue wherever possible via zoom
  - some aspects may need to be completed later

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Specifics – Extensions to Candidature and Scholarships

- We know that some of you will need extension support
  - to scholarships and candidature
- JCU scholarships are for 3.5 years
- Each case of need will be given individual attention

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Specifics – I can't afford a break in my scholarship

- Paid leave options are available
  - Four weeks annual leave
- Check your conditions of scholarship for
  - Sick leave and other leave provisions
- GRS can help you with your options

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Specifics – How are advisors being helped?

- Keeping them informed on how to help candidates
- Guidance on online supervision
- Supervisor support-communities
- Maintaining accreditation via online arrangements

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What's next?

- Candidate check in survey
- Guidance on keeping records
- Guidance on extension applications

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Activating support is a high priority

- Check the JCU COVID-19 Information Pages for:
  - Support for well-being and equity
  - Food pantries
  - Counselling
- HDR candidate flu vaccinations
- Career Hub support
- On-campus work space… more to come

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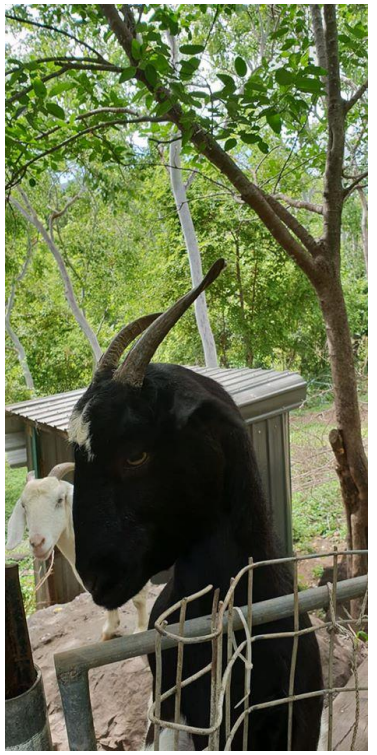
Build your peer communities

- Stay in touch with your communities
- Get to know your peers (and their furry friends) through GRS
  - Discussion board
  - Facebook
  - Twitter



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A message from the Pro Vice Chancellor (International)

Melissa Banks

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A message from the Provost

Professor Chris Cocklin

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Questions and open discussion

Chair: Dr Lauretta Grasso

Please send questions to ‘all’ via chat.

GRS colleagues will respond via chat where possible

Lauretta will identify questions for panel response.

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