**Roderick Competitive Research Grants**

The Roderick Centre for Australian Literature and Creative Writing seeks to foster the reading and writing of Australian literature in all its forms, and to encourage the study of the broad field of Australian literature and literary cultures. It seeks to do so by building on the profile of several key areas of strength at James Cook University to show that literature and storytelling have an important role in connecting with JCU signature areas of strength in reef and tropical ecologies, health and tropical medicine, and the advancement of First Nations’ peoples.

In order to develop the capacity in these areas of research, the Roderick Centre for Australian Literature and Creative Writing invites proposals for research grants of up to $4000 per individual or collaborative project, or $6000 for partner projects that work to form new cross-disciplinary research groups or support partnerships that extend beyond JCU English faculty or Centre staff.

Proposals that align with and advance research and understanding of the way creative writing and literary studies can promote understanding of and promote engagement with the following themes will be highly ranked:

* The Environment and/or the Region
* Wellbeing
* First Nations Perspectives

These topics might include but are not limited to projects that investigate:

**The Environment and/or the Region**

* The relationship between literature and the environment
* Literary studies that connect with the tropical environment: reef, rainforest, dry and wet tropics
* Place-based studies or place-making in literary practice
* Climate and literature
* The study or advancement of regional writers or regional writing communities
* Literary ecologies in regional areas
* Creative practice and the regions
* Publishing histories and the regions
* Regional literary histories and cultures
* Studies of regional communities in literature
* The impact of regional living on communities and individuals
* Critical regionalism and bioregionalism
* The aftermath of catastrophe or disaster in regional literature
* The depiction of regional work, living, or industries
* Migration, displacement, resettlement, and refugees and regional literature

**Wellbeing**

* Exploration of literary narratives that depict the impact of trauma on individuals or communities
* Investigation of how literature reflects or engages with the experiences of people dealing with illness, recovery, disability, caregiving, or health systems.
* Analysis of literary works that address issues of human and social inequity, including but not limited to race, gender, socio-economic status.
* The impact of AI or technology on humans, communities, or societies in literature
* Analysis of adversity and resilience in literary works
* The impact of societal norms, values, and historical events on the portrayal or experiences of wellbeing or in literature
* Studies of how literature addresses issues of poverty, economic inequality, and social class that elucidate socioeconomic factors in wellbeing
* Studies of ageism or issues as mortality, identity, and societal perceptions of the elderly in literature
* Literature that focuses on issues of equity, equality, discrimination, or adversity in relation to gender identity, sexual orientation, gender violence
* Literature that focuses on acceptance, discrimination, and mental health
* Literature that focuses on the impact of military service, the literature of veterans, or on building communities of resilience
* Responses to disaster or catastrophe

**First Nations Perspectives**

* Literature as a tool for anti-colonial strategies or decolonisation
* Ways of teaching literature that are inclusive and foster cultural understanding
* Studies of how First Nations authors challenge and subvert colonial narratives, reclaim Indigenous voices, and resist cultural appropriation
* Studies of First Nations literature that acknowledge the impacts of colonisation, missions, and reserves, the stolen generation, forced relocation, and other historical injustices
* Studies that embrace a diversity of First Nations’ contemporary perspectives
* Studies that advance Indigenous literary criticism, the understanding of First Nations peoples and society through literature, and/or foster Indigenous storytelling
* Studies of storytelling and research practices that adhere to ethical research practices, respecting the protocols and wishes of First Nations communities and individuals
* Studies that foster understanding of the relationship between First Nations literature and the land and of sea country
* Comparative Indigenous Studies and Literature

**All project proposals should have:**

* Clearly articulated methodology with a link to one of the Roderick themes
* Feasible scope, budget, and timeframe
* Clear and effective knowledge translation strategies including identified conferences
* Clear and achievable publication and dissemination plan (publication plan to include high impact academic journals/book publishers)

**Project proposals funded above $4000 should also have:**

* Proposed impact-generating activities to linked with the agenda of capacity building for the Centre, such as community event, HDR masterclass, seminar, or other hosted activity (to be developed alongside consultation with the Centre Director and the Program Advisor)

**Who can apply?**

* Fixed term or continuing academic staff (with their HDRs, if applicable)
* Fixed term of continuing professional staff
* Adjuncts

Projects seeking to collaborate with external partners must include at least one CI who meets the criteria above, and at least one external CI, in order to be eligible for the partner funding amount.

**Terms and Conditions**

A short report on outcomes and outputs must be submitted within two months after the end of the project. Presentations and publications should acknowledge funding by the Roderick Centre for Australian Literature and Creative Writing. Research and researchers funded by the Roderick Centre shall agree to list their affiliated research profile and activities with the Roderick Centre via the RCALC website.

**Application Process**

* Submit an application of no longer than 1200 words addressing relevant criteria and requirements, to CASE ADR, via email caseadr@jcu.edu.au
* The ADR will administer the assessment of the EOI
* Applicants will be advised of the outcome as soon as practicable
* Once funds for the year are exhausted, proposals will no longer be assessed but applicants will be notified that they can apply again in the following year

**Applicant(s) and Project Title: [150 words]**

**Background and aims: [400 words]**

**Methodology, connection to Roderick themes, and plan of work: [600 words]**

**Publication and dissemination plan: (e.g. high impact academic journals/book publishers for academic staff, and suitable communities of interest for professional and technical staff) [200 words]**

**Proposed Impact Generating Activity (if relevant): [200 words]**

**Budget and timeframe for delivery:**