

EMCRs PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

PROGRAM | 8 SEPTEMBER 2023 | 9:00AM - 1:00PM

8:45AM

Registration opens

TRI Atrium

9:00AM -
10:30AM

Welcome

TRI Auditorium

Prof Scott Bell, Chief Executive Officer, TRI

Session 1: How to...!

This handy 'how to' session focuses on leadership, managing budgets and agreements and managing people.

Co-chairs:

Dr Aurelie Benfield, Postdoctoral Researcher, QUT

Dr Pablo Canete, Frazer Institute, UQ



9:00AM -
9:30AM

A/Prof Tony Kenna, Group Leader, School of Biomedical Sciences, QUT

Learning to lead a research group

Leading a research group is hard. Knowing when to branch out on your own is as important as having the vision needed to maintain a successful group. Soft skills like people and project management are not taught as part of PhD or post-doctoral training but are critical to developing a research team. Hard-learned lessons will be shared about Prof Kenna's sometimes meandering pathway to group leadership. He will explain the importance of taking advantage of good opportunities and share some cautionary tales and helpful tips for those starting their independent research journey.



9:30AM -
10:00AM

Emily Bailey, Director Operations, Mater Research

People and Money - HR and financial management for research Group Leaders

Becoming an independent group leader is sometimes the first time a researcher has had HR and finance responsibilities, beyond managing a single grant budget and one or two Research Assistants. Emily will touch on some key aspects of HR responsibility and financial oversight considerations for group leaders, such as responsibilities of a manager and managing cost centres effectively.

10:00AM -
10:30AM

Panel Q&A

Emily Bailey, Director Operations, Mater Research

A/Prof Tony Kenna, Group Leader, School of Biomedical Sciences, QUT

10:30AM

Morning tea

TRI Atrium

10:45AM -
12:15PM

Session 2: Career journey - What would I do differently?

TRI Auditorium

This session focuses on the career journey and will be an insightful session on what mid-career and emerging senior TRI-based researchers would do differently if they could turn back time.

Co-chairs:

Dr Himaya Siddhilalu Wickrama Hewage, Postdoctoral Researcher, QUT

Associate Prof Yeoungjee Cho, Metro South Health

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Dr Joshua Tobin, Senior Research Fellow, Mater Research

Failing Forwards: How to progress your career through inevitable EMCR missteps

A strategic guide to the unexpected mistakes or failures we all experience in our EMCR journey and how to continue to use these experiences to move your career forward.

10:45AM -
11:00AM



Dr Aideen McInerney-Leo, Group Leader, Frazer Institute

Unexpected opportunities

How unexpected opportunities can teach you to embrace change, take risks, and seize the chance to explore new paths, ultimately leading to a richer and more fulfilling professional career.

11:00AM -
11:15AM



A/Prof Sumaira Hasnain, Group Leader, Mater Research

Overcoming stress and thriving in academia

There is no one-size-fits-all formula for success as an EMCR. In this presentation, Prof Hasnain will share her personal experiences and journey as an EMCR, and discuss what she would do differently. Prof Hasnain's insights will help you to navigate the challenges and opportunities of your own research career.

11:15AM -
11:30AM



Dr Sandra Richardson, Group Leader, Mater Research

Reflections on the path to independence

Dr Richardson will share the mistakes she encountered and the valuable lessons she learned on her scientific, professional, and personal journey from PhD student to Group Leader.

11:30AM -
11:45AM

11:45AM -
12:15PM

Panel Q&A

Dr Aideen McInerney-Leo, Group Leader, Frazer Institute

Dr Joshua Tobin, Senior Research Fellow, UQ MRI

Dr Sandra Richardson, Group Leader, Mater Research

A/Prof Sumaira Hasnain Group Leader, MRI-UQ

12:15PM

Lunch

TRI Atrium

1:00PM

Event concludes

*Program subject to change