



Focus on Research Student Graduate Attributes

In response to the White paper on research in Universities, RMIT University developed a Research and Research Training Management Plan in July 2000. This plan was updated in June this year and outlines our existing strengths and weaknesses and how the University plans to address the weaknesses and enhance the strengths. The plan identifies the attributes the University expects our research students to have on completion of their degrees. The research student graduate attributes fall under four broad areas – knowledgeable/creative; critical; communicate; and responsible. The following is an excerpt summary of research student graduate attributes from the RRTM 2000 Plan.

“RMIT strives to give all graduates strong generic attributes in leadership, employability and career-long learning. Our higher degrees by research programs also provide graduates with the ability to:

- make a significant contribution to knowledge of fact, theory and/or mastery of practice consistent with the degree;
- access and interpret research information and data from primary sources;
- critically analyse research issues;
- propose, initiate and execute a valid, ethical, safe and environmentally-sound research project;
- analyse and report results using media appropriate to the field;
- work independently and cooperatively;
- participate in self-managing and innovating teams;
- interact effectively with experts in the researcher’s field and in cognate fields;

in this **issue**

A Focus on Research Student Graduate Attributes	Page 1-2
Research Funding, Scholarships and Fellowships Opportunities	Page 2-4
Seminar on Qualitative Research Methodology	Page 4-5
Faculty Publication Awards	Page 5
Congratulations	Page 6
What's New in the RDU Library	Page 6-7
Did You Know ?	Page 8

- participate in commercialisation processes; and
- relate their own work and that of others to the world-wide body of knowledge including industry and the community.

RMIT research graduates also have:

- an overview of the directions, methods and approaches of their field within an ethical and social framework;
- a thorough understanding and practised skills in particular techniques;
- flexible and adaptive skills relating to their discipline;
- an appreciation of the international research context;
- highly-developed written and oral communication skills appropriate to the discipline;
- well-developed research project management skills;
- an appreciation of the environmental implications of professional decisions; and
- an appreciation of the cultural basis of knowledge and professional practice.”

The attributes form the basis of the supervisor training that both the University and the Faculty provide, and the basis of the research supervision that we provide to our students.

The complete June 2001 Research and Research Training Management Plan 2001 can be found on the web at <http://www.rmit.edu.au/departments/rd/policy.htm>

Research Funding, Scholarships & Fellowship Opportunities.....

The following funding opportunities may be of interest to researchers in RMIT Business:

Taxpayers Research Foundation: Research Grants

The Taxpayers Research Foundation Limited is an approved research institution under Section 73A of the Income Tax Assessment Act. The Foundation’s objectives are to undertake approved research projects in areas of taxation, which would be of benefit to Australia. The aim of the Foundation is to fund analyses and the writing of discussion papers, drafts and other statements to be used as a basis for determining future taxation policy.

The Foundation is now in a position to formally invite proposals for the 2002 year for funding of research work from researchers and academics who believe that their work has the potential to further the development of future taxation policy in Australia.

Applicants may be working in the following areas- Law, Taxation, Economics and Accounting. The work in questions may already have commenced and/or be in the process of being written. The grants would provide financial assistance to so that the work can be promulgated to a wider audience.

Application forms and rules relating to grants by the foundation are available from Bronwyn Coate in the RDU (please email your request to bronwyn.coate@rmit.edu.au). Further information and completed applications should be directed to Stephen Ware, Secretary at PO Box R1544, Royal Exchange NSW, 1225 or telephone (02) 9247 1872.

Deadline: 30 September 2001

Canadian High Commission

For information on the Canadian High Commission please visit their website at: <http://www.powerup.com.au/~acsanz/>

Various grants are available from the High Commission including:

Canadian Studies Awards - Faculty Research Program

The sponsor offers awards of up to C\$5,900 to assist individual academics to undertake short term research about Canada or the comparative topics pertaining to Canada and Australia and New Zealand and aspects of Canada's bilateral relationship with Australia or New Zealand. The award consists of travel and living expenses for three to five weeks. For further information visit: <http://australia.infoed.org/wConnect/wc.dll?spinwww~program~22401~AU>

Deadline: 30 September 2001.

Travel Grants to Canada

The Association for Canadian Studies in Australia and New Zealand (ACSANZ) will offer three grants for post-graduate students wishing to undertake a short research trip to Canada during 2002. An amount up to \$2,800 Australian is available for each grant for travel to and within Canada and for sustenance en route. For further information please visit: <http://australia.infoed.org/wConnect/wc.dll?spinwww~program~27502~AU>

Deadline: 30 September 2001.

Canada-Asia-Pacific Award in Canadian Studies (CAPA)

This award will support scholars in higher education institutions or research and policy planning institutes in the Asia-Pacific Region to undertake short-term research, including collaborative research, contributing to the understanding of bilateral and multilateral relations between Canada and the Asia-Pacific region. The award consists of a C\$5,000-C\$10,000 grant for a period not exceeding five weeks. It is expected that 2 awards will be made annually. For further information please visit: <http://australia.infoed.org/wConnect/wc.dll?spinwww~program~43424~AU>

Deadline: 15 November 2001.

Seminar on Qualitative Research Methodology

A seminar for both staff and postgraduate research students is being conducted by Dr Jan Jonker who is a visiting academic from Nijmegen University in Holland. Dr. Jonker's seminar will be on Qualitative Research Methodology, with an emphasis on Phenomenology and Grounded Theory, based on his practice as a researcher and research supervisor. This seminar will be held on:

Wednesday September 12,

from 10.00am - 12.00 noon, in room 16.169

Staff and students from across RMIT Business and the broader RMIT community are welcome to attend. Those interested in attending are asked to please RSVP by September 10 to rosemary.casamento@rmit.edu.au, or phone her on ext: 55949.

For your information here is a little background about Dr Jan Jonker:

Dr. Jan Jonker works at the Nijmegen School of Management of the University of Nijmegen in Holland. Jan worked for more than ten years in the wine and food service industry before joining the university in the late eighties. He has now run his own consultancy practice for over fifteen years. His current research interest lies on the crossroads of quality and corporate social responsibility in particular business strategy. He holds a MSc from Leiden University and a PhD from Nijmegen University. He is looking forward to be appointed Associate Professor - on personal title - during the fall of 2001. He has written seven books both alone and with others including, *In Termen van Beelden* (1993) and *Toolbook for Organizational Change* (1995). He has also published over a hundred articles including, Jonker, J. (2000), "Organisations as Responsible Contributors to Society: Linking Quality, Sustainability and Accountability", *Total Quality Management*, (MCB, UK), Volume 11, No 3, pp. S741 - S746; Jonker, J. & Klaver, J. (2000), "Changing Corporate Environmental Management; Developing New Management Systems", *Economic Management and Auditing* (Wiley, UK), Vol. 7, no. 2, ISSN 0968-9427, pp. 91-97; and Jonker, J. (1999), "Some Reflections on the Emerging Notion of Personal Quality Management", *The Journal of Workplace Learning*, (MCB, UK), Volume 11, Issues 3&4, pp. 123-130.

Dr. Jonker is a member of the editorial board of Sigma (Kluwer Deventer - Holland), Corporate, Measuring Business Excellence (MCB UK) and The Journal of Corporate Citizenship (Greenleaf UK). He is also a member of the Institute of Social and Ethical Accountability (ISEA), London (UK), has been member of the scientific/organising committee of the Eco and Management Auditing Conference (UK), 1999 (Leeds) and 2000 (Manchester) and principal of the scientific/organising committee of the Eco and Management Auditing Conference 2001, Nijmegen Business School, University of Nijmegen.

Since January 2000 he has also worked as a publisher at Royal Van Gorcum (Assen Holland) in the area of CSR. Dr. Jonker has also given many public lectures and presentations over the years including: "Significance Management; Human Talent in Transit" (Kfar Maccabiah, Israel, 1997), "The Art of Creating Change" (Ericsson, US, 1998), "Management Systems on the Move" (University of Warwick, UK, 2000), "Value(s) Management" (University of Groningen, NL, 2000), "In Search of Society: Co-Creating New Business Strategies with Prosumers" (De Baak, NL, 2001), and "Meeting at the Cross Roads of Diversity: Emerging European Perspectives on CSR" (4th Annual Conference on CSR, University of Warwick, 2001).

For more than seven years he has been teaching research methodology for PhD students. At present he is enjoying a sabbatical leave until February 2002 in order to start preparing two new books, both of which will deal with strategy in relation to CSR due to be published at Greenleaf in the UK. He is married, has two beautiful teenage daughters, collects cameras and spends his holidays rebuilding his sixteenth century country house in France.

Faculty Publication Awards

Congratulation to the following researchers in RMIT Business who have recently received Faculty publication Awards since the last BRN.

In the 'B1 Book Chapter' Category

Davey, W., Visscher, A.J., Wild, P. 'Conclusions, Reflections and the Road Ahead', Chapter 9 in Information Technology Management, Visscher, A.J., Wild, P. & Fung, A.C.W. (Ed's), Kluwer Academic Publishers, Netherlands, 2001, pp. 161-175.

In the 'C1 Article in a Refereed Journal' Category

Selvarajah, C., Lau, S.W.L., & Taomina, R.J., 'Management Training and Development: A New Zealand Study', Journal of the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management, Vol. 6, No. 1, 2000, pp.28-54.

In the 'E1 Conference Paper in refereed Proceeding' Category

Ly, M., Taniar, D. & Abi-Raad, M., 'Firewall: Technologies and Practices', World Multiconference on Systematics, Cybernetics and Informatics: SCI 2001 Proceeding, Vol. II, International Institute of Informatics and Systematics, Orlando Florida, 2001, pp. 575-580.

Abubakar, N. & Abi-Raad, M., 'Quality Practices in Software Organizations: Over Promises or Under Practices?', World Multiconference on Systematics, Cybernetics and Informatics: SCI 2001 Proceeding, Vol. II, International Institute of Informatics and Systematics, Orlando Florida, 2001, pp. 304-309.

Geiselhart, K., 'Another Convergence: Electronic Commerce, Education and Governance', Proceedings of the Fifth COLLECTeR Conference on Electronic Commerce, (Available on CD ROM), Deakin University, Melbourne, 2000.

Adnani, M.M. & Kamay, V., 'IT Security Management: A Business Orientated Approach', World Multiconference on Systematics, Cybernetics and Informatics: SCI 2001 Proceeding, Vol. II, International Institute of Informatics and Systematics, Orlando Florida, 2001, pp. 563-568.

Morley, C., Bellamy, S. & Jackson, M., 'Gender Differences in Career Attitudes of Accountants and Their Impact on Career Progression', Collected Papers of the APIRA Adelaide 2001, (Available on CD ROM or online at <http://www.commerce.adelaide.edu.au/apira/proceedings.htm>, 2001.

Weisz, M., Atchison, M., Eakins, P., Gowland, D., Reeders, E., Rizzetti, J. and Smith, S., 'Student-Staff Partnerships in Approaches to Teaching and Learning', 4th International HERDSA Conference, Research & Development in Higher Education, Vol. 24, Higher Education Research and development Society of Australasia, Inc., 2001, pp.195-205.



The Research Development Unit on behalf of RMIT Business wishes to formally congratulate Prof. Barry Cooper on the recent completion of his PhD with the School of Accounting and Law. The title of Barry's thesis is 'An investigation of the factors which impact on the approaches to learning of accountancy degree students'.

Whats New in the RDU Library.....

Recently the following external Working Papers have been added to the collection in the RDU Library. Staff and research students are always welcome to come and browse in our library and borrow items that are of interest.

Working Papers (External to RMIT)

Beaumont, N., 'The Effect of Grouping on Regression Analysis', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 49/01, August 2001.

Sohal, A., Terziovski, M., Power, D. & Ahmad, A., 'Integrated Supply Chain Management: A Comparison of Experiences Amongst Australian and Malaysian Companies', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 50/01, August 2001.

Zutshi, A. & Sohal, A.S., 'Environmental Management Systems Implementation: Some Experiences of Australian Auditors', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 51/01, August 2001.

Sadler, I. & Sohal, A.S., 'A Process for an Integrated Operations and Logistics Strategy', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 52/01, August 2001.

Cooney, R., 'Is 'Lean' a Universal Production System? Batch Production in the Automotive Industry', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 53/01, August 2001.

Hughes, O.E. & Samaratunge, R., 'Development and new public management: Partners in the new century?', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 54/01, August 2001.

Hughes, O., 'The Way Ahead for New Public Management', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 55/01, August 2001.

Samaratunge, R. & Waddell, D., 'Are You Being Served? Assessing Performance of Decentralization in Sri Lanka', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 56/01, August 2001.

Davis, P. & McLean, J., 'Trust and a "Certain Type of Relationship"', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 57/01, August 2001.

Smith, W.A. & Nyland, C., 'Islamic Identity and Work in Malaysia: Islamic Work Ethics in a Japanese Joint Venture in Malaysia', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 58/01, August 2001.

Yee Gan, C. J., Samaratunge, R. & Smith, W.A., 'Work-Family Conflict and Women Managers: Empirical Evidence from Malaysia', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 59/01, August 2001.

Seen, M., Beaumont, N. & Mingins, C., 'Benchmarking Business Processes in Software Production: A Case Study', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 60/01, August 2001.

Samaratunge, R. & Bennington, L., 'Public Sector Reforms in Sri Lanka: An Empirical Study', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 67/01, August 2001.

Dean, A., Morgan, D. & Tan, T.E., 'Service Quality and Customers' Willingness to Pay More for Travel Services', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 68/01, August 2001.

Wong, A. & Sohal, A. 'Evaluating Service Encounters from the Customers' Perspectives: The Effect of Service Quality on Overall Relationship Quality', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 69/01, August 2001.

Inglis, L. & Minahan, S. 'Stakeholder and Strategic Planning: Experiences of an Australian Nonprofit Organization 1993 - 2001', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 70/01, August 2001.

Hanley, G., 'Union Satisfaction in the Pacific Rim: A Comparison of Union Member relations and Satisfaction with Unions in Australia and South Korea', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 71/01, August 2001.

Morgan, D., 'A Bridge to Nowhere or Will Brighton Re-A-Pier? Exploring Community Desire for the Resurrection of a Symbol', Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Working Paper 72/01, August 2001.

Hirschberg, J.G. & Lye, J.N., 'Clustering in a Data Envelopment Analysis Using Bootstrapped Efficiency Scores', Department of Economics, University of Melbourne, Research Paper 800, July 2001.

Chotikapanich, D. & Griffiths, W., 'On Calculation of the Extended Gini Coefficient', Department of Economics, University of Melbourne, Research Paper 801, July 2001.

Chotikapanich, D. & Griffiths, W., 'Estimating Lorenz Curves Using a Dirichlet Distribution', Department of Economics, University of Melbourne, Research Paper 802, July 2001.

Creedy, J., 'Adam Smith and All That', Department of Economics, University of Melbourne, Research Paper 803, July 2001.

Did you Know.....



About UltiBASE e-journal

UltiBASE is a peer reviewed e-journal dedicated to publishing academic papers which address the broad issues of tertiary teaching and learning. This year the journal is particularly encouraging papers which deal with the following suggested topics:

- The impact of new technologies: have they delivered on their early promises?
- New and emerging paradigms in teaching and learning.
- Issues related to increased commercial involvement and globalisation.
- Issues regarding cross cultural modes of learning and centralised distribution of knowledge.
- Postgraduate (graduate student) experiences, management and supervision.

This list of suggested topics in no way precludes the inclusion of papers on other items of interest to the journals readership.

Articles published in UltiBASE meet the DETYA criteria for a refereed journal publication and are eligible for a Faculty Publication Award.

For further information on the journal please visit the website:

<http://ultibase.rmit.edu.au/>

or for any specific issues please email: manager@ultibase.rmit.edu.au

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The aim of this newsletter is to keep staff informed of research activity within RMIT Business and of research opportunities both outside and within the faculty. If you have any contributions (we are always interested in research or researchers for our feature article) that you think would be of interest to the faculty please contact Bronwyn Coate at the RDU.

The *Business Research News* is also available for viewing on the RDU's web site shortly after it has been distributed in paper form. The web site also contains information for research staff and students including the RDU's library holdings.

