Students and Staff

1. Many thanks to all the students and staff who attended the Research Student Conference on the 17th of June 2011. The day was an excellent event with everyone having a very productive time and enjoying a lovely meal together at the end of the day. A special thanks to Louise Prentice for all the work in organising the conference and the many reiterations of the presentation schedule. Congratulations to both Claire Kelly and Ahmed Al Hazmi who presented in the SoE 3 Minute Thesis Competition. Claire Kelly will be going as the SoE representative to the D&SC round. Congratulations Claire.

2. Students who applied for International Conference funding in the recent round. You may find that you will not receive $2,000.00. The School of Graduate Research (SGR) received 166 applications so has reduced the amount given to each successful applicant.

Staff and Supervisors

1. Reminder to staff who are planning to go for promotion in 2011. The Promotion Committee intends to use the Research Masters database as the official verification mechanism in relation to your publications as stated in your application. So it is very important to keep your publications current on Research Masters. Go into your MyResearch and check that your publications listing.

2. News from Dr Robyn Barnacle, Senior Research Fellow School of Graduate Research (SGR) in relation to HDR supervisor registration criteria. There have been a number of changes made to the HDR supervisor registration criteria and application form. The purpose of these changes is to rectify an inconsistency between University policy and registration changes made in 2009 and to improve the approval process. All changes appear on the updated supervisor registration website: http://www.rmit.edu.au/staff/research/registration

Summary of changes:

1. Second supervisors are no longer required to hold the same level of degree to that supervised (in other words, a second supervisor to a PhD candidate need not have a PhD themselves).
2. Adjunct Professors, Emeritus Professors, Professorial Fellows and Research Associates are no longer exempted from Category 1 status (and therefore are eligible to act as senior supervisor).
3. If exceptional circumstances exist, Heads of School are requested to write to the Dean, School of Graduate Research, to grant an exemption to supervisor registration eligibility criteria. The letter should be attached to the registration form and sent to Mrs. Helen Lennox in the School of Graduate Research.
4. The registration form has been revised to require applicants to include appropriate evidence supporting their application (such as a CV). Please let me know if you are seeking further clarification of these changes or contact Helen Lennox (helen.lennox@rmit.edu.au) regarding the approval process.

Dr Robyn Barnacle, Senior Research Fellow, SGR, RMIT University Ph: (03) 9925 8303  www.rmit.edu.au/staff/robynbarnacle

More news from Robyn Barnacle SGR
I am writing to advise you that the Supervision of Higher Degrees by Research course will be offered in second semester this year. Please notify any colleagues who may be interested, particularly prospective supervisors.

The course provides prospective and novice supervisors with practical knowledge regarding higher degrees by research (HDR) supervision that can be used to inform and enhance supervisory practice. Completion of the course is one way that prospective supervisors can meet the requirements for registration as an HDR supervisor.

Information about the course is available here:  http://www.rmit.edu.au/staff/research/profdevelopment

Photos from the ‘Around the World in a Lunchtime’ event on the 27th of May. This was the first social event for the SoE Research Student association (RSA). A very big thank you to Ahmed Alhazmi the RSA Association President, Yana Ostapenko and Aidd Almalki for their cultural contribution and to everyone who cooked and provided food. It was a great lunchtime event attended by over 20 staff and students which was wonderful.