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## Academic Translational Seminars RMH

The Department of Medicine RMH welcomes you to join us for the following presentation –  
**“Inflammation and Immunobiology of Joint Injury & Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis Risk”** by Professor Christopher Little from University of Sydney.

### Event Details:

Date & Time: Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023 @11:00am – 12:00pm  
In-person: Venue: Ewing Theatre (5th Floor, Clinical Sciences Building, Royal Melbourne Hospital)  
Virtual: Zoom [Link](#) & Password: RMHSeminar



## National Intelligence and Security Discovery Research Grants (NISDRG)

### Overview

The National Intelligence and Security Discovery Research Grants (NISDRG) program commenced in 2020 with funding from the Office of National Intelligence and the Defence National Security Science and Technology Centre (NSSTC). The NISDRG program supports excellent research that deepens understanding of emerging science and technology and addresses intelligence and national security interests. The grants program will facilitate innovation and develop national security and intelligence capacity. It will also enable Australia’s National Intelligence and Security Communities to systematically engage with Australia’s research and technology community.

### Key Dates

EOI open in RMS – Now  
Full Applications (by invitation) Open - 23 October 2023  
Final application due to RIC – 4 December 2023

For more information - [LINK](#)

## ARC Early Career Industry Fellowship

### Overview

The objectives of the Early Career Industry Fellowships grant opportunity are to: develop the industry collaboration skills of early career researchers; and support early career researchers to achieve translatable and/or commercialisable outcomes.

### Key Dates

Applications open – Now  
Final application due to RIC – 27 October 2023

For more information - [LINK](#)

## Future Fellowships

### Overview

Future Fellowships reflect the Australian Government’s commitment to excellence in research by supporting excellent mid-career researchers to undertake high quality research in areas of national and international benefit.

### Key Dates

Submission of NOI to UoM – Now  
Submit review ready application to RIC - 25 to 27 October 2023  
Final application due to RIC – 20 November 2023

For more information - [LINK](#)

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## MDHS Staff Excellence Awards

MDHS are delighted to call for nominations for the 2023 MDHS Staff Excellence Awards. These awards recognise and reward high-performing academic and professional staff and teams across our Faculty, Schools, Departments, Centres and Institutes. There are 12 awards covering a wide range of areas and aligning with the themes of the *Advancing Health 2030* strategy. These are:

- [Global, Place and Community](#)
- [Discovery](#)
- [Education](#)

Please explore the awards on offer, and nominate yourself, a colleague or a team. You can find the full list on the [awards website](#). This year we have realigned the Staff Awards with the *Advancing Melbourne* and the *Advancing Health 2030* strategies. We've also improved the application process, making it easier to apply for the MDHS Staff Awards and the wider [University of Melbourne Excellence Awards](#). The Faculty is proud to invest in these awards to support our great people to do their best work. Award recipients receive \$5000 to support a project or activity related to their career development.

Nominations are now open and close on Friday 10 November. You can find nomination guidelines and forms [here](#). Award winners will be announced at the all-staff end-of-year celebration later this year.

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## Changes to COVID-19 isolation requirements in a hospital setting

From Thursday 5 October 2023, the Department of Health have made changes to staff isolation requirements for staff working in health care settings:

- Staff must report COVID-19 positive results or household exposure by completing the [Contact Tracing submission form](#).
- After testing positive for COVID-19, staff must not attend the workplace for at least **5 days** (reduced from 7 days) from the positive COVID-19 test and until the acute symptoms have resolved.
- Household contacts who cannot isolate from a positive case must not attend the workplace for **5 days** (reduced from 7 days), as directed by the COVID management IPC team.
- Staff should discuss with their local manager if working from home arrangements are available.

Staff can return to working onsite on day 6 (day 1 is a positive test result), with the following risk mitigation strategies for an additional 5 days:

- Staff must wear an N95 mask at all times.
  - Staff must take breaks alone.
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## Mandatory University Travel Booking System

Staff are reminded that all work related travel must be booked through the University Travel booking system - [Employee Travel Policy \(MPF1300\)](#). To assist the University in maintaining its employer duty of care, you must ensure that business-related flights and accommodation are booked and managed through UniTravel, the University's travel management portal. The University needs to be able to know where in the world any of our travelling staff are at any given point in time. *"Clause 5.11. To assist the University achieving the objectives of this policy, travellers and/or travel arrangers must ensure that business related flights and accommodation are booked and managed through the University's endorsed booking system."* If specific components of the travel cannot be booked through the University's endorsed booking system, then alternative bookings can be made.

There is also a UniTravel [TrainMe module](#) - The module is aligned with the Travel Policy and travel system. The training includes modules on traveller/traveller-arranger responsibilities, high risk travel, and supervisor/authoriser responsibilities.

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## Changes to fixed-term employment legislation (6 December 2023)

The University has provided information about upcoming changes to legislation (from 6 December 2023) which will supersede some of the current University of Melbourne Enterprise Agreement 2018 fixed-term provisions which prevent the University from offering rolling fixed-term contracts and places a default two-year limit on the duration of fixed-term employment (with some exceptions), among other changes. There are some specific circumstances where a 5 year fixed-term contract may still apply (for example work on a specific task or project, or research). In each circumstance, it is recommended that hiring managers seek advice from a HR Business partner in relation to fixed term contracts being offered beyond this date in order to ensure that we are not in contravention of the legislation.

Further to this, the Dean of MDHS has articulated her intention that the Faculty intends to prioritise continuing and continuing research-contingent contracts wherever possible and make this the default employment type for MDHS wherever we can. To enable a smooth transition to this new way of working will require us to create a more agile and joined-up approach to hiring staff and a faculty level 'safety net' for potential future redundancy costs. This will alleviate concerns of supervisors and grant holders. More information will be provided to faculty leaders and supervisors as the process progresses.

The Faculty are starting with an immediate review of all fixed-term contracts, initially focussing on those contracts that expire between now and end of March 2024. While this review is underway, we will balance our compliance obligations with effective workforce planning; ensuring attractive career pathways and well-designed roles; and continue our work to reduce our reliance on casual modes of employment.

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## Senior Research Mentors Program

The Researcher Development Unit are running an information session designed for Professors and Associate Professors who are looking to further develop their mentoring skills. The session will be run by the Program Leaders to provide potential applicants with more details about time commitment, expectations of participation and about the program itself.

The University of Melbourne Research Mentors Program (RMP) was established to help advance the research leadership and culture of the University and the career development and performance of its research staff and students. Participants in the RMP learn about and share knowledge on the theoretical concepts, principles, and practices of successful mentoring. The RMP is designed for new and experienced research leaders at Professor or Associate Professor level (or equivalent) from Schools, Centres, Programs and Projects across the University. The program has two main themes. (1) The practices, processes, and benefits of formal and informal mentoring; what constitutes a good mentor; and the successful mentor-mentee relationship; and (2) Mentoring challenges and solutions across a wide range of issues involving research staff and students at all levels.

The personal benefits of the RMP include becoming a more knowledgeable and capable mentor responsible for the career development of others; anticipating and responding to common challenges and issues in research settings before they escalate; developing wider university networks, contacts, and outreach; and giving to and receiving more from your own mentors.

**Join the Zoom Information Session about the upcoming Research Mentors Program.**

**Wednesday 11 October from 4:00pm - 4:45pm**

<https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/86892739333?pwd=Y3N4bnp1TzM5MjkNVFGQ3FYb3RHQT09>

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## Special Studies Program (SSP)

Guidelines for the Special Studies Program (SSP) have now been updated on the [MDHS intranet](#) and are **also attached for your reference**.

Please note that applications should be submitted 4 months prior to the intended start date of the SSP, to ensure sufficient time for review and authorisation by the SSP Committee and Dean

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