MELANIE SAWARD
Master of Fine Arts (Research)

I used a combination of academic and professional experience as my pathway into university. I am a part-time student, so being organised in order to juggle everything is important. Support from the Library Liaisons and Learning and Teaching Unit has been helpful and enhanced my academic skills to benefit my research.

Connecting with the Indigenous Research and Engagement Unit has enhanced my experience. It is a place to study, collaborate and socialise. The IREU has a sense of community which is important since completing a research degree can be quite isolating.
CRAIG COWLED
Doctor of Philosophy
Completing my PhD has allowed me to pursue my research agenda in timber engineering, while continuing to indulge in my love of teaching. I see a lot of value in gaining a university education, it opens many doors and closes none.

It can be tough balancing work, family and study especially when you are struggling to pay the rent. The scholarships that I received made it possible for me to contemplate leaving a well-paid job and undertake doctoral studies.

CAPACITY BUILDING
The IREU runs a research capacity building program tailored for current QUT HDR students during their candidature. The program includes:

- Indigenous Research Methodologies Masterclasses that engage postgraduates and early career researchers to reinterpret Indigenous ideas, concepts and philosophies and provide deeper context to their research.
- Critical reading groups that offer Indigenous HDR students an opportunity to discuss critical works in Indigenous Studies.
- Level A workshops that focus on research training by offering specific research capacity building skills designed for Indigenous PhD and Masters by Research postgraduates.

NETWORKING
The National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN), provides a platform for cross-institutional and multidisciplinary research. It is designed to build the capacity of qualified Indigenous researchers to meet the compelling research needs of our communities.

Visit www.nirakn.edu.au

The Indigenous Studies Research Network (ISRN) fosters engagement with Indigenous researchers and research affiliates from Australia and abroad, allowing students to share and exchange knowledge, research, solutions and information within the Indigenous studies global community.

Visit www.isrn.qut.edu.au
Contact
Indigenous Postgraduate Programs Officer
B Block, Room 309, Kelvin Grove campus
email ireu@qut.edu.au

© QUT 2018  23398  CRICOS No. 00213J