Welcome

Associate Professor David Copland
Chair, Research & Postgraduate Studies Committee (SHRS)
Environment + Opportunity

- SHRS Research Environment
- Contribution of RHDs
Guide for successful PhDs

(Adapted from Chenevix-Trench et al. (2006) and Hodges (2011))
Get involved and take responsibility

- **Need**
  - Skills in independent and effective thinking
  - Critical analysis
  - Problem solving
  - Time management

- These only develop if you take responsibility
Work Hard

- 3 years goes very quickly.
- To finish in time, you can’t get away with a 38-hour week every week.
- Treat it like a job – with clear boundaries.
Play Hard

- Plan for time off
Read the literature

- In and out of your field
- Can’t make original contribution if don’t know what has been done.
Plan your days and weeks very carefully
Keep a lab book and write it up every day

- Will make writing up easier
- Record of new ideas / approaches / methods
Be active, not passive

- Don’t sit back and wait for the “magic”
- Seek information or advice
- Find the right people
- Beware – easy to get off track
Make the most of conferences and workshops

- Not a holiday
- Plan carefully — best for you and your work
- Target people to meet / talk to.
Practice your writing in any way you can

- Write daily
- Get lots of feedback
- Give feedback to co-students
Think early and carefully about what you want to do post-PhD
Get involved in school or division events

- Give talks
- Go to seminars (& ask questions)
- Experiments
- Organising Conferences
- Committees (e.g. research & postgrad studies committee)
- Balance this with your PhD work (avoid other distractions)
Take courses

- Graduate Week
- Conference workshops
- Stats
- Writing
- Presenting
Develop your portfolio

- RHD Graduate Portfolio
  - Problem-solving and problem-formulation from different perspectives
  - Communication skills
  - Project management skills
  - Industry-focus and/or professional experience
  - Understanding and applying multiple disciplinary and international perspectives
  - High quality research skills
  - Expert integrated knowledge
  - Social, ethical responsibility.

  - Dr Catherine Manathunga (TEDI/The Graduate School)
  - A/Prof. Paul Lant (Advanced Wastewater Management Centre)
  - Dr George Mellick (Southern Clinical Division, Medical School)
Enjoy and Good Luck!