

Academic Board HDR student representative – candidate statements

Candidate 1 – Lochie Timms-McLean

Hi there! My name is Lochie Timms-McLean, I'm a PhD student about 1.5 years into my candidature. My thesis is focused on developing recommendations for the modification of interventions to prevent and reduce gambling harm to better suit those with ADHD and/or autism.

Some HDR candidates may know me from my part-time role in the Graduate Research School, some may know me from my work as the President of the FedUni Postgraduate Association, and some may know me from being everything, everywhere, all at once! If not, then hi! I am passionate about psychology, queer activism and translational research. On my time off, I'm passionate about music, Pokémon, gaming and any hyper fixations I can find.

I would love to represent HDR in this position for many reasons, but mainly because it provides me with an opportunity to be a voice for an often-forgotten part of the University. I have extensive experience in the University systems through my work and have gotten to know a lot of the cohort over the years. I think I would be a great choice, and having the opportunity to relay some of our thoughts to Academic Board would be so beneficial to both me and my cohort.

Candidate 2 – Rebecca Farnell

With strong foundations in research, stakeholder engagement and collaboration, I believe I would be a valuable member of the Academic Board. I am a PhD candidate researching improved molecular diagnostics for the surveillance of parasitic worm infections in sheep, with a strong focus on farmer and stakeholder insight to ensure the research outcomes are relevant and impactful.

I also completed my undergraduate degree at Federation University and have been actively involved in University activities. This has included being a mentor, ambassador, laboratory demonstrator, and assessor as well as a student. These experiences have allowed me to support the student experience, uphold university values and expand connections. I have represented the university at conferences, community outreach events and stakeholder presentations. My academic achievements, including scholarships and awards for excellence, reflect my dedication to my studies and research.

I have leadership experience outside the University including being a head coach in calisthenics, and a hospitality manager. These roles strengthened my skills in communication, team management, compliance, and financial management.

I believe these experiences provide me with a strong foundation to carry forward values, and make contributions to strategic decisions as part of the Academic Board as the HDR representative.