

Creating a vibrant and supportive postgraduate community

Responding to the needs of postgraduate students

Providing services and representation for all postgraduates on all Monash campuses

MPA services and support provided to postgraduates:

On the six Victorian campuses: Berwick, Caulfield, Clayton, Gippsland, Parkville and Peninsula.

On Malaysia campus and to DE p/gs where practicable.

At off-campus locations including hospitals, law chambers and city premises.

Individual postgraduates situated within private industry locations on request.

Putting it in perspective:

The total Monash postgraduate population across seven campuses is 15,817

22% Research (3455)  
78% Coursework (12,362)

Did you know that for research postgraduates at Monash:

The average age is 35.

There are 79 research postgraduates in the over 60's age range.

There are more females than males (55:45).

The majority have a break after undergraduate study, before commencing postgraduate study.

Creating postgraduate community :

Coffee clubs, lunches and BBQs  
Annual postgrad ball with Melbourne uni  
Annual trivia night for research p/gs

Providing academic and professional support :

Orientation sessions  
Workshops and Seminars  
Fora – to seek postgraduate opinion  
Research projects on postgraduate matters  
Lobbying - to change policies and procedures  
- to improve resources and services

Recent projects and achievements:

Establishment of a 24/7 postgraduate lounge area in the Campus Centre on Clayton campus.  
Successfully lobbied to change university's position on compulsory online publication of theses.

Current issues:

Working to protect travel grants against cuts.  
Investigating student medical insurance with a view to increasing cover for research postgraduates working in high risk areas.

Professional and confidential advice and advocacy provided by MPA staff on any concern including:

- Supervision
- Intellectual Property
- Administration
- Intermissions and extensions
- Thesis examination
- Resources
- Security

Supervision

The single most common problem raised with MPA staff by research postgraduates.

- Expect your supervisor to be pleasant and professional
- Be enthusiastic and prepared to work hard
- Be honest and diplomatic
- Raise any concerns as early as possible

The MPA ensures postgraduate representation on University boards and committees including:

- University Council
- Academic Board
- Education Committee
- Intellectual Property Committee
- Faculty Boards
- Research Graduate School Committee
- Coursework Scholarships Committee

Monash Postgraduate Association Executive Committee (MPAEC) directs the operations and develops policy.

Comprises 15 elected postgraduate members

Fixed positions for representatives from every Victorian campus

Includes office bearer positions covering special interest groups such as women, international students, indigenous students and equity groups.

MPA website:

<http://mpa.monash.edu.au/index.html>

Online orientation for research postgraduates:

<http://mpa.monash.edu.au/new-to-monash/HDR-online-orientation.html>

Information for research postgraduates:

<http://mpa.monash.edu.au/research-postgrads/index.html>

*The MPA Guide to Postgraduate Programs*, Semesters one and two, delivered to your door.

Visit the MPA office to pick up a copy of *The MPA Guide to Postgraduate Facilities and Services*.

Read and contribute articles to *Online Compass*, the postgrad magazine, available through the MPA website.

Subscribe to the weekly MPA email news list through the MPA website:  
[www.mpa.monash.edu.au](http://www.mpa.monash.edu.au)

Staying in touch

Visit one of the MPA offices:

Room 1-51, first floor  
Campus centre  
Clayton campus

Room HB33, basement  
Building H  
Caulfield campus