

Thank you to all who participated in the workshop program during the year. We received more than 1000 registrations for the 30 events held over the year. If you want to keep up on the latest resources and information please consider sending an [email](#) to request access to the Supporting our Supervisors Team site.

We are preparing details of the Advisor Professional Development program now. The proposed focus is the milestones, the difference between an MPhil and a PhD and how to support preparation of a thesis by publication, creative works or monograph. If there are other things you would like to discuss or advisor practices or research education processes of concern to you, please [email](#) your ideas for consideration.

Recordings of workshops held this year are available on the GRS Advisor website, the Advisor Development organization in LearnJCU and on the Supporting our Supervisors Teams site. Please [email](#) if you would like to join teams or are having difficulty finding the recording you need.

Congratulations to this year's award winners:

Primary Advisor of the Year: P \_\_\_\_\_, College of Public Health, Medical & Vet Sciences

Advisory Panel of the year: \_\_\_\_\_, College of Arts, Society & Education;  
\_\_\_\_\_, College of Arts, Society & Education;

Award for Excellence in Graduate Research Leadership: \_\_\_\_\_, College of Science & Engineering

Please encourage your candidates to visit the [Advisor of the Year Award Nomination Form](#).

We have all learned new ways of advising and researching in response to the restrictions and challenges of the global pandemic. The key messages are:

1. *Resilience and well-being*: Stay safe and persist. Being deliberate and making steady if incremental headway is a way to avoid frustration and lack of focus.
2. *Plan B*: All good researchers routinely consider Plan B to address risks associated with time and resourcing constraints as well as the uncertainties of the research process. In Covid times our focus has turned to managing physical distancing and travel constraints. Finding strategies to realign research design to address research questions/hypotheses while overcoming potential delays is a key challenge to work through with affected candidates.
3. *International admission*: We share a common wish to welcome excellent international candidates into the JCU HDR Cohort. But travel restrictions makes the potential for this to happen harder to realise. Consider [Cotutelle opportunities](#), external study mode and external funding agencies as potential pathways. We will keep you posted if travel regulation.<sup>32</sup> ~~8~~vel