



SIR ROLAND WILSON FOUNDATION

Annual Report 2019



SIR ROLAND WILSON 1904–1996

Sir Roland Wilson KBE, CBE was an economist, acclaimed academic and had a remarkable career as a public servant. Born in 1904, Roland Wilson was the first Rhodes Scholar from a Tasmanian state school. He completed two PhD's, one at Oxford University and one at the University of Chicago.

After a short academic career, Wilson joined the public service in 1932 and was quickly appointed Commonwealth Statistician. He then served as founding Secretary of the Department of Labour and National Service where he contributed to Australia's economic approach to WWII.

In 1951, he was appointed Secretary of Treasury—he remains Australia's longest serving Treasury
Secretary, with almost 16 years of service. He was remembered in this role as an intellectual force, giving expert advice that shaped economic policy.

After retiring from the public service, Wilson was Chairman on the boards of the Commonwealth Bank and Qantas Airways. In recognition of his outstanding contribution to public service, Wilson was appointed a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in 1941; a Knight Bachelor in 1955; and, a Knight Commander of the British Empire (KBE) in 1965.



HIGHLIGHTS

| 48 Scholarships to date | |
|---|--|
| SIR ROLAND WILSON SCHOLARSHIP | SIR ROLAND WILSON PAT TURNER SCHOLARSHIP |
| 7 Scholars commencing in 2020 | 6 Scholars commencing in 2020 |
| 18 Current scholars | 6 Current scholars |
| 11 Alumni (scholars who have graduated) | Charles Darwin University scholars |
| 12 Australian Public Service agencies | 7 Australian Public Service agencies |
| 15 Research schools | 4 Research schools |

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dr Ken Henry, AC



This year has been an important one for us at the Foundation. In our eighth year of Sir Roland Wilson Foundation scholarships, we are consolidating and building on our successes. 2019 was the inaugural year for the Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner Scholarship, which supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander public servants to complete postgraduate study. We are already seeing the success of this program, with two scholars transitioning to a PhD program in their first year.

We are pleased to partner with The Australian National University (ANU) and Charles Darwin University (CDU) to expand the footprint of our scholarships and enable our Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner scholars to study across Australia and internationally.

Thirteen new scholars will commence their studies in 2020, bringing our community to 48 scholars and alumni across 15 Australian Public Service (APS) agencies.

As the challenges facing Australia become more complex, our scholarships are supporting high-performing public servants to develop their leadership and research capability—equipping the public service with the best knowledge, expertise and skills to face these challenges. Through the opportunities provided by the Foundation, our scholars are becoming leading contributors to public policy and strengthening the use of evidence and research across the public sector.

We are pleased to see the growing impact of our alumni continuing to build links between academia and the public service.

Now, we are looking forward to the future with our Strategic Plan 2020–2025. The new plan reflects the continued growth and evolution of the Foundation. It acknowledges our achievements, but also our goals and vision for the future and the actions we will take to expand and deepen our impact. We thank ANU, CDU and the APS for their continuing support as we do this and look forward to new opportunities in the years ahead.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sally-Anne Henfry



As our scholars progress their careers and the outcomes of their research are realised, opportunities to maintain and strengthen collaboration across academia and government abound.

This has been an important year for the Foundation as we develop and improve our systems and processes in preparation for our new strategic plan. This year, the Foundation was established as a body within the University in the only statute of its kind.

We also formalised our relationship with CDU to expand support for our Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner scholars.

In September, scholars came together for a two-day retreat to exchange knowledge and ideas, and develop their professional networks with alumni, senior academics and APS leaders. An overarching theme of the scholar symposium was giving back by sharing knowledge, research and skills with others. In October, we were honoured to welcome the Minister for Indigenous Australians, the Hon Ken Wyatt AM, as our keynote speaker for the annual Wilson Dialogue. Minister Wyatt spoke about the importance of leadership at all levels, and education as a great enabler for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

As I reflect on the past year, I am grateful for the continuing support of our partners, the dedication of our Board and Chair Dr Ken Henry, and the hard work of my team and our scholars.

I would like to congratulate our Sir Roland Wilson 2019 Award winners Craig Leon, Martin Dallen, Shane Johnson and Dr Angelia Grant.

I am proud the Foundation continues to expand its contribution to building APS capability and leadership, with another successful year for our scholars and alumni in 2019. As our cohort of scholars and alumni continues to grow, I am confident the impact of the Foundation and our programs will deepen.

WHO WE ARE

The Sir Roland Wilson Foundation is a partnership between The Australian National University, Charles Darwin University and the Australian Public Service. Honouring the legacy of Sir Roland Wilson, KBE, CBE, we build research and leadership capability in the Australian Public Service and embed connections between policymaking and academia through postgraduate scholarships.

The Sir Roland Wilson scholarship is a 3-year full pay scholarship for PhD research at The Australian National University for high performing EL1 and EL2 Australian Public Service employees.

The Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner Scholarship is a 1–3 year, full pay scholarship for any level of postgraduate study at the Australian National University or Charles Darwin University for APS 4 to SES Band 1 Australian Public Service employees.

Our scholars are future leaders, building connections between academia and the APS, and driving evidence-based public policy.



OUR BOARD

Dr Ken Henry, AC

Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Chair

Steve Sedgwick, AO

Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Deputy Chair

Dr Steven Kennedy, PSM

Secretary to the Treasury APS Representative

Peter Woolcott, AO

Australian Public Service Commissioner APS Representative

Professor Bruce Chapman

Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Chair of Economics College of Business and Economics ANU representative

Professor Ann Evans

Dean, Higher Degree Research ANU Representative

Professor Helen Sullivan

Director, Crawford School of Public Policy ANU Representative

Professor Asmi Wood

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Cath Ingram

ACT Chair and Lead Partner, Federal Government, KPMG Australia External Representative

Professor John Hewson, AM

Chair of Tax and Transfer Policy Institute Crawford School of Public Policy External Representative

Ted Crook

Sir Roland Wilson Foundation External Representative

IMPACT

Martine Cosgrove Sir Roland Wilson PhD scholar

Martine's research explores how the Australian Defence Force (ADF) responds to the mental health and wellbeing of members over the time they serve. Members' service shapes their health and wellbeing both during their service and well into later life.

Service in the ADF also has a broader impact on the community through the families of service members. Because of this, it's very important the Department of Defence create conditions that allow people to build and maintain good mental health, even though they may be exposed to life-threatening work and very serious health hazards.

Martine's research examines the Department of Defence's health policies, and people's experiences of positive mental health. Her research shows how health policies can create conditions that make it possible for people to flourish and avoid languishing.

Martine's research shows that conditions for positive mental health exist for some members of the Army but not for others. It demonstrates a new policy approach to developing conditions that promote positive mental health and identifies factors the organisation can modify to avoid languishing at both the personal and organisational level.

As part of her research, Martine has worked with senior Department of Defence leaders and policy-makers; Army Health program design, implementation and evaluation teams; Departments of Veterans' Affairs and Defence Mental Health Advisory Committee; and approximately 80,000 defence public service employees and military members.

Dr Talia Avrahamzon Sir Roland Wilson PhD scholar

Talia's research, Everyday reconciliation: New celebrations and ongoing silences explores how two urban primary schools engage in reconciliation as part of their everyday practices. Her thesis reveals that despite strong commitments and good intent, policies and practices largely serve to maintain racialised assumptions about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their cultures. In some cases, this led to practices and policies in schools and classrooms Talia refers to as 'settled reconciliation'. In these cases, good intent and celebrations of perceived Indigenous culture(s) silence Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' diverse experiences and agency, ignoring ongoing social, economic and structural disadvantages experienced by many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

On returning to work at the Department of Social Services, Talia established a new unit to enhance approaches to reconciliation.



Talia has continued to maintain and build connections with academia, nationally and internationally, undertaking projects with the ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences, teaching courses, and as a research fellow at the ANU Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research. She continues to present at conferences and seminars, publish book chapters and papers in academic journals.

During her scholarship, she was a visiting fellow at Queens University, Belfast and Victoria University, Wellington.

In 2020, Talia will translate her thesis into a book for policy makers.

Talia was the winner of the 2018 Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Joan Uhr Prize.



2020 Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner scholars
Lee-Anne Daffy, Lisa Conway, Cris Castro, Adina Jordan, Claire Sainsbury and Patricia Akee

Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner Scholarship

We are committed to developing the leadership and capability of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander public servants. In 2018, the Foundation established the Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner Scholarship.

Pat Turner, AM was raised in Alice Springs, the daughter of an Arrernte man and a Gurdanji woman. As CEO of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation, she is at the forefront of community efforts to Close the Gap in health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Pat has over 40 years' experience in senior leadership positions

in government, business and academia, including being the only Aboriginal person, only woman and longest serving CEO of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Commission. Pat is also the Coalition of Peaks Convenor and Co-Chair of the Joint Council on Closing the Gap

Since the introduction of the Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner Scholarship, the Foundation has gone from having no Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander scholars to 12 scholarships awarded across 2019 and 2020. In the inaugural year of the scholarship, three scholars have progressed from a Master of Philosophy program to a PhD program.

OUR SCHOLARS



Patricia Akee (2020)

Department of Health

ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences

Master of Culture, Health and Medicine



Peter J Bligh (2019)

Department of Environment and Energy

ANU College of Business and Economics

Master of Economic Policy



Helen Benassi (2017)

Department of Defence

ANU Research School of Social Sciences

Research title: E-health solutions to support early identification and self-management of mental health in the Australian Defence Force.



Melanie Broder (2018)

Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANU National Security College

Research title: Rethinking deterrence approaches: three case studies in cyber security.



Cris Castro (2020) Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business

ANU College of Business and Economics

Master of Leadership



Joseph Chien (2016)

Australian Bureau of Statistics

ANU Mathematical Science Institute

Research title: Using semantic technology to better capture labour market network dynamics for productivity analysis.



Jennifer Chang (2012) Department of the Treasury ANU China in the World Research title: Labour Supply in China.



Lisa Conway (2020)

Department of Human Services

ANU Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research

Research title: Is the Australian Public Service culturally responsive?



Martine Cosgrove (2014)

Department of Defence

ANU Centre for Research on Ageing, Health & Wellbeing

Research title: Ecological Perspectives on strategic military mental health policy.



Lee-Anne Daffy (2020)

Department of Human Service

College of Indigenous Futures, Arts and Society, Charles Darwin University

Research title: Hearing the whispers of many: journeys of Indigenous Australian women employed by Australian Public Service through entry level programs; and how the Australian Public Service facilitates retention to positively impact intergenerational poverty.



Anthony Cowley (2019)

Department of Social Services

College of Indigenous Futures, Arts and Society, Charles Darwin University

Research title: How do the drivers of design and co-design for mainstream Federal Government grants affect the welfare of Indigenous Australians?



Martin Dallen (2019)

Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

ANU Fenner School of Environment and Society

Master of Forestry



Anna Fieldhouse (2020)

Department of Social Service

ANU School of Regulation and Global Governance

Research title: Welfare service consumers as regulators: case studies of welfare service regulation and consumer influence in commodified welfare markets.



Fiona Dunne (2019)

Attorney-General's Department

ANU School of Psychology

Research title: The Walker Talker Project: can a structured professional judgement tool help predict those at risk of violent extremism?



Cathy Fussell (2020)

Department of Health

ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: Saving lives with big data—methods for policy impact in health and social systems data analytics.



Dr Christiane Gerblinger (2017)

Department of the Treasury

Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science

Research title: The language of the rebuffed: a critical appraisal of how policy advisers communicate.



Owen Freestone (2016)

Department of the Treasury

ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: The role that Australia's income support system plays in people's lives, especially its impact on labour market participation, savings behaviour, economic welfare and inequality.



Emma Graham (2020)

Attorney General's Department

ANU College of Law

Research title: Discriminatory job loss during pregnancy, parental leave and return to work: women's experiences and options for reform.





Szabina Horvath (2016)

Department of Defence

ANU Centre for Military and Security Law

Research title: Satisfying Australia's applicable human rights obligations during extra-territorial armed conflict.



Shane Johnson (2013)

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: An analytical history of government debt financing and management.



Katrina Howe (2020)

Department of Health

ANU College of Health and Medicine

Research title: Understanding the challenges associated with 'off-label' prescribing and repurposing of older medicines currently on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) to inform future policy development.



Katy Jones (2015)

Department of Social Service

ANU Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research

Research title: School attendance and primary school-aged Indigenous children.



Adina Jordan (2020)

Department of Social Services

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

Executive Master of Public Policy



Dr Therese Keane (2019)

Department of Defence

ANU John Curtin School of Medical Research

Research title: Development of new detection methods for novel viruses, serotyping for pathogens of concern, using third generation sequencing techniques and the development of bespoke bioinformatic tools.



Deborah Katona (2019)

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

College of Indigenous Futures, Arts and Society, Charles Darwin University

Master of Public Policy



Craig Leon (2019)

Department of Human Services

ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods

Research title: Unconscious Bias in the Australian Public Service: Implications for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment.



Michelle Lyons (2020)

Department of the Environment and Energy

ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: opportunities and risks for Australian energy exports under the Paris Agreement.



Andrew Morgan (2020)

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities, and Regional Development

ANU School of Politics and International Relations and ANZSOG

Research title: Public investment coherence: what conditions support effective decisions to maintain long-term impact?



Tess McGirr (2017)

Department of Social Services

ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: Family services and the employability of mothers in Australia's social security system.



Steve Munns (2019)

Department of Human Services

ANU School of Regulation and Global Governance

Research title: Violence at work: reducing assault and abuse directed at frontline staff in public service roles.



Eliza Murray (2013)

Department of Environment and Energy

ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: The international political economy of carbon trading.



Claire Sainsbury (2020)

National Indigenous Australians Agency

ANU Research School of Social Sciences

Research title: Factors affecting Indigenous students' participation and achievement in education.



Agnieszka Nelson (2013)

Department of Social Services

ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods

Research title: Income support dynamics among Australian youth disengaged from education, training and the labour market— a quantitative enquiry using administrative data.



Tristram Sainsbury (2020)

Department of the Treasury

ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: Federal structures on the Australian welfare state.



Siddharth Shirodkar (2018)

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods

Research title: Where are all the Indigenous entrepreneurs? A study of the pathways and barriers to entrepreneurship.



Timothy Watson (2019)

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: Hysteresis and the Australian economy.



Penelope Sullivan (2018)

Murray-Darling Basin Authority

ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: The techniques and strategies governments use to influence one another in federal water management: Lessons for Australia from the US and Europe.

IAN CASTLES ALUMNI PRIZE

With the expansion of our scholar cohort, the Foundation has introduced new prizes to recognise our growing scholar achievements and impact. The lan Castles Alumni Prize is awarded to the Sir Roland Wilson or Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner alum who has achieved extraordinary success in their field, or made outstanding contributions to public policy in Australia or internationally.

The Prize is named after Ian Castles, AO, OBE. Ian was the Secretary of the Department of Finance from 1979–1986 and Commonwealth Statistician from 1986–1994. He was instrumental in reforms to family allowances, superannuation and income tax. As a public servant, he was determined to ensure data and analysis were the guide to policy. Castles was a member of the inaugural Foundation Board.

The 2019 winner of the lan Castles was Dr Angelia Grant from the Department of the Treasury. Angelia is a 2015 alumna of the Sir Roland Wilson scholarship.

After returning to service, Angelia continued working as a part time researcher at ANU. Angelia exemplified how Senior Executive can access flexible working arrangements and manage two careers to build Australia's intellectual edge. Angelia also made significant strides bridging the gap between the public service and academic research. She established the Treasury Expert Panel to expose Treasury modellers to academic researchers, and has been a leader in the establishment of the ANU/Treasury Workshop on the Global Economy. Angelia was recently appointed the Principal Economic Adviser to the Treasurer—a testament to both her leadership and academic achievements.



OUR ALUMNI



Dr Suzanne Akila

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Graduated 2016 ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

Research title: Participation and the protection of citizens abroad in international law.



Dr Nathan Deutscher

Department of the Treasury

Graduated 2019 ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: Empirical essays in intergenerational mobility and early childhood human capital formation.



Dr Tahlia Avrahamzon

Department of Social Services

Graduated 2019 ANU Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research

Research title: Everyday reconciliation at school: new celebrations and ongoing silences.



Dr Camille Goodman

Attorney-General's Department

Graduated 2019 ANU Centre for International and Public Law

Research title: The nature and extent of coastal State jurisdiction over living resources in the exclusive economic zone.



Dr Angelia Grant

Department of the Treasury

Graduated 2015 ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: Three essays on the US business cycle, expectations formation and model comparison.



Dr Neal Hughes

Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences

Graduated 2015 ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: Water property rights in rivers with large dams.



Dr Paul Hubbard

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Graduated 2019 ANU Crawford School of Public Policy

Research title: The nature and performance of China's state owned enterprises.



Dr Nerida Hunter

Department of Social Services

Graduated 2017 ANU Australian Demographics and Social Research Institute

Research title: Geodemographic and life course perspectives of population ageing in Australia: informing the policy response to population ageing.



Dr Marie McAuliffe Department of Home Affairs Graduated 2017 ANU Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute



Department of Environment and Energy

Dr Rick Zentelis

Graduated 2017 ANU Fenner School of **Environment and Society**

Research title: Bombing for Biodiversity: integrating the military training and environmental values of military training areas.



Dr Michael McKenzie Attorney-General's Department Graduated 2016 **ANU Regulatory Institutions** Network Research title: rethinking international cooperation: crime, policy and politics in Australia-Indonesia relations.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Future Shapers Forum

In June, we supported the Public Policy and Societal Impact Hub to deliver the Future Shapers Forum, a cross-sectoral forum for young leaders.

Fifty participants across business, public, academic and social enterprise attended. The Forum included 60 special guests over 50 activities, including plenary sessions, bespoke meetings and group dinners.

Scholar Retreat

Our annual scholar retreat is an opportunity for scholars to develop their professional and academic capabilities and establish and maintain networks with fellow scholars, alumni and senior APS leaders and academics.

Our 2019 retreat was held at Mt Stromlo Observatory and the ANU campus. Scholars were joined by alumni in a discussion of life post scholarship and transitioning back to the service. APS and academic leaders spoke to scholars and alumni about APS research priorities and values-based leadership.

Wilson Dialogue

We were honoured to have Minister for Indigenous Australians, the Hon Ken Wyatt, AM MP, deliver the 2019 dialogue on the topic of leadership, education and policy design. It was a unique opportunity to hear from the Minister in the inaugural year of the Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner scholarship program.

Minister Wyatt spoke about removing educational barriers for Indigenous Australians, saying it 'must be a priority not just for government but anyone in leadership'.

He also called for continued genuine, grassroots efforts to redesign the policymaking process to better 'capture and reflect the realities of living as an Indigenous Australian'.



Phil Gaetjens speaking at the Annual Secretaries Dinner

Annual Secretaries Dinner

We hosted our annual Secretaries Dinner at the National Museum of Australia in November 2019.

Phil Gaetjens, Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet gave a persuasive keynote address about the importance of developing expert public servants. He emphasised the value of deep expertise in delivering policy, which Foundation scholars attain, and the value they bring back to their departments.

At the dinner, we recognised our Sir Roland Wilson Award winners: Pat Turner prizewinners, Martin Dallen and Craig Leon; Joan Uhr prizewinner Shane Johnson and Ian Castles Alumni prizewinner Dr Angelia Grant.

We also recognised Ted Crook for his 20year membership on the Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Board and contribution to the legacy of Sir Roland Wilson.



Craig Leon, Martin Dallen, Shane Johnson and Dr Angelia Grant at the 2019 Secretaries Dinner.

As we look ahead at the changes facing the nation, I am confident the Foundation is well positioned to help the Australian Public Service tackle these emerging challenges.

Chris Moraitis, PSM

Secretary, Attorney-General's Department





To maintain the trust of the Australian public and the Australian Government we need to ensure our public policy is backed by a deep and broad understanding of the issues, and rigorous evaluation.

The development of deep expertise in research, analysis and public policy is critical.

Mary Wiley-Smith, Deputy Australian Public Service Commissioner

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