



22nd June 2021

Dear Members of the Australasian Human Development Association (AHDA),

On behalf of the AHDA Executive Committee, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our second Newsletter of 2021! In this issue, we announce details about this year's online conference, introduce you to two more members of our Executive Committee, highlight some more information about how you can get involved with AHDA this year, and provide some job and conference advertisements.

First, it is my pleasure to welcome Kirsten Baird-Bate as our new Junior Member-at-large! Kirsten is a second-year PhD candidate with the Faculty of Education at QUT. Her research currently explores how primary carers of children on the autism spectrum conceptualise well-being using a mixed-methods approach. Kirsten has experience with communications, marketing and event and project management, and holds a Bachelor of Business Communications, Public Relations. We are excited to have Kirsten on board and look forward to her involvement in the association!

AHDA's 2021 Online Conference

The dates for AHDA's third online conference are November 18 and 19, 2021. Registration will be free for Honours students, postgraduates and post-docs!

Our online conference offers researchers an outlet and exciting opportunity to showcase new and interesting developmental work within the Australasian region! Many previous attendees commented on the supportive atmosphere, diverse range of presentation topics, and opportunities for collaboration and networking as key highlights of our 2020 conference.

AHDA 2021: November 18 & 19

Submissions open: July 1st

- Symposia (3-4 thematically related talks)
- Individual talks
- Individual poster presentations

More information coming soon!

Contact us at AHDAmembers@gmail.com
with any questions or to get involved!

Please keep an eye out for more information on submission requirements and instructions in the coming weeks.

Please also get in touch with us at AHDAmembers@gmail.com if you would be interested in joining the organising committee for our 2021 online conference. We are looking specifically for members in Australia and New Zealand who can help out with submission review, outreach, tech support and hosting sessions during the conference.

International conference hosting is an extremely valued contribution to the field and is a great way to build networks with like-minded researchers in Australasia.

AHDA Member Spotlight

Our Member Spotlight is designed to introduce our members to one another and to highlight information about research, interests and opportunities in this space. We continue this series by introducing you to our Secretary, Cassy Dittman, and our Communications Director, Riley Scott. For more information on who is involved in the Executive Committee and our Regional Representatives, please visit our [People page](#).



Dr Cassy Dittman is the Secretary for AHDA and a Lecturer for Psychology in the School of Health, Medical, and Applied Sciences at CQ University.

Cassy received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from The University of Queensland and previously worked as a Research Fellow and as the Head of Curriculum Development at the Parenting and Family Support Centre (PFSC) at The University of Queensland. The PFSC is the home of the internationally recognised Triple P – *Positive Parenting Program* system of interventions. Cassy is an Honorary Research Fellow at The University of Queensland and has also worked at The University of Auckland.

What does your research explore/investigate?

My research focuses on the impact of parenting and parent-child relationships on child and adolescent development and wellbeing. Much of my work is in the field of evidence-based parenting programs and their capacity to promote behavioural and emotional adjustment and positive development. My research has involved the development and evaluation of innovative ways to improve the reach and accessibility of evidence-based parenting programs by investigating the benefits of online programs and brief, targeted parenting support, as well as applying parenting programs in different contexts, such as junior sport and early childhood education. I also have a newfound interest in the parenting of adolescents and emerging adults, and the continued importance of parents across that critical developmental transition into adulthood.

Do you have any advice for Early Career Researchers/Post-docs/PhD candidates?

I have three pieces of advice for ECRs:

1) **Find your tribe.** Put yourself out there early to make connections with other early career researchers and mid-career researchers and work together, in a mutually-beneficial way, to build your research profile and track records. Senior mentors are great, but my experience is that good ones are hard to find, and you can't always rely on them to support your career in ways that your peers are more willing to do.

2) **Remember that there is life outside of academia (and remind others of this too).** Academia can be hard work and the energy you need to sustain it will ebb and flow as your real life changes and evolves. Don't be afraid to be kind to yourself and realise that there will be times that your personal life (e.g., having/raising a family, building/enjoying couple relationships) must take precedence, and it is OK to take a career disruption if needed.

Although there is an urgency to submit that next paper or bid for that awesome grant, all those things will still be there once you return.

3) **Embrace your expertise.** You haven't spent all these years studying and working on research for nothing. You have a wealth of knowledge, but you might just need some help figuring out how to share that knowledge in a way that is accessible for the general population (or other non-psychology academics). Once you have that confidence (or at least fake it until you make it), it is quite enjoyable and rewarding to share your expertise by engaging with the media, speaking at community events or for hosting professional development activities.



Riley Scott is the Communications Director for AHDA and a PhD Candidate in the School of Applied Psychology at Griffith University.

Riley received her Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) from Griffith University in 2017 and is now completing her PhD under the supervision of Dr Jaimee Stuart and Professor Bonnie Barber.

What does your research explore/investigate?

Broadly, my research explores the social lives of young people across online and offline (face-to-face) settings. I'm interested in the ways young people think, feel and act online, and particularly keen on exploring and promoting the positive outcomes of internet use for social connection. My PhD research looks at the interplay between personal characteristics and perceptions of the internet in young adults' friendships and social well-being. For example, one of my PhD studies explores whether the associations between social vulnerabilities (social anxiety and loneliness) and friendship quality differ for young adults who primarily interact with their friends in online versus offline settings. While I am working towards shifting the discourse around online experiences to highlight the positive outcomes associated with social internet use, I have also looked at outcomes such as adolescent alcohol use and cyberbullying.

What do you love best about being a researcher?

My love for research and for being a researcher has steadily grown over the last 4 years, for many reasons. I love that I am constantly learning and being challenged, not only in terms of my abilities to write, run data analyses, and think about complex issues, but because I am learning more about my own assumptions and expectations, and learning how to navigate

the unexpected. I also really enjoy sharing my knowledge and findings both with the academic community and with friends. I'm excited and motivated by the fact that my knowledge and research can be used to help people, and to provide an explanation to previously unanswered questions. Two of the things that I love the most about being a researcher are being part of an incredible team with my supervisors and peers, and meeting likeminded people who care about sharing information and helping others.

[Please visit and like our Facebook page to see the full highlights for Cassy and Riley!](#)

Recent Member Publications

We are proud to showcase a selection of relevant, recent publications from our Executive Committee.

Burke, K., Dittman, C. K., Ralph, A. & Haslam, D. (2021). Assessing critical dimensions of the parent-adolescent relationship from multiple perspectives: Development and validation of the Parent-Adolescent Relationship Scale (PARS). *Psychological Assessment*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pas0000992>

Clendon, S., Paynter, J., Walker, S., Bowen, R., & Westerveld, M.F. (In Press). Emergent Literacy Assessment in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder who have Limited Verbal Communication Skills: A Tutorial. *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools*.

Corkin, M. T., Peterson, E. R., Henderson, A. M. E., Bird, A. L., Waldie, K. E., Reese, E., & Morton, S. M. B. (2021). The predictors of screen time at two years in a large nationally diverse cohort. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10826-021-01985-5>

Corkin, M. T., Peterson, E. R., Henderson, A. M. E., Waldie, K. E., Reese, E., & Morton, S. M. B. (2021). Preschool screen media exposure, executive functions and symptoms of inattention/hyperactivity. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 73, 101237. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.appdev.2020.101237>

Liu, Y., Dittman, C. K., Guo, M., Morawska, A. & Haslam, D. (in press). The influence of father involvement, fathering practices and father-child relationships on child adjustment in Mainland China. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*.

Mascadri, J., Lunn-Brownlee, J., Walker, S., Scholes, L., & Berthelsen, D. (In Press). Children's perspectives on why and when teachers listen to their ideas: Exploring opportunities for participation in the early years of school. *International Journal of Educational Research*.

McArthur, G., Badcock, N., Castles, A., & Robidoux, S. (2021). Tracking the Relations Between Children's Reading and Emotional Health Across Time: Evidence From Four Large Longitudinal Studies. *Reading Research Quarterly* <https://doi.org/10.1002/rrq.426>

Morrison, S., Henderson, A. M. E., Sagar, M., Kennedy-Costantini, S., & Adams, J. (2021). Infant Behavior and Development Peek-a-who? Exploring the dynamics of early communication with an interactive partner swap paradigm and state space grid visualization. *Infant Behavior and Development*, 64, 101576. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infbeh.2021.101576>

Overall, N. C., Chang, V. T., Cross, E. J., Low, R. S. T., & Henderson, A. M. E. (2021). Sexist attitudes predict family-based aggression during a COVID-19 lockdown. *Journal of Family Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/fam0000834>

Scott, R. A., Stuart, J., & Barber, B. L. (in press). Contemporary friendships and social vulnerability among youth: Understanding the role of online and offline contexts of interaction in friendship quality. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*.

Stuart, J., O'Donnell, K. J., O'Donnell, A. W., Scott, R. A., & Barber, B. L. (2021). Online social connection as a buffer of health anxiety and isolation during COVID-19. *Cyberpsychology, Behavior and Social Networking*. <https://doi.org/10.1089/cyber.2020.0645>

Call for Involvement

We are dedicated to connecting researchers together and promoting the work of our members and want to highlight the publications of our members in the coming newsletters and on our Facebook page. **If you would like to share your research and are a current member, please let us know!** Further, to share upcoming or ongoing projects, job opportunities, or to be included in our Member Spotlight, please email us at AHDAmembers@gmail.com.

The International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development (ISSBD) 2022 Conference: New Dates Announced

The 26th Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development (ISSBD) is now scheduled to take place in person on the **Island of Rhodes in Greece, June 19-23, 2022**.

The Conference will be accepting applications, without peer review, from colleagues and students who were planning to attend ISSBD 2020, provided that the work has not already been presented internationally or published in an international journal. Further, they will also be opening a **new call for abstracts** addressed to colleagues and students who hadn't planned to attend ISSBD 2020. These applications will go through the normal peer review process.

The Conference will promote and facilitate the presentation of research on, among other topics:

- (a) human development throughout the lifespan,
- (b) basic and applied research,
- (c) developmental risks and resilience,
- (d) biological determinants of development,
- (e) methodological issues,
- (f) topics of global concern that affect developing individuals' lives, such as climate change, globalization, migration, catastrophic events, including war and terrorism, new and old technologies.

For more information on ISSBD 2022, please follow [this link](#) to the conference website.

The Society for the Study of Human Development (SSHD) 2021-22 Online Conference Series

The SSHD Program Committee invites you to submit your work for presentation at the upcoming Conference Series to be held online during the 2021-22 year.

TOPICS

Submissions may concern any topic relevant to SSHD. This scope includes the theme of the conference (Macrosystem Challenges to Lifespan Human Development) as well as the SSHD mission more generally (see [Conference Flyer](#) for information about the theme and highlights of the SSHD mission).

FORMATS

The presentation formats accepted for submission will be posters, papers (grouped into sessions), and symposia. Please visit the [conference submission website](#) for more information.

Job Alerts

Please click the following links to find out more information on job vacancies in areas of human development:

Position: 3x Mental Health Professors

University: Curtin University

Department: School of Population Health (and aligned to the enAble Institute)

Position Information: Applicants are expected to be internationally renowned, have an outstanding record of research achievement and build capacity towards a Centre of Excellence in Mental Health. As internationally recognised research leaders, candidates will bring a collaborative approach to nurture and grow research groups and translate discovery into practice. Candidates will bring credibility in Psychology, Psychiatry, Population Health, Public Health or Epidemiology. There is a willingness to consider the appointment of research teams where appropriate. Clinicians and academic researchers are welcome to apply.

Application Deadline: July 12, 2021

Apply: For further information about this role, please contact advising consultant Alun Parry at Boyden on +61 2 9225 7400 or alun.parry@boyden.com.

Position: Postdoctoral Research Fellow (3 years with possibility of 3-year extension)

University: University of Freiburg

Department: The Institute of Educational Science (CMLI-Group: Cognition, Motivation, Learning and Instruction, Prof. Dr. Matthias Nückles)

Position Information: The successful candidate is expected to play an active role in research projects of the CMLI-group and develop an own research program. The teaching load is two courses per semester (i.e., four hours a week in total) in our bachelor- and/or master program on topics in the field of Educational Technology and Instructional Design. The successful candidate should have research interests in one or several of the following areas:

- Teaching and Learning with Digital Media
- Instructional Design
- Cognitive Learning Processes/ Retrieval-Based Learning
- Self-Regulated Learning

Application Deadline: June 28, 2021

Apply: For more information, please see [this document](#).

Please email us with any comments, questions or suggestions for future newsletters, such as job alerts, calls for papers, and opportunities for AHDA members.

As our online presence continues to grow, please also 'Like' and follow our [AHDA Facebook Page](#) where we highlight current advances in our field and highlight the work done by our members. **We will be posting more information about the conference on our Facebook shortly.** If you would like to contribute material for our Facebook page, please get in touch with us.

Sincerely,

Riley Scott, on behalf of the 2021 AHDA Executive

Annette Henderson, President, AHDA
Paul Jose, Outgoing President, AHDA
Jaimee Stuart, Treasurer, AHDA
Cassy Dittman, Secretary, AHDA
Riley Scott, Communications Director, AHDA
Nichole Breeland, Junior Member, AHDA
Kirsten Baird-Bate, Junior Member, AHDA