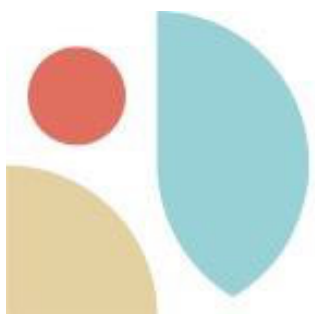


The Australian SHAPE EMCR Network

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

Supported by the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia
(ASSA) and the Australian Academy of the Humanities (AAH)



SHAPE
FUTURES

Acknowledgement of Country

The Australian SHAPE EMCR Network recognises Australia's First Nations Peoples as the Traditional Owners and custodians of this land.

We pay our respect to Elders past and present.

We acknowledge the continued cultural and spiritual connections to Country and community.



SHAPE Futures Annual Report 2021-22

This report provides an overview of the key activities undertaken in establishing the Australian Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts for People and Environment (SHAPE) Early and Mid-Career Researcher (EMCR) Network during the period of November, 2021 through December, 2022.



About the Network

The Australian SHAPE EMCR Network formed in November 2021, and is Australia's first network supporting EMCRs working in the social sciences, humanities & creative arts within and beyond academia.

The Network was formed with the full support of the Australian Academy of the Humanities (AAH) and the Academy of the Social Sciences Australia (ASSA) in response to the well-documented challenges in the sector faced by EMCRs.



The Network's Executive

The executive committee draws its strength from a wide range of EMCRs working across multiple SHAPE disciplines in Australia. Read about the exec members [here](#).





Message from the Chair & Deputy Chair

"I am delighted to announce the official launch of the SHAPE Futures Network. We are excited to welcome fellow EMCRs to join the network as members. Together, we aim to provide a voice for EMCRs working in the humanities, creative arts and social sciences to advocate and empower Australian early- and mid-career researchers."



**A/Prof Melissa Day, Chairperson of
the SHAPE Futures EMCR Network**

The University of Queensland

"Having a seat at the table when important issues are being discussed about the future of SHAPE disciplines is so important. And, who better to be at the table than EMCRs, who are the future of these disciplines in Australia?"



Dr Sarah Midford

La Trobe University



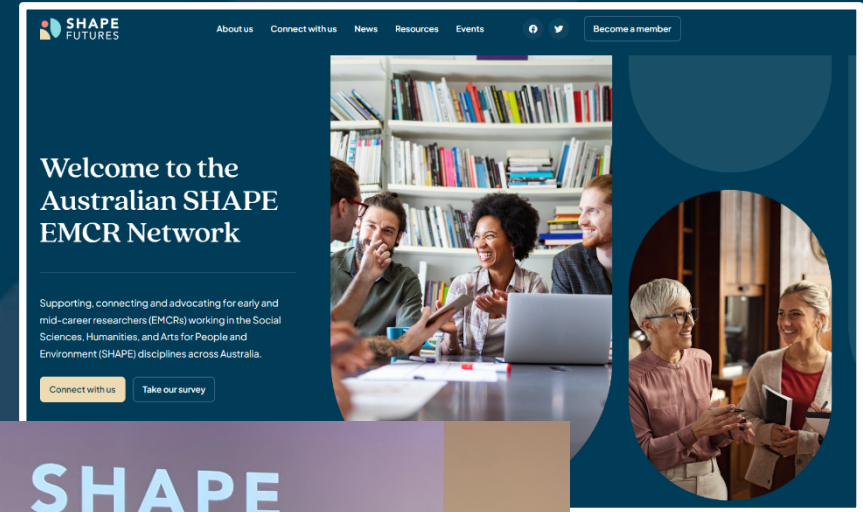
What is our Mission & Objectives?

In establishing the network in 2021-22, a first step was to develop the terms of reference and governance structure, as well as our code of conduct. Our mission and objectives are summarised by three key themes:

1. **Advocate**: Provide a unified, representative, amplified voice of EMCRs.
2. **Connect**: Build diverse networks that are connected through activities.
3. **Build Opportunities & Support**: to meet the specific needs of EMCRs.

What did we Achieve in 2021-22?

1. Developed our [SHAPE Futures website](#) & branding for our Network.
2. Established a member base of almost 400 EMCRs.
3. Obtained ethics & commenced [a national survey of EMCRs](#) to inform our goals.
4. Presented at the Congress of HASS, connecting to discuss the most pressing issues faced by EMCRs.
5. Together, with experts from the Academies, published a webinar on how to influence policy as an EMCR.
6. Collaborated with the Academies on their policy submission for the review of the ARC.



We established our Featured EMCR Series

This [series](#) features the stories of Australian EMCRs working in SHAPE disciplines.



Meet Australia's SHAPE
EMCRs – Dr Hannah
McCann



Meet Australia's SHAPE
EMCRs – Dr Timothy
Neal



Meet Australia's SHAPE
EMCRs – Dr Sarah
White



Meet Australia's SHAPE
EMCRs – Dr Laura
Smith-Khan

Financial Report 2021-2022



The establishment of this network was supported by a grant from ASSA and AAH, as well as by in-kind contributions by the executive committee.

Funds were used to hire ViVO Digital for brand and website development. Expenditures for these items totalled \$7,200 and included:

1. Branding, \$1,400.
2. Research and wireframing, \$700.
3. Page design, \$1,600.
4. Code development, \$4,200.
5. Testing and go-live support, \$700.

Funds were also used to switch the hosting provider support and membership form (\$242), as well as for a subscription to an Essentials Mailchimp account package for membership sign-up and announcements (\$20/month).

Projected Budget 2022-2023



The continuation of this network in this financial year is supported by a further grant from ASSA and AAH, as well as by in-kind contributions by the executive committee.

Funds will be used for:

1. Essential Mailchimp Account for up to 1,500 members, \$40/month = \$480.
2. Website hosting and backups with VentrallIP, \$192 p.a.
3. Website tech support from Julie Gibbons at Brandiwork, \$396 for 4-hours.
4. Research Assistant (HEW 6.1) to analyse survey responses, \$70/hr x 50 = \$3,500.
5. Flight costs for exec to attend the planned in-person, SHAPE Futures EMCR Conference, \$400 x 12 = \$4,800.
6. Miscellaneous costs, \$600 (e.g., for more tech support or RA time, if needed).