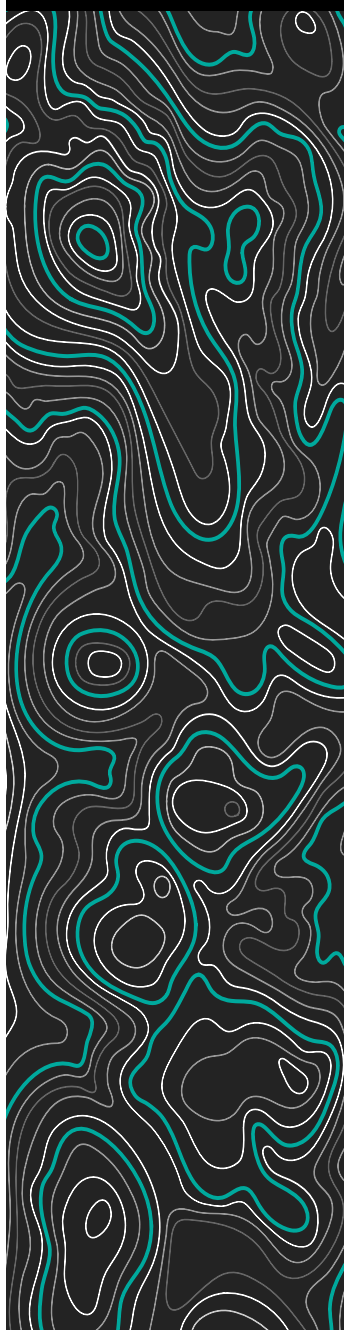


# THESIS FEST<sup>2025</sup>

CELEBRATING 5 YEARS



 **The Lantern  
(105.701)  
Curtin Perth**

 **Online via  
WebEx**

## DAY ONE TUESDAY 1 JULY

- 8.30 Registration and networking**
- 9.00 Official Welcome and Why your Research Matters**  
Professor Harlene Hayne | Vice Chancellor, Curtin University
- 9.30 Rejection in academic publishing: How can we avoid it and what does it mean when it happens to us?**  
Professor Nick Hopwood | University of Technology Sydney  
Anyone involved in submitting articles to peer-reviewed journals will get rejected at some point. Even superstar researchers still get rejected late in their careers. Professor Hopwood will delve into what some of the avoidable and unavoidable reasons for rejection are.
- 10.30 Celebration morning tea and networking**
- 11.00 Ask the Professor anything**  
Professor Kit Messham-Muir | Director Creative Practice | Faculty of Humanities & Associate Professor Min Teah | Faculty of Business & Law  
Professors from Curtin University share their personal research journeys, and reflect on what they wish they had of known during their own PhD experience. Ask anything about thesis writing, preparation, examination, creative practice, motivation or whatever's keeping you up at night.
- 12.30 Catered networking lunch**
- 1.30 Presenting your research with confidence**  
Hugh Kearns | Flinders University | ThinkWell  
This workshop will provide a clear step-by-step structure that you can use again and again to give high quality presentations. Learn how to present your research skillfully and with conviction, no matter who your audience is.
- 2.30 Afternoon tea and networking**
- 3.00 Beyond the Traditional: Exploring the hybrid thesis and thesis by publication**  
Curtin Graduate Research School  
Join this panel discussion with recently submitted PhD students and their Supervisors, where the thesis was in the format of either a hybrid thesis or thesis-by-publication. Hear their insights on how they put their thesis together, explore real examples from their work, know where to find specific Curtin guidance and discover why you may want to use this format for your thesis.
- 4.30 Reflection and close**

# DAY TWO

## WEDNESDAY 2 JULY



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**8.30 Registration and networking**

**9.00 The Habit Lab Power Hour: Tiny Habits® for Thesis Momentum** \*Not Recorded

**Claire Jackson | Founder, The Habit Lab**

Struggling to stay focused, make progress, or juggle your research alongside everything else? You're not alone – and the answer isn't more hours, it's smarter habits. In this dynamic masterclass, designed specifically for HDR students, you'll learn the Tiny Habits® method: a science-backed approach to building small, strategic routines that fuel long-term progress. Learn to use practical tools to help you stay on track, finish strong and build habits that will keep your thesis moving, without burning out.

**10.15 Celebration morning tea and networking**

**10.45 How I finished my thesis (and survived)** \*Not Recorded

**Recent HDR graduates | Curtin University**

Engage in a panel of recently completed HDR students as they discuss motivation, staying on track and how to stay well during your research. Bring your questions – this is a space for open conversation and shared experience.

**12.15 Catered networking lunch**

**1.15 Notes that Work: from scattered thoughts to polished prose** \*Not Recorded

**Professor Inger Mewburn | The Thesis Whisperer | The Australian National University**

Professor Inger Mewburn will provide participants with practical strategies for navigating the "information tsunami" and building systems that support more efficient pathways from reading to writing. Drawing upon years of experience working with PhD students and her own research on academic productivity, Professor Mewburn will present various approaches to note-taking that accommodate different thinking styles, particularly highlighting strategies that can be helpful for neurodivergent researchers.

**2.45 Afternoon tea and networking**


**3.00 How to be your own best Supervisor**

**Dr Vikki Wright | Professor of Higher Education and The PhD Life Coach | University of Birmingham, United Kingdom**

Do you get overwhelmed, procrastinate or worry that you're not good enough? In this online workshop, we will explore what it means to be your own supervisor and why developing this ability can help you succeed and enjoy your academic life. Learn how to find the line between being too hard on yourself and being too easy on yourself, and instead make some guidelines that are compassionate, firm, ambitious and supportive.

**4.30 Reflection and close**

**Kylie Percival | University Librarian, Curtin Library**



# Library Thesis Fest 2025

## Sustainability Event Statement

Thesis Fest 2025 contributes to Curtin University's support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns through the following actions to conserve resources and reduce waste:

### Venue

The newly refurbished Library holds a 5-Star Green Star Design & As Built sustainability rating, incorporating eco-friendly features such as water-efficient taps, energy-efficient light bulbs, and motion sensor lighting. The venue is accessible via public transport and provides bicycle parking.

### Food and beverages

Thesis Fest has selected food and beverages from local small businesses and catered to minimise food wastage. Filtered tap water is available for all attendees.

### Waste management

Thesis Fest encourages attendees to bring their own water bottles and keep cups to minimise the use of single use products. Where possible cutlery, crockery and cups will be made of compostable materials. Recycle, compost and general waste bins are provided throughout the venue.

### Event promotion

The project team have committed to reduce printed promotional materials and reuse resources such as name badges. Digital channels are utilised for promotion and registrations wherever possible. Where necessary print content is double-sided on recycled and sustainably sourced paper.

Please bring your own water bottle or keep-cups to the event each day to help us stay sustainable and protect the environment.



**Share your thoughts!**

**@CurtinUniversityLibrary #ThesisFest25**

**THESIS  
FEST<sup>2025</sup>**