



BOND UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S NETWORK

2020 ACTIVITY REPORT





OUR MISSION

The Bond University Women's Network (BUWN) seeks to be an inclusive network of women and those who value and respect women, from the Bond community. We aim to empower the women of the Bond community to connect and make a difference, instilling a sense of compassion, care and community as respected and valued members of the University. BUWN endeavours to achieve this by supporting and assisting Bond women with their own development, as well as providing a forum to promote all causes for the betterment of women and families. Most importantly, we celebrate women for all that they are and all that they do.

We know that women of the Bond Community already understand the importance of education as a means of empowering women, so a significant part of our agenda is the provision of awareness raising and networking opportunities which enable our women to better accomplish their full potential.

BUWN endeavours to support and inspire each other by sharing our journeys, education and experiences. We encourage all members of the Bond community to join our membership.

Our website and Facebook site will provide a hub for the sharing of all the interests of women from the Bond community, including local community events.

BUWN THEME FOR 2020

BUWN's theme for 2020 was 'Joy'. This year BUWN explored how rather than being a distraction, joy can be empowering. The message of Joy was well portrayed by the inspiring and resilient speakers who led our various events throughout the year. Our speakers presented thought-provoking, emotive, and powerful messages for BUWN members and the greater community, providing an expansive array of skills, knowledge, and empowerment for all. BUWN is tremendously grateful for the contribution of all speakers and the inclusive community of our members.

2020 EVENTS

All BUWN events are open to all staff, students, alumni and community members that support women. However, with the impact of COVID19 BUWN replaced some of our traditional annual events with alternative remote webinars.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY COCKTAIL RECEPTION

Thursday 12th March, 4pm-6pm, Princeton Room

Special Guest Speaker: Kay MacGrath AOM

In Kay's first public appearance since deciding to step away from the news desk after 40 years of presenting prime time news, BUWN celebrated her stellar career at your first event for 2020. Now filming special interest stories for Channel 7, Kay shared insights from her career, stories which have inspired her and Kay's own personal journey 'finding joy'. Kay is an ambassador for many charities and not-for-profits and is one of Australia's strongest advocates for women. She is also passionate about mindfulness and will talk about how stillness is often essential to discovering what sparks your own joy.

Kay's presentation was followed with an opportunity for guests to ask questions during the 'On the Couch' session. The overall event was very well received with our guests commenting on Kay's warmth and openness in answering questions. Photos from this event were featured in the Gold Coast Bulletin Lifestyle section.

Attendance: 196



MOVING TOWARDS A BETTER FUTURE BY REFLECTING ON OUR PAST

WEBINAR

Wednesday 1st July, 7pm – 8.30pm via Zoom

Special Guest Speaker: Dr Daryl McPhee

Daryl's presentation focused on the case of K'Gari (Fraser Island) and the recorded history of the interaction between Indigenous people and early European settlers. The published 'tales' of the experiences of Eliza Fraser after a shipwreck left her stranded on K'Gari, an island that was later named Fraser Island by colonists, became popular folklore. Dr McPhee outlined his research that finds that many early claims made by and about Eliza Fraser and her time on the island may not have happened at all, or were exaggerated or misinterpreted. He explained how novels, art and cinema further embellished the claims to build a narrative divorced from fact, including the assertion that the island's inhabitants were cannibals. The fictionalised events created demonstrably inaccurate stereotypes of Australian Aboriginal society that became pivotal in catalysing societal support for policies of assimilation and segregation, and later for opposing Aboriginal land rights.

Following Daryl's presentation there was an opportunity for guests to ask questions during the 'On the Couch' session. Daryl was joined by **Narelle Urquhart** - a Wiradjuri woman from New South Wales and Bond University's Indigenous Engagement Advisor, as well as **Jeremy Donovan** - Kuku-Yalanji (Western Yalanji) and Gumbaynggirr man from the First Nations of Far North Queensland and the mid North Coast of New South Wales.

The panel discussion explored the role of historical narratives in reinforcing racial stereotypes and biases. It is through better understanding of these negative influences that we will move towards true reconciliation and better outcomes for our Indigenous peoples.

Members commented that they felt connected to both Narelle and Jeremy and thanked them for their openness and willingness to share their personal stories.

Attendance: 93



History of Fraser Island

- The island of K'gari or Thoorgine, as it was known by its inhabitants, came to the attention of colonial Queenslanders with the shipwreck there in 1836 of the Stirling Castle.



- The Captain's wife, Eliza Fraser, survived and subsequently lived in captivity for six months with the Aboriginal inhabitants.

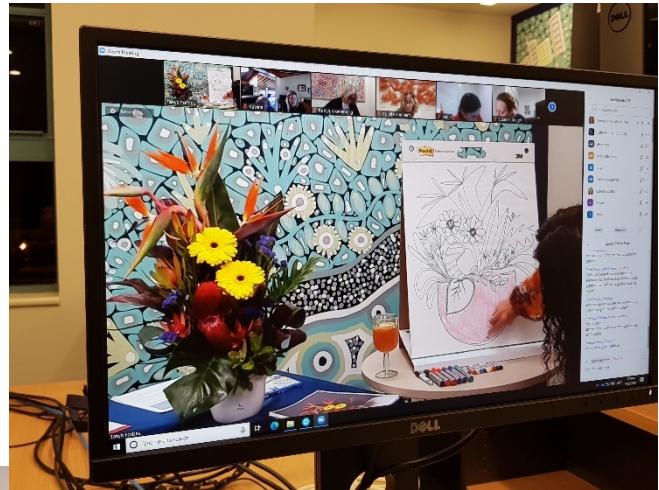
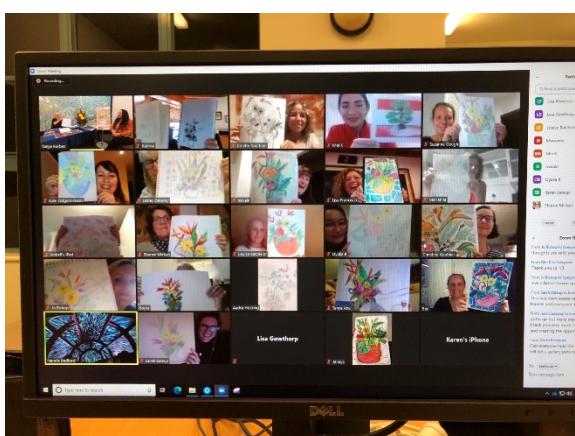
SIP AND DRAW WEBINAR

Wednesday 5th August, 7pm – 8.30pm via Zoom

Special Guest: Narelle Urquhart

Attendees from around the world enjoyed a sip and draw evening with a virtual art class with indigenous artist Narelle Urquhart. While sipping on wine, bubbles or a cuppa they created their very own masterpiece from the comfort of their own home and enjoyed the banter, jokes and ‘who’s is best’ competition between co-hosts Cath Webber and Keitha Dunstan.

Attendance: 88



SPEAK UP FORUM

Wednesday 16th September, 12noon – 1.30pm, Princeton room and via Zoom

This event was BUWN's first foray into a multi-modal format, and we welcomed guests to another great breakfast in the Princeton Room, as well as a number of online participants. Our MC Dr **Katharine Atkins**, Associate Dean (External Engagement and International) in the Faculty of Law at Bond University, did a wonderful job of introducing and co-ordinating our presenters, and the guests very much enjoyed the presentations.

Our speakers included **Felicity Miller**, Manager of Student Health and Wellbeing here a Bond's Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine, and **Dr Libby Sander**, Assistant Professor of Organisational Behaviour in the Bond Business School.

Felicity gave a moving presentation which addressed the uncertainty and trying times we are encountering during the pandemic, but reminded us that it is OK not to be perfect, that we are more adaptable than we may realise, and that we can all support and draw strength from each other.

Libby's presentation focussed on how the rapid shift from "normal life" to extreme uncertainty is playing out especially from a workplace perspective, and the stress that lack of control over our circumstances is causing. Libby reminded us that we should focus as much as possibly on what makes us feel physically and psychologically comfortable, and to not force being resilient right now. She also demonstrated on how some workplaces are adapting the environment to really nurture feelings of wellbeing.

This event was again thought-provoking and uplifting.

Attendance: 88



WOMEN IN RESEARCH BREAKFAST SEMINAR

Wednesday 21st October, 7am-9am, Princeton Room and via Zoom

The Bond University Women's Network breakfast seminar this year was MCed by **Prof Keitha Dunstan** and showcased researchers at different stages of their research career, highlighting the impact their research has on the community.

Early Career Speaker - Larissa Rose is the Women in Business Awards Winner 2019, Gold Coast Women of the Year 2020: Winner – Mentors Category. Larissa elaborated on her advocacy and engagement with government, regional and rural communities, teaching at schools on the economic, social, health and environmental benefits of renewable fuels. She discussed her lecturing at Bond University to drive the Climate Change & Environmental Management curriculum, integrating and developing academia and industry stakeholder.

Mid Career Speaker – Dr Collette Southam is an Associate Professor of Finance in the Bond Business School. Collette talked about her primary research focus of international and corporate finance. She studies the market segmentation and its mitigation by cross-listing, and strives to provide insight into executive compensation practices. Colette has completed several market-based projects involving initial public offerings and has ongoing research on global diversification. She has co-authored two articles about real options and is working with an interdisciplinary team to develop a real options valuation model for carbon sequestration and has begun applying her finance expertise to sustainability research. Colette has published in top tier academic journals including the Journal of International Business Studies and the Journal of World Business, but chooses projects that will also have high impact on business.

Senior Career - Dr Rae Thomas is an Associate Professor in the Centre for Research in Evidence-Based Practice. Rae has been a Psychologist with over 20 years' experience providing psychological interventions for children and families and she is particularly interested in developing, implementing and evaluating randomised controlled trials, exploring processes and embedding public preferences in health decision making, and translating evidence to practice and policy. Rae has taught evidence-based practice to Bond students and health practitioners, conducted systematic reviews, used randomised controlled experimental designs, and explored innovative methodologies to facilitate public deliberation in health policy decision making.

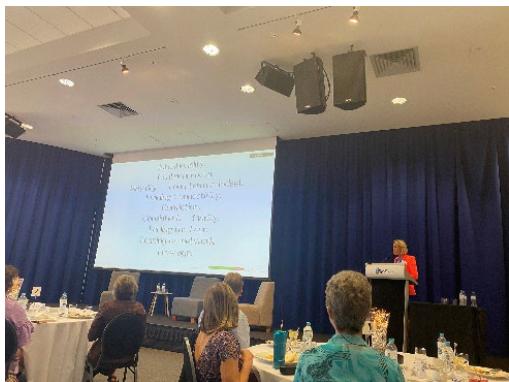
There was a Q&A opportunity for the audience after these three presentations. Some comments from our attendees included:

"To be able to get an inside into women's pathways who are clearly super-women. To be inspired and motivated, to have something to reflect back on when I'm not feeling the best about my job and my career."

"It is a lovely opportunity to meet other women at Bond who you may never have the chance to meet. It is also great to hear the story and perspectives of other women and how their journey to where they are today."

"Hearing about the different journeys of the three women was quite affirming. They all showed that the research journey follows many twists and turns. It's quite encouraging to see/hear."

Attendance: 100

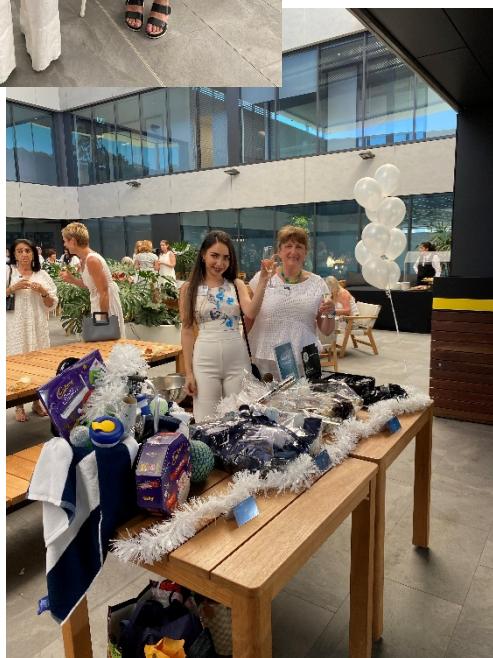


WHITE CHRISTMAS HIGH TEA

Friday 27th November, 4pm-6pm, HSM Atrium

Attendance: 129

Our final event for 2020 provided our attendees with an opportunity to come together and reflect on what has been an extraordinary year. This was a perfect way to review and celebrate the year by sharing some highlights with fellow BUWN members while sipping champagne and enjoying delicious canapes. Cath Webber entertained us all with our hilarious year in reflection which included providing a media lens on the pantomime of COVID updates by government and medial officials. All agreed with her assertion that the most aesthetically pleasing State Health Minister was Brett Sutton which made the impact of the dire news he was delivering a little less painful.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The members of the 2020 committee are:

Chair	Professor Keitha Dunstan
Academic Staff	Dr Jo Bishop Dr Lisa Gowthorp Dr Amy Bannatyne
Professional Staff	Ms Tanya Forbes Ms Narelle Crew Ms Lesley Delaney
Students	Ms Olivia White Ms Eileen Truong Ms Victoria Roth Ms Mei Khuthir
Alumni / Community	Ms Norma Swain Ms Julie-Anne James Ms Shirmie Tan
Co-opt member	Mr Garry Nucifora Ms Cath Webber Ms Narelle Urquhart
Secretary	Ms Leanne Stewart

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

EVENT ATTENDEE SURVEY

In 2020 three event surveys were circulated to attendees to ascertain their satisfaction with the overall event. Feedback resulted in question 'How would you rate your satisfaction with the event' receiving a means response average of 4.58% out of 5.

BUWN MEMBERSHIP

- Increased to 821 members (284 Staff, 211 Students, 71 Alumni, 255 Community)

BUWN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Domestic Violence Prevention Centre Gold Coast (\$1085.00 Donated)
- White Ribbon Australia (\$655.00 Donated)

2021 PLANNED EVENTS

Date	Event
18 March	International Women's Day Cocktail Reception
26 May	Breakfast Seminar
July	Pre NAIDOC Week Event
23 July	Speak Up Forum
20 October	Women in Research
26 November	White Christmas High Tea

TERMS OF REFERENCE

MEMBERSHIP OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

BUWN activities are coordinated by a Steering Committee including corporate and appointed members.

Corporate

- Vice-Chancellor's Representative (Liaison with VC and UMC)

Appointed

- Three Academic Staff members
- Three General Staff members
- Four Students (Postgraduate and Undergraduate students) representing Bond University Young Women's Network
- Two Alumni members
- Two Community/Friends of Bond members

The Committee is able to co-opt others as required.

TERM

When a vacancy arises BUWN will ask for expressions of interest. Where there is more than one nominee, committee members will vote on the appointment. Each member will be appointed for a period of two years.

WORKING GROUPS

Will be formed on a project basis and will consist of members drawn from the Bond University Community. Makeup of the working groups will be determined by the nature of the project at hand.

PROCEDURES

Membership	Members to be recorded and maintained.
Terms of Reference	To be reviewed regularly.
BUWN Report	Reports to be tabled at UMC every twelve months.
Business Plan	An annual action plan is to be prepared detailing network activities.
Finance	An annual revenue and expenditure statement will be prepared in accordance with the Bond University policies and procedures.