



# IMPACT INSIGHTS!

**Empowered to  
uncover solutions.**

- ✓ Discover the world's biggest research impact community.

**Is your research  
feeling ordinary?**

- ✓ Get inspired by extraordinary researchers.

**Creating impact is  
easier than you think.**

- ✓ Learn how with a checklist that changemakers love!

**RI!** RESEARCH  
IMPACT  
ACADEMY

[www.researchimpactacademy.com](http://www.researchimpactacademy.com)

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## GET IN TOUCH

We'd love to hear from you!

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# LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

Hi there, my name is Dr Tamika Heiden and I'm thrilled to introduce you to the Research Impact Academy!

Empowering researchers around the world to transform lives is a passion of mine that I hope to share with you too.

In just five years, our international award-winning team has helped researchers to secure over US\$25 million and shape their discoveries into exceptional impact.

I couldn't be prouder of our global community of practice – the biggest in the world and growing fast – with members spanning researchers and research administrators, through to entire teams and organisations.

We're helping these changemakers to discover remarkable ways to create impact and secure funding that are easier than you may think, and we hope to help you find extraordinary success too.

Looking back, what values sparked your choice to become a researcher or research administrator? Maybe you were a bit like me and wanted to discover new things, help people somehow and even change the world.

These values have stayed with me, but I've seen that the discovery of new evidence alone doesn't always uncover solutions. I've realised that collaboration is crucial for impact – we need to weave together expertise from end-users and diverse disciplines beyond pure research. This makes it possible to shape our discoveries in ways that empower people to use them for positive change.

If you can relate to this, the Research Impact Academy may be the solution you're looking for. In the pages that follow, we're excited to share our top tips and stories from extraordinary researchers to help you create your own impact magic. Whatever your discipline and wherever you may be in the world, read on to gain the practical know-how and inspiration you need to start using this life-changing approach today.

Get ready to become the researcher you dream of being!



**Dr Tamika Heiden**





# WHAT IS RESEARCH IMPACT?

When it comes to using research to create positive change, there are lots of terms in use around the world: research impact, knowledge translation, knowledge transfer and exchange, research utilisation and engaged scholarship are just some examples.

Navigating these terms and their nuances can get tricky. But it's important to stay focused on the magnificent story that these terms collectively tell: one of people from diverse personal, professional and academic backgrounds striving together to use knowledge for good.

Incredible, right? This movement of changemakers is the stuff that research impact is made of.

## What does this look like in life? Picture this:

City rooftops becoming greener – reducing climate change impacts, making people happier and bringing nature back to our concrete jungles. A paralysed person communicating with her loved ones and moving again after half a lifetime. A young girl exercising her right to an education, when her mother never had the chance. Food to feed a fragile planet. Art and design with heart that nurtures relationships, health and life opportunities.

And this is just the beginning of the impact story – it's an ever evolving one that we're proud to be a part of.

When we look more deeply at this story of impact, we find that common processes underpin these diverse changes that are unfolding every day in our world.

Here's how it works. The pathway to impact, also known as knowledge translation, is a holistic system of processes with foundations in relationships, making it social and non-linear. Knowledge translation gets the right information, to the right people, at the right time and in a format that they can use.

It involves interdisciplinary collaboration and co-creation between researchers, end-users, practitioners, the public, government, NGOs, the voluntary sector and the private sector. It really does take a village to create impact!

Together, these changemakers uncover, translate and use knowledge and evidence in innovative ways including products, services, tools, policy, programs and practice.

The story of research impact, and the highly creative and social craft of knowledge translation that helps to unveil it, runs deep. Every day, it touches the lives of people around the world in profound ways and is a magnetic force for positive change. If you want to create research impact, our essential checklist on page 7 will help take you there.

# THE RESEARCH IMPACT SYSTEM™

## End-users and researchers

Consult with people who will use your research – your end-users – and other stakeholders. Broaden your networks, build partnerships and collaborate across disciplines.

## Questions and methods

Plan for impact: develop your vision, review literature, and identify relevant research questions, methods, barriers and facilitators in collaboration with end-users and stakeholders.

## Research process

Set up communication and collaboration processes so that you can engage and inform your end-users and stakeholders throughout your research.

## Outputs from research

Create new, relevant knowledge from your research with a strong foundation of consulting, planning for impact and setting up effective

communication and collaboration processes with end-users and stakeholders.

## Implementation

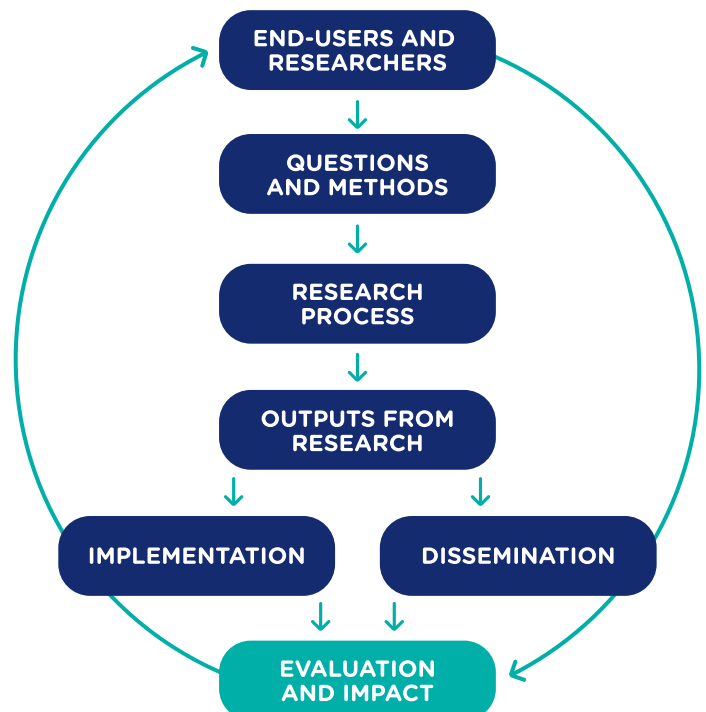
Use new knowledge to tackle challenges, for example through commercialisation, policy change, clinical trials or guideline implementation.

## Dissemination

Share knowledge in ways that can be captured and evaluated. Use a mix of peer-reviewed publications, posters and presentations, and non-academic channels such as media, social media, events, policy briefs, infographics and videos.

## Evaluation and impact

Close the loop: evaluate short-term impacts of implementation and dissemination on end-users. Long-term impacts may not be seen or evaluated for many years or even decades. This information will influence future research.



# DOES YOUR RESEARCH HAVE THE REACH IT DESERVES?

From our roots as researchers and since launching in 2014, we've met thousands of researchers from diverse disciplines, countries and organisations. We've noticed that many of them share more in common than they may realise and struggle every day with significant challenges.

Many researchers and research organisations are exhausted and frustrated by the relentless demands and evolving challenges of translating their research for impact and securing elusive funding.

They feel overwhelmed trying to juggle research and reaching people who need to use it, and isolated, worried and confused about how to meet changing research funding, delivery and impact requirements. They often struggle to find the best ways to plan for, create, capture and demonstrate research impact.

It's a troubling cocktail, and if it

sounds familiar – and you're in the thick of it – it's incredibly hard to see a way forward.

But we have solutions to help you respond to the constant change and demand to do more. With our consulting, membership and workshops you'll feel more confident communicating, collaborating, engaging and influencing to create your own impact magic. And you'll be cheered on with the world's biggest research impact community – not to mention informed by the world's biggest online research impact library.

Sprinkled among these pages, you'll read the stories of other researchers who, like you, were looking for ways to conquer feeling overwhelmed and frustrated. By tapping into our consulting, membership and workshops they've each achieved outstanding research success.

## Our clients and members:

- dramatically increase their funding opportunities
- stay up to date with the latest information and sector changes
- are part of the world's biggest research impact community of practice
- discover new strategies, tools and processes to help them work in smarter ways
- experience a boost in confidence, energy and inspiration.

Being a researcher can be tough, but it doesn't have to be that way. Teaming up with us can be your catalyst to transforming discoveries into impact, securing funding and restoring your balance between work and play.

# RESEARCH IMPACT CHECKLIST

**Find out if your research translation is on track to catalyse impact!**

## Translation goals

**I have:**

- ☐ considered the problem I am solving
- ☐ determined who will benefit from this new research
- ☐ considered who I need to engage and inform
- ☐ consulted the end-user of my work
- ☐ identified my research impact goals, e.g. policy, practice, system or behaviour change.

## Deliverables and activities

**I have:**

- ☐ considered skills and resources needed to deliver research outputs, in addition to journal publications
- ☐ developed a clear implementation pathway
- ☐ discussed who will implement the evidence
- ☐ planned research outputs with stakeholders and relevant end-users (e.g. infographic, presentation, training program, video instruction).

## Stakeholders

**I have:**

- ☐ identified influencers related to my goals and when I will involve them
- ☐ developed the project collaboratively with stakeholders
- ☐ formalised stakeholder relationships and their role in the project
- ☐ agreed on timelines and deliverables with stakeholders.

## Evaluation and impact

**I have:**

- ☐ established processes to follow up implementation success with stakeholders
- ☐ determined specific measures of success and impact indicators
- ☐ developed an evaluation plan
- ☐ decided who will be responsible for evaluation
- ☐ considered how I will capture impact evidence.

**How did you go? If you can answer 'yes' to these questions, then you're doing exceptional work to translate your research and are on track to creating impact!**





# 5 STRATEGIES FOR IMPACT

Knowing the impact of publicly funded research is important, but the way we collect and consider this information is often an afterthought for reporting to funders. We all want to make an impact with our research – let's consider ways to do this in a deliberate and meaningful way.

Research impacts vary across projects and disciplines. For example, your research may aim to educate, change policy or behaviour, or expand knowledge leading to long-term discoveries. Some impacts may happen quickly while others can take many years, making measurement more complex.

No matter what your discipline is, or how long impact may take, these five simple strategies will help you to create, capture, evaluate and communicate your intended impacts and ensure their sustainability.

## 1. Begin with the end in mind

Impacts happen at the level of the user. Start with the short, medium and long-term goals of your research before finalising the questions. Consult the likely end-users of your research to determine relevance and effectiveness of the outcomes.

## 2. Make new friends

Despite the best of plans, realities

may prevent the uptake of new research. For long-term success, build and maintain collaborations and partnerships – academic, non-academic and multidisciplinary. Consider the needs, wants and capacity of each party.

## 3. Plan, plan, plan

Develop a project vision and map out short, medium and long-term goals and how you'll reach them, be they policy, behaviour or practice change, or new technologies, products, or scientific knowledge. Importantly, work out who you need to involve and then build your team for success.

## 4. Build processes and systems

Think innovatively with your new friends to determine the best way of delivering new research according to your goals. Find out what works for them to make sure the knowledge will be useful.

## 5. Create feedback loops

Create feedback loops by evaluating your research implementation processes to determine if you're creating your intended impacts. Revisit your plan often and adapt it as you go to ensure it meets goals and is relevant to all involved.



# JONATHAN'S STORY

The government wants universities to demonstrate that the research they're funding is making a difference. The problem is, how do researchers tell that story with evidence? I know from experience that it's really hard for them to do that.

But Tamika decoded it all in a research impact workshop, helping 25 researchers respond to the government's impact agenda. She helped us to understand what our impact might be and how to track, measure and plan for it, untangling it all and taking away some of the anger and frustration.

Researchers had an enormous level of satisfaction coming out of the training. With the pressures of the impact agenda, media scrutiny and surviving political cycles, demonstrating research impact is really important right now. We're in a different world now and it's good to have Tamika on our side.

With some experts you can feel trepidation knocking on their door, but you don't have that problem with Tamika. Being able to ask her, "How do I describe this in a way that people can see the value and impact this will have?", that's fantastic.

I also really liked Tamika's Research Impact Summit and worked with her to make the interview videos available through our library. So now I can point academics to expert interviews with people in their field, or people dealing with the same problem.

We find the summit enormously valuable and love that it brings together the world's best and different viewpoints. Next year we plan on convening academics – and possibly students and people in associated fields – to participate and chat.

Another way that I'd like to work with Tamika is to team her up with academics in leadership programs to develop a clear, evidence-based story about their great impact. I'd also like Tamika to work with us on embedding our research in policy and the lives of users. That'd be fantastic!

**Jonathan O'Donnell**

**Senior Advisor, Research Grant Development, College of Design and Social Context**

**RMIT University**



**“(Tamika) helped us to understand what our impact might be and how to track, measure and plan for it, untangling it all and taking away some of the anger and frustration.”**

# MAKE YOUR IMPACT SHINE



**Researchers are curious, courageous and tenacious in their pursuit of knowledge. Here are seven ways that we can help you to use knowledge as a catalyst for impact magic!**

## 1. Get ahead fast with strategies to thrive

Are you unsure how to respond to increasing pressure to demonstrate that your research will benefit society? Do you want to support and measure research impact pathways?

With increasing scrutiny from government, industry and the community, changing funding schemes, less funding to go around and more competition, it's natural to feel lost sometimes.

But we can unveil the mystery and help you to learn strategies and steps to not just survive, but thrive. Our consulting, membership and workshops will empower you to create bigger, bolder research impact. You'll learn how to identify, create, capture, evaluate and demonstrate impact and become a top contender for funding.

## 2. Learn from the leaders

Our Founder, Dr Tamika Heiden is passionate about helping researchers to uncover solutions, realise their dreams and create meaningful change.

- **Trusted:** From giving evidence to Australia's Senate Legislation Committee hearing for the Medical Research Future Fund, to a growing list of international clients, it's no secret that Tamika is one of the world's foremost research impact experts.
- **Qualifications:** Tamika has rare international qualifications in research impact and is also the only provider outside of North America of the Specialist Knowledge Translation Training™ from SickKids.
- **Awards:** Tamika was awarded the Knowledge Translation Professional Award of Excellence from the SickKids Knowledge Translation Program, the Award

for Innovation in Knowledge Translation from the Institute for Knowledge Mobilization and was a finalist in Emerald Publishing's Real Impact Awards.

- **Support:** After over a decade as a researcher and research manager, Tamika knows what you're up against and has the tools and expertise to help.
- **Networks:** Interviewing over 100 research impact experts around the world has given Tamika a deep understanding of contemporary and emerging practice. Conferences, symposiums, workshops: you name it, she's been there sharing her expertise, building connections and learning from others.
- **Collaborations:** Tamika has teamed up with an advisory board of international experts and thought leaders to help researchers and research administrators realise their impact potential.

### 3. Enjoy a tailored approach to learning

We'll support your unique research impact aspirations and challenges with a tailored approach to learning. Booking a workshop that's the perfect fit for your unique needs is easy – just select the specialist topics that you'd like to explore, and we'll make this happen!

All our workshops are personalised further with the chance to work on your own projects and action plan, and follow up coaching to keep you on track to impact.

### 4. Relax working with trusted specialists

We have a strong reputation as international leaders in empowering researchers and research organisations to create research impact. Here's what some of our happy clients have to say:

"I'll easily be able to start using the knowledge from the workshop in my daily work."

**Dr Roslyn Giglia,  
Telethon Kids Institute**

"What you do – bringing impact to the forefront of researchers' minds is so important and valuable to society! Keep up the fantastic work!"

**Dr Anh L.H. Tran,  
Coventry University, UK**

"Tamika's workshop challenged how researchers thought about their work, interactions with industry and approach to writing grants. Feedback from participants was very positive."

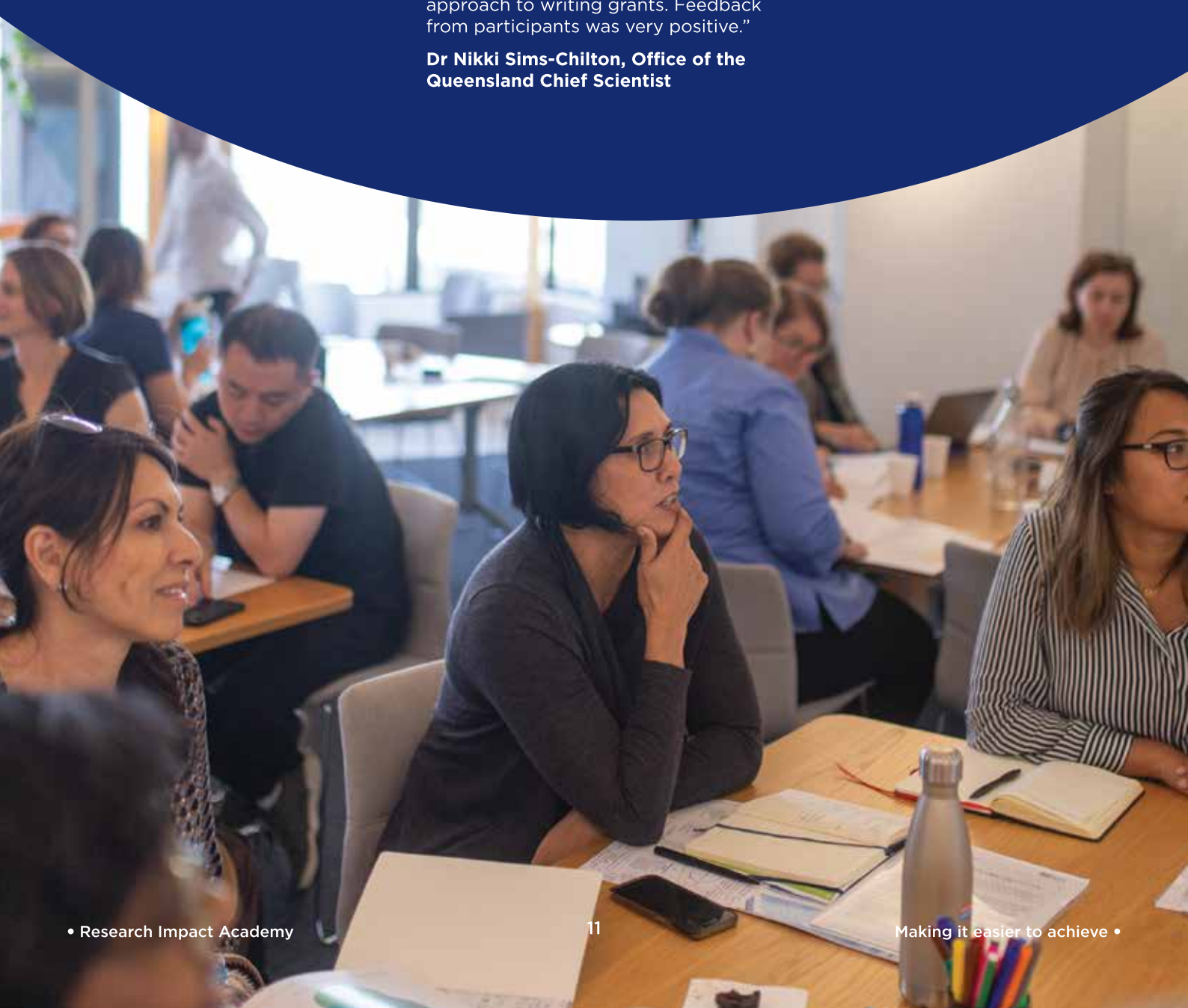
**Dr Nikki Sims-Chilton, Office of the  
Queensland Chief Scientist**

### 5. Feel inspired in a like-minded community

As a member, you'll join the world's largest research impact community of practice. A place where you'll be cheered on, bounce ideas, network and access valuable support and advice from like-minded changemakers.

International research impact experts from diverse disciplines will also give you personal support in regular webinars and mastermind sessions.

You'll save time and be informed with world's largest online research impact library of best practice tools and resources. The extensive library spans video mini-courses, guides, cheat sheets, 100+ interviews with international research impact experts, workbooks, templates and past webinars.



## 6. Challenge the status quo for a competitive edge

The Research Impact Academy is one of the first organisations of its kind in the world that facilitates the movement of research knowledge into life.

Integrating traditional research approaches with new perspectives and disciplines from the world's best practitioners and thinkers, we're masters at disrupting research-as-usual for positive outcomes.

We believe your research is too important to fade away and are

passionate about helping you to thrive. We challenge the status quo of peer review and journals as the end game in an exciting and accessible way, working with you to ensure that your research is relevant, useful, usable and ultimately providing value to society.

Our extraordinary services will guide you on your journey to creating research impact. We'll take you beyond reports, publications, conferences and workshops, breaking free of technical language and into new realms of connection with your end-users and stakeholders.

## 7. Tap into international networks – for free

We've found that two of the biggest struggles for researchers and research organisations are typically time and money – does this sound familiar? While there are plenty of conferences that you might like to join each year, the time away from your research and the prohibitive price tags can make those new connections and learnings a mere pipe dream.

Driven to make connection and learning more accessible for research impact, we remove time and money from the equation and share knowledge with as many researchers around the world as possible.


In our world-first online and free Research Impact Summit, now

an annual event, we draw an international crowd and create vibrant conversations. Initially run as an experiment in 2016, the Summit delivers a research conference of a different style and price tag.

Over the first four years, we filmed 100+ interviews with industry thought leaders and academic experts about their stories, the “how-to” nitty gritty, and the lessons they've learned.

We make these interviews available for free for three days during the Summit and are always excited to see the enthusiasm out there for research impact. By removing the hefty price tag and time commitment, the Summit drew around 1200 participants in 42 countries in each of its first four years.



A background photograph showing a group of people in a meeting or workshop. In the foreground, a woman with short brown hair and glasses is leaning over a table, writing in a spiral notebook with a blue pen. Behind her, another woman with curly brown hair is looking towards the left. To the right, the back of a person's head and shoulders are visible, wearing a blue shirt. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting an indoor setting with large windows.

**“All knowledge is  
connected to other  
knowledge. The fun is in  
making the connections.”**

**ARTHUR C.  
AUFDERHEIDE**

# MEMBERSHIP

Join the world's  
biggest research  
impact community  
of practice.

Research Impact Academy membership is perfect for researchers and research managers around the world from all disciplines who want to save time, build knowledge and skills, and create impact. Individual memberships and packages for organisations are available.

## Knowledge and skills

You'll learn international best practice in research impact. Examples include:

- Research impact pathways: Design research for maximum impact, build impact tracking and evaluation into planning, embed an impact culture, and resource impact support, policy and strategy.
- End-user and stakeholder engagement: Work through complex relationships and bring everyone that is needed along on the impact journey.
- Communication: Tell a story about your research impact that captivates and inspires.

## Community

In our private community of practice, you'll learn from the mistakes and successes of other researchers and research administrators.

You'll break free of institutional, disciplinary and geographical siloes to collaborate and access on demand tips for research impact.

## Webinars

Each month, our founder and international experts from diverse backgrounds will support you through interactive webinars and mastermind sessions.

They're passionate about helping you to create impact and are ready to answer your questions! Sessions are held at different times to accommodate members around the world.

## Library

Put the world's biggest research impact library at your fingertips! You'll access the best and latest research impact tools and resources, specially curated and created by our impact experts.

Tools and resources include in-depth and practical video mini-courses, guides, cheat sheets, 100+ interviews with impact experts, workbooks, templates and past webinars.

## Next steps

Become a member today to catalyse impact.

Visit:

**[www.researchimpactacademy.com/membership](http://www.researchimpactacademy.com/membership)**

Email us at:

**[info@researchimpactacademy.com](mailto:info@researchimpactacademy.com)**

Or call us for a chat on:

**+61 405 721 141.**

## We're a business for good

As a BIG1 Business For Good, we've embedded giving right at the core of our business to make great things happen in our world.

Every time that someone becomes a member, books a workshop or brings us on board as a consultant, we give to high-impact projects in countries around the world.

Each of these projects is linked with at least one of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, the global community's shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and in the future.

**Every year, we give over:**

**4,800 days of access to a special life education program for children in India**

**1,140 learning tools to disadvantaged children in Kenya**

**252 days of computer education to Indigenous children in Australia.**

**This brings our total annual giving impacts to at least: 6,192**

For every transaction you make with us, an impact is being created!

## Unparalleled member benefits

- The world's biggest research impact community of practice
- The world's biggest online research impact library, including a trove of exclusive resources created by our impact experts
- Personalised support from international experts
- Diverse impact expertise – not pure academia
- Research impact for all – not just science
- Discounts for organisational membership



# ANDREW'S STORY

Funding is highly competitive in New Zealand – for many funds only around 5 per cent of applications are successful. So, unless the application is very strong, it's just not going to make it.

But with Tamika's help my application for a Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment grant was successful. I was delighted to secure two years of funding for an engineering project to upgrade wastewater treatment in small communities around New Zealand and indeed globally.

Tamika helped me with a section for my application about the impact of my proposed research. I thought my first draft was clear, but when Tamika looked at it as a new reader with a critical eye, I realised that it was really missing the 'X factor'. For example, she pointed out that I needed to create a clear opening statement about the benefit that my research would deliver.

My colleagues and I were very impressed with the support Tamika

gave us. We think she has an amazing ability to very quickly understand a complicated proposal and come straight to the point.

Considering how complex the research is, Tamika is uncannily good at understanding the proposal and identifying improvements – she just zooms straight in. And it's not just understanding the research proposal; she contributes to improving it.

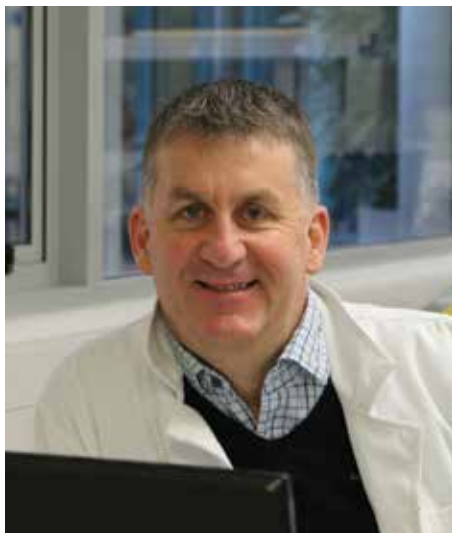
As a researcher going through the grant application process, Tamika gave me very valuable input. I found working with her so helpful that I'm recommending her to other researchers at Massey University. I'd definitely be keen to work with her again!

**Prof Andrew Shilton**

**Professor in Environmental Engineering**

**School of Engineering and Advanced Technology**

**Massey University,  
New Zealand**



**“ With Tamika's help my application for a Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment grant was successful. ”**





# CONSULTING

**Our unique and inspiring solutions help researchers and organisations around the world to catalyse unprecedented impact.**

If it's important to you to create research impact, our award-winning experts will empower you to shape the change that you envision.

You'll be amazed at what's possible with our results oriented, analytical, creative, engagement focused impact experts walking by your side.

From transforming complexity into bespoke research impact pathways that uncover remarkable solutions; captivating everyone that's needed from diverse backgrounds to join you for the exciting ride – also known as engagement; through to lifting the curtain on a magnetic impact show that inspires others to follow your lead – another spellbinding artform known as communication!

Our experts love working with researchers and research organisations to discover common ground with their

stakeholders and end-users, to create magic with new impact friends, and to capture the hearts and minds of funders and supporters.

Let's shine the spotlight for a moment on some of the ways that we help researchers and research organisations around the world:

- **Reviews:** Create captivating grants and impact case studies
- **Facilitation:** Put on an extraordinary impact show
- **Planning:** Storyboard your impact, scene by scene
- **Plain language:** Hit the right note for meaningful impact
- **Strategy:** Master the impact maze
- **Audits:** Uncover insights to put impact centre stage

**“ Tamika quickly grasped what we wanted and guided us through identifying actions to deliver practical impact assessment for our industry adoption and extension activities. ”**

**Leigh Clement,  
Executive Manager  
Investor Relations, Sugar  
Research Australia**

## Next steps

Find out more about how we can help you, your team and networks to catalyse impact.

Visit:  
[www.researchimpactacademy.com/consulting](http://www.researchimpactacademy.com/consulting)

Email us at  
[info@researchimpactacademy.com](mailto:info@researchimpactacademy.com)

Or call for a chat on:  
**+61 405 721 141**

# KARYN'S STORY

When I saw that Research Impact Academy was running a workshop in Sydney back in 2013, I signed up to see what it was all about. I learned so much and it brought research impact into a keen focus for me.

As the Chief Operating Officer at the Kolling Institute, I wanted our researchers, who were from across the Northern Sydney Local Health District, to have the opportunity to learn about research impact too and apply it to their research project planning and grant writing.

With ever-increasing competition for research and philanthropic funding, we needed to describe projects clearly and demonstrate how they would deliver change. Therefore, we invited Research Impact Academy and Tamika specifically to run a workshop on what research impact is and how to incorporate it into research project planning.

The workshop attracted experienced professors, early career researchers and clinical staff with clinical, scientific and engineering backgrounds. Everyone was enthusiastic about learning how to communicate their work successfully and incorporate this into their research planning.

After the workshop, Tamika provided consulting services to assist researchers and clinicians with preparing applications for NSW translational research grants. All applicants assisted by Tamika were successful and I believe this was due to Tamika helping them to understand research impact.

My biggest takeaway from working with Tamika was her ability to cut through and deliver a simple message when there is a lot of literature and different interpretations. Her approach challenged me to think more carefully about how I communicate achievements and, more importantly,

anticipate success by planning for it and making sure I have a research impact plan in place.

I also use this more generally in my approach to preparing strategic plans and communicating them to different audiences in a way that creates the Aha moment.

Now that I'm the Chief Operating Officer at SPHERE Maridulu Budyari Gumal, an academic health science partnership, we've included research impact as a strategic platform that we'll invest in.

We intend to build capacity amongst our clinicians, researchers, educators and health service staff around the concepts and benefits of research impact. We also intend to invest in artistic ways to share the outcomes from our clinical academic groups with the public. The next two years will be very exciting.

**Karyn Joyner**

**Chief Operating Officer**

**Maridulu Budyari Gumal**

**Sydney Partnership for Health, Education, Research and Enterprise (SPHERE)**



**“ My biggest takeaway from working with Tamika was her ability to cut through and deliver a simple message when there is a lot of literature and different interpretations. ”**

# WORKSHOPS

Unveil the transformative power of research impact with our bespoke workshops, training and follow up coaching.

We travel beyond theory with you to reveal the “how” of creating and capturing impact in a flexible and personalised way.

You can choose from specialist topics to craft the precise workshop that you and your team need.

In our workshops, you'll traverse exciting impact territory informed by best practice from around the globe. With this rare new know-how, you'll be empowered to reframe difficulties into opportunities and innovate to bring research to life.

New research realms will open to you – from unveiling what impact is all about, mastering the impact maze for real-world solutions, capturing

that ever elusive impact, telling a creative and captivating impact story, to winning diverse hearts and minds to inspire united collaboration and support for impact.

Whether your research end-users need to see behaviour change, or new policy, products or practice – let us make it easier and show you how!

After workshops, we help you to catalyse change with our expert coaching. We're passionate about working closely with you to uncover solutions and bring them to life, and know that this takes time and grit. We're here to help you excel in your research impact journey and achieve magnificent change for the world.

“ Just wow! I can't wait to apply everything I've learned. Top notch workshop. ”

Nicole Webb, Saint Mary's University Canada

## Next steps

Find out more about how our workshops, training and follow up coaching can help you to catalyse impact.

Visit:  
[www.researchimpactacademy.com/workshops](http://www.researchimpactacademy.com/workshops)

Email us at:  
[info@researchimpactacademy.com](mailto:info@researchimpactacademy.com)

Or call for a chat on:  
**+61 405 721 141**



# RYAN'S STORY



## **RIA: How did you discover the Research Impact Academy (RIA)?**

**Ryan:** I was preparing an application for the New South Wales Health Early-Mid Career Fellowship, which was a brand-new initiative. The institute I work at enlisted Tamika's expertise in a half-day workshop to introduce a group of applicants to research impact and help develop their research impact plans, which were a new component of a fellowship application for me.

## **RIA: What challenges were you facing?**

**Ryan:** I'd never heard of research impact, so I needed all the support I could get. The biggest challenge was coming to grips with research impact and preparing a realistic plan in a short space of time. Other hurdles were clarifying application requirements and identifying the right people to translate the knowledge to.

## **RIA: How did Tamika help?**

**Ryan:** The expectation was overwhelming, but Tamika gave me confidence that my application included the best possible plan for the research impact component. She provided an excellent research impact introduction in the workshop and then reviewed and discussed my draft plan with me.

Only 17 fellowships were awarded from the 277 applications, so the required standards were high. I felt that Tamika's assistance with my plan contributed to the success of my

application. The day I found out was a relief, knowing that my salary was secure for another three years.

The training and plan gave me the tools to begin integrating research impact into my fellowship work to impact the widest possible audience. Since then I've attended the two-day Specialist Knowledge Translation Training™ workshop to develop a better understanding of research impact and how it applies to my work.

## **RIA: What did you learn along the way?**

**Ryan:** I learnt that traditional pathways of dissemination for scientific research need to be complemented with research impact. I now have regular meetings with my clinical colleagues to understand clinical and patient needs and inform the approach, outcomes and implementation of my work. I also have a plan that constantly evolves to fit with the everchanging landscape of my research and the groups relevant to this.

My biggest takeaway was that at all stages of research (design, planning, execution, analysis, outcomes, dissemination) there should be dynamic consideration for what the research is, what it means, what its impact could be, for whom it is relevant and how to transfer that information in a timely manner to the right groups.

## **RIA: What stood out to you about working with Tamika?**

**Ryan:** Tamika's passion for research impact and transferring the skills



“ Tamika’s passion for research impact and transferring the skills to others is infectious and assuring. She has a knack for conveying the complexities of research impact to a novice and is a dynamic and engaging instructor. ”

to others is infectious and assuring. She has a knack for conveying the complexities of research impact to a novice and is a dynamic and engaging instructor.

The workshops were very helpful and the relaxed, inclusive and supportive environment that Tamika provided made learning about research impact much easier. She was very approachable, easy to talk to and worked through issues logically and with clear guidance.

I enjoyed her approach to getting scientists who were stuck in their thought processes to step outside of these perspectives and consider the wider implications and benefits of their work if translated to the right groups.

I still feel like a research impact novice, but I probably have an advantage over most researchers who are yet to join the research impact movement. I think having

Tamika as a contact and an advocate has already benefited me greatly and will continue to do so.

### **RIA: Where to from here? Tell us about your plans!**

**Ryan:** My current plan is to continue my fellowship, developing skills in new areas that provide a platform for my research in order to keep using and sharing research impact. I’m still new to research impact but can see its value in a lot of what I do, and I’m working towards making it a habit rather than an afterthought.

I’m now one year into my fellowship and will implement more of my research impact plan in the second year. This will be important for shaping my research direction and giving meaningful context for translating results to the clinic and stakeholders.

### **RIA: What would you say to someone thinking of working with Research Impact Australia?**

**Ryan:** Definitely take the opportunity. The relevance research impact has to health and medical research is about to become more apparent and necessary. Getting involved now could put you ahead of the game and give you an advantage over the pack in the near future.

Most people don’t know about research impact, don’t understand it and don’t realise how important it’s going to become to health and medical research.

**Dr Ryan Davis (PhD)**

**NSW Health EMC Fellow  
Department of Neurogenetics**

**The University of Sydney**

“Alone we can do so  
little; together we  
can do so much.”

HELEN KELLER

# FAQs



## Where do you work?

We're available to run workshops online or face-to-face in any location around the world – reach out and we'll work out a solution that best meets your needs!

## How will you help me to secure funding?

We'll help you to plan for, implement, capture and demonstrate research impact so that you tell a compelling story about the immense value of your research to society, and why funding it will make a profound difference.

We provide advice, feedback and a critical review on your overarching grant concept and how it's articulated. While we don't review your science, we do look at any sections or themes on research impact and translation. We'll advise on how you're articulating the value of your research and the strength of your stakeholder involvement.

## I have no time – will you create more work for me?

Investing a little time now in research impact and translation know-how can save you time throughout your career on research and support you to secure funding.

## Do you work with researchers beyond health and medicine?

Every researcher holds a profound potential to create impact. No matter what you specialise in, we're here to help and are proud to have happy clients in health, environment, business, engineering, hydrology, education, design and social sciences – to name just a few!

## I'm a basic scientist, how will research impact help me?

Research impact will transform the pure knowledge of your research in any science so that it is useful to diverse user groups. Examples include new scientific techniques and methods, policy, practice, system or behaviour change.

## Can you help with my research impact plan?

Research impact plans are now a common funding requirement that can make or break your success. We work with researchers to plan their research impact strategies and articulate these in their funding applications.

## Can I discuss my research impact progress with you?

Our members join us for monthly interactive webinars and mastermind sessions with our founder and international research impact experts. Ask questions and get advice from the world's impact thought leaders, we're here to help!

# HOW DO I GET STARTED?



We're thrilled to welcome you to our research impact community!

Visit [www.researchimpactacademy.com](http://www.researchimpactacademy.com) to get started on creating your bespoke workshop, enquire about consulting or become a member of the world's biggest research impact community of practice.

You can also reach out to us at [info@researchimpactacademy.com](mailto:info@researchimpactacademy.com) or **+61 405 721 141** – we'd love to hear from you!





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to achieve**



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