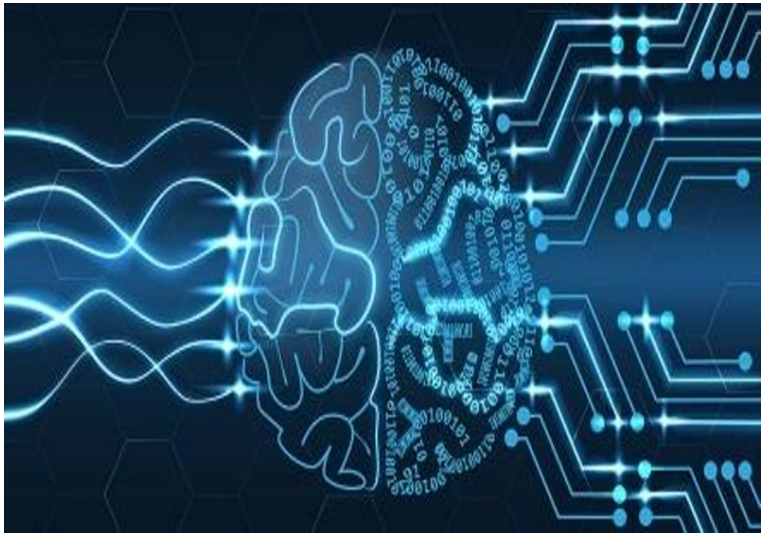
Higher Degrees by Research (PhD and MPhil)

Information Night for Computer Science



Research School of Computer Science

ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science

21 September 2017

Why go on to a PhD/MPhil in Computer Science?

- qualify for a higher level in the profession, i.e. R&D in industry or academia
- a unique opportunity to challenge and extend yourself, to solve a major problem and make a contribution to the field!
  - *today, computing technologies have an unprecedented power to help solve diverse problems in society and transform industries*
- access to a broad range of specialist resources and unique networking opportunities
- why choose ANU for an HDR in Computer Science?
  - RSCS has world-class research programs (top rating in last two ERA ratings!)
  - our researchers have excellent international reputations and linkages
  - strong links with Data61 and the NCI National Facility
  - ideal opportunities within ANU for multidisciplinary interaction

MPhil/PhD Pathways for the MComp, BAC, BSEng and BIT Degrees

- MComp: upgrade to Master of Computing (Advanced) after 48u study with 70+% GPA
  - requires also a prospective supervisor for the 12u+12u COMP8800 Computing Research Project
- BAC, BSEng: enrol in the respective 12u+12u Research Project course (COMP4550, COMP4540)
- BIT, BSc (and other degrees): apply for the 1-year Honours in IT program
  - typically requires at least 36u of COMP2000+ courses with a GPA of 70+
- in all cases, a prospective supervisor for your Research Project should be sought (well) *before* the semester commences
  - see https://cs.anu.edu.au/research/student-research-projects for a list of projects on offer
  - permission to enroll will be required by Research Project course convenor

Qualifying / Applying for a MPhil or PhD Degree

- requirements:
  - an H2B (60-69), H2A (70-79) or H1 (80-100) grade from BAC, BSEng, Hons(IT) (or equivalent)
  - an accompanying 24u Research Project (of similar standard)
  - to be competitive for a scholarship, you need to have an H1 (or equivalent)
    - international students: need also a case for excellence (e.g. exceptional academic performance, prizes, research papers, etc)
- before formally applying, you need:
  - a reasonably clear idea of the research area you wish to devote yourself to!
  - a proposed PhD topic and support from a potential supervisor
  - again, see https://cs.anu.edu.au/research/student-research-projects

Scholarships Available for CS HDR Students

- ANU PhD/MPhil Scholarships
  - for international applicants, the places are however far fewer (consider applying for Australian residency)
- ANU PhD/MPhil Tuition Fee Scholarship (international applicants)
- ANU HDR Supplementary Scholarship
- Data61 PhD Scholarships
- Data61 Top-Up Scholarship
- CSC scholarships are available for students who return to China for further study

Important Contacts

- Research Project Course Convenor
  (for entry to the MPhil/PhD pathway)
  Prof Jochen Renz
  jochen.renz@anu.edu.au
- HDR Convenor
  (pre-application enquiries)
  A/Prof Peter Strazdins
  Peter.Strazdins@cs.anu.edu.au
- CECS Research Students Support
  (formal application enquiries)
  Ms Sam Dissanayake
  research.cecs@anu.edu.au

Remainder of Program for the Night

- overview of the RSCS research themes:
  - Intelligence: Prof Jochen Renz
  - Systems: Dr Josh Milthorpe
  - Theory: A/Prof Dirk Pattinson
- experiences of current / recent RSCS HDR students:
  - Chris Chow (PhD student, Systems)
  - Caitlin McGregor (PhD student, Theory)
  - Dr Paul Scott (Postdoctoral Fellow, Intelligence)
  - Prof Tony Hosking (Systems)
- Q&A
- pizza and chat!