



S&A postdoc committee

Summary for ATUC

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Outline

- Meet the S&A postdocs
- S&A committee foundation
- Aims of the committee
- Previous actions
- Future actions planned
- Feedback/ideas welcome



Meet the S&A postdocs...

- Currently there are 16 CSIRO Early Research Career (CERC) postdocs in CSIRO Space & Astronomy
 - 6 based at Marsfield, NSW
 - 10 based at Kensington, WA
 - Including 2 *Bolton Fellows*
- Diverse, experienced, skilled group of ECRs
- S&A postdoc coordinator: Jo Dawson (Macquarie)



Alec Thomson



Chandra Murugesan



Elham Bagheri



Hamed Nosrati



Laura Driessen



Nikhel Gupta



Rui Luo



SukYee Yong

Andrew Zic (Macquarie)



Chenoa Tremblay



Eric Howard (Macquarie)



Katie Jameson*



Marcus Lower



Rajan Chhetri (Curtin)



Stefan Duschesne



Tessa Vernstrom*





S&A postdoc committee formation

- Formed shortly after previous ATNF Science retreat (March 2020)
- Founding members:
 - Shi Dai (Marsfield; now at WSU)
 - Charlotte Sobey (Kensington/National CERC postdoc committee)
- Current members/representatives, (from Nov 2021):
 - Katie Jameson (Kensington)
 - Andrew Zic (Marsfield)
 - Nikhel Gupta (National CERC postdoc committee)
 - Jo Dawson (S&A Postdoc coordinator)
 - Elaine Sadler (Marsfield/Chief Scientist)
 - Jimi Green (Kensington Staff)



Aims

- **Positive for postdocs:**
- **Enhance the experience of the S&A postdocs,**
 - through providing targeted talks/info/advice/peer support.
- **Increase visibility of, and advocacy for, postdocs in S&A.**
- **Positive for S&A:**
- **More positive outcomes for postdocs within S&A**
- **Channel for feedback from postdocs**
- Postdocs serving on the committee enhance leadership, advocacy skills and experience (CV - service), as well as networking with senior astro staff.
- In addition to, and more focussed than, the 'national CERC postdoc fellow' committee
 - as well as other similar committees in astro, e.g. ASA ECR chapter, IAU junior members working group.



Previous Actions (past ~year)

- Started S&A postdocs MS Team
 - Provides channel for communication
 - Repository and wiki for docs/info
- Postdocs convened every ~6 months, discussions included:
 - Networking (virtually),
 - Career pathways and job applications,
 - Feedback and actions on:
 - CSIRO-wide Pulse survey,
 - D&I committee, and
 - National Facility support/Duty Astronomer model.
- Using S&A postdoc email list to forward pertinent conferences/jobs/opportunities
- Liaised/coordinated with National CERC postdoc committee
- Anonymous engagement/feedback survey conducted during the pandemic, with actions (~Sept 2020)



Future Actions planned (next ~year)

- Continue/increase MS Team engagement
- Continue bi-annual meetings for postdocs, with focus and discussions on relevant topics, e.g.:
 - DECRA timelines and application info
- Using S&A postdoc email list (and MS Team) to forward pertinent conferences/jobs/opportunities
- Continue liaising/coordinating with National CERC postdoc committee
- Increase interaction of committee with the exec through attending relevant internal meetings, e.g. DDR



Thank you for listening

- Welcome:
 - Actions ideas/feedback
 - Similar committees' experience/overlap/interactions

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Perth CERC postdoc event (June 2021) attendees and speakers.

Left-right, standing: Katie Jameson, Rob Hough (Science director; Minerals), Amy Parker, Yulia Uvarova (Group leader; Minerals), Chenoa Tremblay, Tessa Vernstrom, Alec Thomson, Filipe Albornoz Ramirez (Land&Water), Xiang Zhang (now at SHAO). Front: Charlotte Sobey, Nikhel Gupta.

Image: Jonathan Richetti (Ag&Food).