



2004 - 2024

John Monash Scholars

Education, opportunity and leadership.

Established in 2001, the General Sir John Monash Foundation provides postgraduate scholarships to outstanding Australians to study overseas. The Foundation's mission is to encourage the academic excellence of our nation's brightest individuals and to foster the growth of their leadership qualities for the benefit of Australia's future.

Supported by Australians for Australians and awarded in the name of a great Australian, the John Monash award supports the growth of our Nation.



Dr Katherine Daniell

2005 John Monash Scholar Professor, Australian National University

Katherine is a transdisciplinary academic at the Australian National University, affiliated with the School of Cybernetics, the Fenner School of Environment and Society, and the Institute for Water Futures. Her research emphasizes collaborative approaches to policy, education, and sustainable development, bridging engineering, arts, public policy, governance, risk management, and international cooperation. Katherine has published over 100 academic works and has held positions at the ANU Centre for European Studies, HC Coombs Policy Forum, and IRSTEA in France. A John Monash Scholar, she completed her co-tutelle PhD at AgroParisTech and ANU. She serves on several boards, including the Peter Cullen Water and Environment Trust, and is a Chevalier in the French Ordre du Mérite.



Dr Olivia Oliver 2005 John Monash Scholar Group Sustainability Manager, WGA

Olivia returned to Australia after completing her PhD to work in the area of water resource management, as an Environmental Engineer in the Australian Water Quality Centre (the research/lab services division of SA Water). Her work focused on monitoring and modelling salinity in the Lower River Murray. She also played a significant role in SA Water's climate change strategy and led a project to develop a climate change impact assessment for Happy Valley Reservoir, SA Water's most critical water supply reservoir. Olivia is now the Chief Operating Officer at Tonkin where she is also the team leader of the stormwater group. She recently worked at Tonkin, a consulting engineering firm which commenced operations in South Australia 65 years ago, servicing a diverse range of clients. Olivia continues to work with private and government clients to deliver innovative infrastructure solutions.



Dr Gemma Sharp

2007 John Monash Scholar Researcher, Monash University

Gemma has studied clinical psychology and completed a PhD in Clinical Psychology at Flinders University. She has a strong interest in body image and mental health research. Her PhD focused on women's motivations for female genital cosmetic surgery and the psychological outcomes of this surgery. Her research findings have been widely publicised in both national and international media. After completing a one- year Post-Doc at Curtin University, Gemma started an NHMRC Early Career Research Fellowship at Monash University in 2018 at the Monash Alfred Psychiatry Research Centre (MAPrc). She is a Senior Research Fellow and leads the Body Image Research Group at MAPrc. She also runs her own private clinical psychology practice in Melbourne where she specialises in the treatment of body image concerns, eating disorders and body dysmorphic disorder.



Dr Owen Siggs

2007 John Monash Scholar

Snow Fellow and Associate Professor at the Garvan Institute of Medical Research

Owen is a clinician-scientist, and in 2013 earned a combined DPhil/PhD from The University of Oxford and The Scripps Research Institute, where he worked under the supervision of 2011 Nobel Laureate Professor Bruce Beutler. His research interests include the genetic architecture of immunity, and the role of genetic variation in health and illness. After being awarded a Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Cambridge, he returned to Australia to continue clinical training. He is currently a Senior Lecturer at Flinders University, Junior Doctor at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, and a Visiting Scientist at the Garvan Institute of Medical Research.



Brendan Lim 2008 John Monash Scholar

Barrister, Eleven Wentworth

Brendan is a barrister, practising principally in public, commercial and regulatory law from Eleven Wentworth Chambers in Sydney. He is also a Visiting Fellow at UNSW. Brendan holds undergraduate degrees in Mathematics, Music, and Law from the University of Adelaide and postgraduate degrees from Yale Law School (LLM, JSD), which he completed as a John Monash Scholar.



Dr James Daniell 2009 John Monash Scholar Natural Hazards Risk Engineer

James is a distinguished civil engineer, geophysicist, and geologist with expertise in global stochastic and real-time financial, social, and environmental risk modeling for insurance and governments. Since 2022, he has been based in Adelaide, Australia, after 14 years in Europe. As a Senior Disaster Risk Analyst at the World Bank in Washington, D.C., he leads the Global Rapid Damage Estimation (GRADE) initiative, aiding in rapid payouts for disasters like the Ukraine conflict, Mozambique floods, and Tonga volcanic eruption. Dr. Daniell is the founder and CEO of Risklayer GmbH, a risk modeling company in Karlsruhe, Germany. He is also a researcher at CEDIM, KIT, and holds a doctoral degree from KIT, a Master's from UJF Grenoble and Univ. Pavia, and a BSc from the University of Adelaide.



Dr Amy McLennan

2009 John Monash Scholar Senior Fellow, ANU School of Cybernetics

Amy McLennan is a distinguished social researcher and facilitator specializing in health, society, ecology, and technology. She is a Senior Fellow at the ANU School of Cybernetics. With academic training in biomedical science, human nutrition, and medical anthropology, Amy has extensive experience in human-centered design consulting and national policy making as a Senior Analyst in the Australian Government's Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. For over a decade, she has been affiliated with the University of Oxford, focusing on food systems, obesity, medical anthropology, and human ecology.



Catherine Stubberfield

2010 John Monash Scholar Communications Manager, CCAMLR

Catherine completed a European Master's Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation in 2011 at the European Inter-University Centre in Venice and the University of Strasbourg. She holds a Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice with First Class Honours, an Honours Degree in German Studies, and a Diploma of Language in French. Admitted as a barrister and solicitor in 2009, Catherine has held diverse positions with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Ethiopia, Thailand, and Sudan, as well as with UNICEF in various countries. She is currently based in Canberra, serving as the Spokesperson and External Relations Officer for UNHCR's Regional Representation, covering Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific.



Dr Thomas Cundy

2011 John Monash Scholar Urologist, USANZUrology

Tom is completing his specialist training as a Urologist. A 2011 John Monash Scholar, he earned a PhD in surgical robotics from The Hamlyn Centre for Robotic Surgery at Imperial College London. In 2018, he received the Pickard Robotic Training Scholarship from the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. His interests focus on healthcare applications of artificial intelligence, including Learning Healthcare Systems, clinical decision support algorithms, automation of clinical coding, and computer vision. Tom is also the co-founder of Data Dissect, an Adelaide-based technology start-up that develops AI-driven software to enhance the quality and efficiency of healthcare.



Dr Ashley Kingsborough

2012 John Monash Scholar Senior Manager Water Futures and Security, SA Water

Ashley is a chartered environmental engineer with extensive experience in Water Resource Management and Climate Change Adaptation projects across Australia, the UK, South-East Asia, and the Pacific. He has worked in the private sector, government, and academia, focusing on complex resource management challenges. Ashley completed his DPhil at Oxford University on "Urban Climate Change Adaptation Pathways for Short to Long Term Decision-Making" (2016), which innovatively addressed urban climate adaptation in London. His research has significantly contributed to the literature on urban climate adaptation and planning under uncertainty. Ashley holds a BSc and a BEng with First Class Honours from the University of Adelaide and an MSc in Environmental Change and Management from Oxford. He currently advises on policy and strategy for the River Murray at the Department for Environment and Water in South Australia.



Ben Mylius

2014 Murray-Darling Basin Authority John Monash Scholar Lecturer in Political Science, Columbia University

Ben Mylius is an Australian educator, lawyer, and writer whose work centers on environmental political theory and climate change. His Ph.D. thesis, "On Human Separatism," critiques techno-utopian solutions to climate change and explores alternative perspectives from non-European cultures. He holds an LL.M. from Yale University and an M.A. and M.Phil. from Columbia University, and has received several prestigious Australian postgraduate scholarships. Ben founded Columbia's Climate Imaginations Network, fostering creative approaches to envisioning just and resilient climate futures. At Columbia, he has taught courses in environmental political theory, general political theory, international law, and human rights, earning recognition as a finalist for the Presidential Awards for Teaching. Ben is also an avid ceramicist and novelist.



Lydia Braunack-Mayer

2015 Commonwealth Bank John Monash Scholar Infectious Diseases Modeller at Swiss TPH

Lydia pursued a Master of Science in Statistics at ETH Zurich, focusing on modeling the spread of infectious diseases and studying the philosophy of science. She holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Mathematical and Computer Sciences from the University of Adelaide, where she majored in mathematics and philosophy. Before moving to Switzerland, Lydia worked at the Fraser Mustard Centre, analyzing national education data to enhance early learning outcomes for Australian children.



Dr Victoria Cox

2015 Chairman's Circle John Monash Scholar

Medical Doctor: Resident Medical Officer and Registrar, NT Health

Victoria holds an MBBS and a BMedSci with First Class Honours from the University of Adelaide. She is a former South Australian Open Breaststroke Champion and an internationally recognized open water swimmer. Passionate about health systems reform and committed to serving disadvantaged populations in Australia, Victoria has worked extensively in the Northern Territory, focusing on pediatric heart and skin diseases. She has also contributed her expertise at the World Health Organization in Geneva.



Alies Sluiter

2015 Australian Cultural (Tim Fairfax AC and Australia Council of the Arts) John Monash Scholar Writer, Director and Composer

Alies has a Bachelor of Music Performance from the Victorian College of the Arts and a Master of Arts from the Australian Film Television and Radio School. She is a composer for feature films, documentaries, television (CNN, ABC, BBC, Foxtel, SBS), music, theatre and dance productions and has guest lectured at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, University of Adelaide and Central Saint Martins University of the Arts London. As a violinist and musical director she has performed in over 50 countries performing with leading artists including Nitin Sawhney, Akram Khan, Sylvie Guillem and the Shaolin Monks of China. In 2011 she founded The Picture Box Orchestra who have performed at festivals such as WOMADelaide. With her John Monash Scholarship Alies completed a Master of Fine Arts in Film at Columbia University in New York. She has a strong commitment to telling Australian stories and hopes to establish a production company in Adelaide.



Laura Diment

2015 Australian Universities' John Monash Scholar Postdoctoral Researcher at University of Southampton

Laura is a Postdoctoral Researcher at University of Southampton. She holds a Doctorate in Engineering Science from the University of Oxford and a Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering with First Class Honours from Flinders University. Her postdoctoral research at the University of Southampton involved using digital technologies to support prosthetic socket fitting and monitoring prosthesis use in Cambodia, in collaboration with the Cambodian School of Prosthetics and Orthotics. Laura has worked as a biomedical engineer for the Medical Device Partnering Program in South Australia, designing and testing medical devices. She has also volunteered with Motivation Australia in Papua New Guinea and Engineers Without Borders in South Australia. Her work focuses on enhancing the capacity of low-resourced regions to design, distribute, and maintain user-specific prosthetics and assistive technologies.



Giles Dunseath-Hamilton

2016 Chairman's Circle John Monash Scholar *Musician*

Giles holds a Bachelor of Laws with Honours and a Bachelor of Engineering (Chemical) with First Class Honours from The University of Adelaide, where he earned several academic prizes and scholarships. He served as a Captain in the Australian Army Reserve, receiving a Division Level Commendation for his leadership as a Troop Commander in 2009. Since 2012, Giles has worked for one of the world's largest oil companies as an operations lead, concept engineer, and process engineer on major projects in Australia and the South China Sea. An accomplished sportsman, he has competed in World Ultra-Trail Marathon events and rowed for Australian and American universities. Giles is also a skilled pianist and clarinettist, with lead roles in French and English amateur theatre. He holds an MSc in Environmental Change and Management from Oxford University and aims to influence energy policy in Australia by fostering responsible commercial relations in the energy sector.



Samuel Williams

2016 Australian Cultural (Tim Fairfax AC and Australia Council of the Arts) John Monash Scholar *Writer*

Samuel holds a Bachelor of Creative Arts (Creative Writing) with First Class Honours and a University Medal from Flinders University. He is passionate about literature and dedicated to teaching writing to young people. As a fiction writer, he focuses on the representation of sexual and gender diversity in young adult literature, with his work published in Australia. He volunteers with LGBT youth in Adelaide and has contributed poetry and short stories to Voiceworks magazine. Samuel has also edited the literary journal Dubnium and works as a bookseller, tutor, drama teacher, and debating coach. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Creative Writing at Cambridge University, examining gender and sexuality diversity in Australian young adult literature.



Mark Brooke

2017 Ian Potter Foundation John Monash Scholar Senior software Engineer, Google

Mark has a DPhil in Oncology from the University of Oxford where he wrote his thesis on the incorporation of radiobiological factors into proton radiotherapy treatment planning. During his PhD he studied under a Clarendon Scholarship and a Cancer Research UK award, as well as his John Monash Scholarship, and served as President of the Clarendon Scholars' Council and as an Ideas to Impact Fellow at the Saïd Business School. Mark worked in the spaces of medical imaging and machine learning as a Research Science Intern at Mirada Medical, and in 2020 joined Google as an AI Health Resident in London, UK. Mark also has a Bachelor of Science with First Class Honours from The University of Adelaide, which focused on high performance computational physics. During his Honours he developed new treatment and imaging algorithms for proton therapy, and won a Prime Minister's Australia Asia Award to undertake an internship at the Queen Mary Hospital in Hong Kong.



Nicola Bilton

2018 BHP John Monash Scholar Policy Advisor, Government office for Science

Nicola has a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Laser physics and Technology from the University of Adelaide and was awarded the University Medal. At Imperial College she will work on the development of a cutting-edge quantum accelerometer, a component of next generation navigational systems. She intends to return to her current employer, Defence Science and Technology Group, to use quantum sensing technologies in next generation technology.



Alexander Makarowsky

2019 Commonwealth Bank John Monash Scholar Senior Algorithm Developer, Energy Exemplar

Alex has a Bachelor of Telecommunications Engineering (Honours) from the University of Adelaide, where he studied as a Charles Hawker Memorial Scholar. With his John Monash Scholarship, he completed an MSc in Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing at the University of Oxford, graduating with the Kathryn Gillow Prize for best dissertation. Volunteering in Timor-Leste instilled Alex with a strong desire to support the electrification and sustainable development of Australia's neighbours. He has a strong interest in shared challenges such as climate change and air pollution. Alex aims to help create the next generation of reliable, affordable, and low-emissions energy systems. Alex has worked in solar and battery integration at both the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) and the University of New South Wales. Alex currently works at Energy Exemplar, which tackles a variety of power system challenges such as renewable integration, expansion planning and reliability assessment for power system operators and planners worldwide.



Dr William Mitchell

2019 Chairman's Circle John Monash Scholar Ophthalmology Registrar, The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital

William completed his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at the University of Adelaide, and a Graduate Diploma of Clinical Education at the University of Melbourne. With his John Monash Scholarship, William is completing a Master of Public Health at Harvard, specialising in Clinical Effectiveness. Following this, he'll finish specialty training and plans to return to work as a clinician in central Australia. His particular interests are in rural and remote central Australian medicine, creating a robust Indigenous medical workforce, medical education, and learning to be a better farm-hand at his small family farm in Adelaide.



Nicholas Duddy

2020 Tim Fairfax AC John Monash Scholar PhD Student, University of Oxford

Nicholas is a Doctor of Philosophy candidate in English at the University of Oxford, researching representations of suicide in twentieth-century anglophone drama. His interests include modernism, Australian literature, trauma theory, practice-led research, and theatre. Raised in the Adelaide Hills, Nicholas graduated with First Class Honours in Creative Writing and a University Medal from the University of Adelaide, and earned a Master of Fine Arts in Writing for Performance from the National Institute of Dramatic Art. Committed to connecting the creative arts with communities, he has volunteered with the Australian Refugee Association and The Smith Family. Nicholas aspires to integrate his passions for writing, teaching, storytelling, and scholarship in his future career.

Darcy Dunn-Lawless

2022 Australian Universities' John Monash Scholar PhD Student, University of Oxford

Darcy is a medical device researcher, currently studying a Master of Biomedical Engineering at Flinders University. His work focuses on creating technologies for use in medical implants, specifically on the relatively new field of implantable ultrasound. With the support of his John Monash Scholarship, Darcy will pursue a DPhil in engineering at Oxford, to continue his development of a new implantable ultrasound device to monitor for tumour recurrence and improve bone healing in cancer patients. In 2021, Darcy presented the progress of this research at the Australian Biomedical Engineering Conference, and was awarded a MedTech Actuator Menzies Scholarship to support the clinical translation of his work. He has also tutored in engineering at Flinders University since 2019 and is a proud member of the Norwood Bears Volleyball Club.





Dr. Henry Marshall

2023 Chairman's Circle John Monash Scholar PhD Candidate at Wellcome Sanger Institute Henry is a young clinician-scientist passionate about the translation of precision-based medicine

about the translation of precision-based medicine into the management of neurodegenerative disease. Precision medicine refers to the application of novel diagnostic and therapeutic tools, which are tailored to the differences in people's genes, environments, and lifestyles. With the John Monash Scholarship, he plans to complete a PhD in Biological Sciences at the Sanger Institue, University of Cambridge. He ultimately aspires to return to Australia where he can combine his clinical and scientific training to lead translational research into these diseases.



Alex Schutz

2023 The John and Anna Belfer Trust John Monash Scholar

Robotics PhD Student at the University of Oxford

Alex is extremely enthusiastic about equality and inclusion, and the elimination of bias and discrimination present in Australian society. Through their own challenges, they are acutely aware of the struggles faced by people who are not well-represented in a group and aims to be part of the positive change. Alex completed a BEng (Hons) (Mechatronics) with BMaCSci (Pure Mathematics) at University of Adelaide and was the valedictorian for University of Adelaide School of Mechanical Engineering. Alex's career interests lie in robotics, particularly human-robot interaction, and cooperation. They believe that robotics can be used as a positive tool to help people and enrich their quality of life. They hope to be able to apply their technical skills to create solutions to help tackle some of the big problems faced by marginalised groups.



Dr Alyssa Pradhan

2024 Australian Universities' John Monash Scholar Infectious Diseases Advanced Trainee, Westmead Hospital

Alyssa is a medical doctor undertaking advanced training in infectious diseases and she is keenly interested in the application of machine learning and artificial intelligence in medicine. Her long-term goal is to be a clinician researcher and use machine learning and AI to improve healthcare quality and access, particularly for populations who are marginalised in the existing healthcare system. Alyssa completed her degree in medicine at the University of Adelaide in 2017, receiving the Sir Trent Champion De Crespigny Memorial Prize for the highest mark in Clinical Examination. "My goal is to combine my medical expertise in infectious diseases, my breadth of experience working with a diverse range of Australian communities and my skills in coding and data analysis to develop clinical decision support programs that improve healthcare safety and equity, including for vulnerable patients."

"The privilege of education carries great responsibilities —it is given not for individual benefit alone, but to benefit persons for the higher duties of citizenship and for roles of leadership in all fields."

General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD



The General Sir John Monash Foundation

Level 2, 9 Queen Street. Melbourne, Vic. 3000

Paul Ramadge Chief Executive Officer Paul.Ramadge@johnmonash.com +61 3 9620 2428

