

## 2022 *Pitch it clever* submissions

### **Men don't get anxious...right?**

**Krista Fisher | The University of Melbourne**

Anxiety is often undetected in men. So, in world first research, Krista is uncovering what anxiety feels like for men and developing interventions for enhanced detection.

### **The entrepreneurial mindset of young rural, regional and remote women**

**Simone Lee | University of Southern Queensland**

Simone's research endeavour is dedicated to breaking the entrepreneurial career progression barriers for young rural, regional and remote women.

### **Drug resistance in cancer therapy**

**Rohina Alim | Charles Sturt University**

Although cancer treatments have improved dramatically, drug resistance is becoming problematic. Through this research pitch, Rohina is exploring one method of overcoming drug resistance with research drugs.

### **Terrorist cell profiling and disbandment**

**Samantha Jones | Charles Sturt University**

Over 300,000 people have died from across the globe because of terrorist related incidents between 2009 and 2020. Charles Sturt University is developing a profiling technique and profile that will change the way we understand and combat terrorism.

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**Floating wetland for stormwater treatment****Md Nuruzzaman | Curtin University**

Rain often pollutes our water resources, killing fish in the rivers and lakes. This research pitch on floating wetlands is about safeguarding our water resources and the environment from stormwater pollution.

**New life for food waste****Ekanayake Mudiyanseelage Krishmali | Deakin University**

Food waste is a global challenge. WasteMaster equipment is another milestone in reducing food waste. Ekanayake's research pitch aims to improve

the materials treated after WasteMaster or the WasteMaster residues.

**Terminally ill children and their families have a special place to call home****Hedeyh Gamini | Deakin University**

The Maggie Centre model is a healing space for adult cancer patients. However, there is no similar option for children. This pitch proposes a Young Maggie Centre for terminally ill children and families by adapting the Maggie Centre paradigm.

**Towards a cavity and oral disease free future.... and no, I'm not a dentist!****Tan Nguyen | Deakin University**

Oral health is largely excluded from universal healthcare coverage. Tan's research uses a priority setting approach to inform resource allocation. It develops economic evaluation methods to ensure healthcare investment decisions are possible for tooth decay and severe gum disease.

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**Gender & Patents - supporting women in STEM****Dr Vicki Huang | Deakin University**

Are women as successful as men in securing a patent for their invention? Vicki and the Deakin team found that inventors with a male-sounding first name had a higher chance of getting a patent, irrespective of scientific field. Their pitch unpacks why.

**Accelerating gender equity in the workplace: a 'How to' Guide****Ashley Speers | Edith Cowan University**

Ashley's research pitch examines inclusion and diversity programs and their outcomes to generate the secret ingredients for gender equity success.

**Durable polymeric implants fabricated via desktop 3D printers****Hamed Bakhtiari | Edith Cowan University**

Using metallic implants inside the human bone is risky, costly, and may cause inflammatory reactions. To address this issue and in response to the growing number of bone surgeries, Hamed's pitch aims to design and fabricate durable polymeric implants using commercial 3D printers

**Exploring the underwater world****Kazi YasinIslam | Edith Cowan University**

How do you communicate quickly, reliably, and energy-efficiently in pursuit of discovering the mysteries of a world where Wi-Fi/cellular data doesn't work? Kazi's pitch presents a solution by combining light and sound into an innovative wireless tech for underwater exploration.

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## **Writing a historical novel about WW2 Poland**

**Andrew Clinnick | Federation University Australia**

Andrew's historical novel is an engagement between the stories told to him by his Polish grandmother, the historical records, and his imagination.

## **What if the answer to spinal cord Injury lives right at the top of our noses?**

**Francesca Oieni | Griffith University**

OECs, residents of our noses, have amazing neuro-regeneration powers. However, they live and collaborate with other cell types. Defining the optimal ratio of OECs and fibroblast will lead to a safe and consistent transplantation cocktail for a cell-based therapy for SCI, according to Francesca's pitch.

## **The future of robotic teachers**

**Dr Kristyn Sommer | Griffith University**

As we hurtle toward the future it's likely our children will soon learn from robot teachers. But before robots and children are thrust together in the classroom, we must first figure out whether kids can actually learn from robots. This is where Kristyn's research comes in.

## **A SMART move to stop hip pain**

**Dr Laura Diamond | Griffith University**

Pain from hip osteoarthritis may mean you move in a detrimental way. Our SMART wearable tech combines models of the musculoskeletal system & artificial intelligence to retrain you to move in a beneficial way that relieves pain & could help avoid a joint replacement in the future!

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## **The possibility of using microbes to cure neurodegenerative diseases: the art of listening to your gut and trusting your microbes**

**Ossie Avakh | Griffith University**

Microbial infections are recognised as important risk factors causing neurodegenerative diseases. On the other hand, gut microbiota has been proven to prevent or slow down such disorders. The aim of Ossie's research is to cure neurodegenerative diseases using gut microbes.

## **Next generation neural stimulation device**

**Ajmal Abdul Azees | RMIT University**

Ajmal's research pitch explores artificially stimulating nerves, using light to improve the resolution of the bionic eye and the cochlear implant.

## **Innovative technology for transferring waste PPE**

**Dr Mohammad Saberian Boroujeni | RMIT University**

Mohammad's research on demonstrates how disposable face masks could be recycled to make roads and concretes in a circular economy solution to COVID-19 pandemic generated waste.

## **Sustainable oxygen steelmaking by increased scrap steel utilisation**

**Nirmal Madhavanpillai Sajeevkumar | Swinburne University of Technology**

Should we take a leap of faith to Hydrogen steel making or optimise Oxygen steelmaking? Nirmal's research pitch explores these questions.

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## **Could congestion pricing be the solution for Melbourne's post-Covid traffic woes?**

**Tariq Munir | Swinburne University of Technology**

Tariq's research pitch looks into innovative road network pricing for managing travel demand and promoting low carbon mobility.

## **The 3D whiteboard: Transforming 3D content in the classroom**

**Dr Fernando Jativa | The University of Melbourne**

3D Whiteboard is a platform that enables real-time annotations in virtual environments. Educators can interact with real and virtual objects, while students easily access their viewpoint through a web browser. Fernando's research explores these possibilities.

## **Using cooperative video games as tools for developing social skills for neurodiverse children**

**Dr Matthew Harrison | The University of Melbourne**

How can we support neurodiverse children and young adults using interests and strengths? Matthew's research project designed a support program using cooperative video games as spaces for participants to practice and reflect on the skills required for collaborative problem solving.

## **Better engagement for people with direct experience of suicide**

**Hayley Purdon | The University of New England**

Hayley's research unpacks better engagement for people with lived experience of suicide.

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## **Australian orphans**

### **Hope Kachila | The University of Notre Dame**

Hope's research pitch delves into health outcomes for vulnerable populations under government guardianship.

## **The 'Lightning Tek' process**

### **Farzan Zare | The University of Queensland**

Why do mushrooms grow near lightning strikes? This pitch showcases how it is done through a technique known as the 'Lightning Tek' process.

## **Using drug fingerprint matching to develop new treatments for depression**

### **Dr Jiayue (Clara) Jiang | The University of Queensland**

Can cholesterol-lowering statins be repurposed for treating depression? Jiayue explore this question by comparing the gene expression fingerprints of statins and antidepressants. The pitch suggests that these popular cardiovascular drugs have a lot in common with antidepressants!

## **Online social identity mapping: powering social connections**

### **Dr Sarah Bentley | The University of Queensland**

Social identity mapping provides a way for researchers to measure, and practitioners to understand, the power of social connection. Sarah's pitch looks at social identity mapping to deliver a social cure.

## **The future of health care fits in the palm of your hand**

### **Dr Teegan Green | The University of Queensland**

If I told you that you held the future of healthcare in the palm of your hand, would you believe me? Teegan and her team at The University of Queensland are researching the use of mobile apps for telehealth.

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**Childhood trauma: addressing the silent pandemic****Dr Alix Woolard | The University of Western Australia**

Childhood trauma increases your risk for 7 out of 10 leading causes of death and affects 3/4 of Australia's population. Alix's research aims to understand, intervene and treat childhood trauma.

**Burns and brains****Amira Allahham | The University of Western Australia**

Burns are more than skin deep. Amira and her team's discoveries show that burn injuries affect the brain physiologically in the long term, therefore increasing the risk of burn patients developing neurological diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's later in life.

**Discovering the role of bacterial interactions in the human upper respiratory tract****Kan Yu | The University of Western Australia**

Kan's pitch seeks to improve our understanding of how the nasopharyngeal bacterial communities maintain human health, as well as identify novel therapeutic strategies to prevent respiratory infectious diseases.

**Creating healthy active places, it's win-win research!****Mr Matthew McLaughlin | The University of Western Australia**

We know what works to get people more active. Matthew's research focuses on getting this physical activity research into practice through "win-win" scenarios — for health, traffic, liveability, children, businesses, congestion, crashes & pollution.

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**Probiotics for better respiratory health****Dr Ritika Kar Bahal | The University of Western Australia**

Lower respiratory tract infections are a leading cause of death in children. Ritika's research investigates the role of complex bacterial communities of the respiratory tract in childhood airway infections to help identify better early life interventions and promote respiratory health.

**Sustainability and equity of seafood nutrients****Vania Andreoli | The University of Western Australia**

Vania's research explores how mapping and quantifying the nutrients available in the seafood catches of the Indian Ocean fisheries can help tackle nutrient insecurities and make the seafood trade network more sustainable and equitable.

**Transforming occupants to inhabitants: post pandemic dilemma****Dr Subhadarsini Parida | University of South Australia**

The nation's central business districts bore the brunt of restrictions and working from home arrangements during the pandemic. Subhadarsini's research reveals the need for employees to return to work to reverse these impacts.

**The Starving Artist - Understand eating disorders through contemporary art****Ally Zlatar | University of Southern Queensland**

The Starving Artist seeks to redefine the current narratives and treatment surrounding Eating Disorders. Through the power of creative voices through arts-based research, artwork creation and public discourse, Ally's research explores the depths of enduring an eating disorder.

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### **The next generation early warning AI environment tools**

**Ekta Sharma | University of Southern Queensland**

Wish to take pre-emptive actions for environment pollutants? Ekta's research develops early warning tools to measure and forecast the effects of air contaminants.

### **Suicide capability: Differentiating people who think about suicide and people who attempt suicide**

**Luke Bayliss | University of Southern Queensland**

After 50 years of suicide research, our understanding of who will act on suicidal thoughts is no better than random guessing. Luke is advancing the field towards improving this understanding to prevent suicide attempts and save lives.

### **Enabling Climate Resilient Communities**

**Tanya Dobson | University of Southern Queensland**

Interventions that integrate traditional knowledge may hold the key to climate-resilient communities. Tanya's research implements and analyses an intervention with small scale farmers who are vulnerable to escalating climate variability, to improve their response to these impacts.

### **Using satellites to track plant growth**

**Dr Qiaoyun Xie | University of Technology Sydney**

From crop yield to bush fire fuel load, carbon cycling to natural habitats, the health of plants is essential to daily life. Dr. X presents how she tracks when, where, and how plants grow using satellites.

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## **Video game audiences: more diverse than you or the industry realises**

**Dr Jacqueline Burgess | University of the Sunshine Coast**

The video game industry rarely takes a chance on female characters, but Jacqueline's research demonstrates their audiences are more diverse than they think and the industry is missing out on the resulting marketing and financial benefits.

## **Let's beat microplastic pollution at the source!**

**Michael Stapleton | University of Wollongong**

Microplastic pollution is wreaking havoc on our environment. Michael's research endeavours to locate all possible sources of this pollution before its effects become irreversible.

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