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Australian Citizen Science Association

9 August 2019

Dear <<First Name>>,

In this month's newsletter we are excited to launch the 2019 ACSA Seed Grants, bigger and better than before! You will also find out who the citizen science finalists are in the 2019 Eureka Prizes, the recipients of the inaugural Queensland citizen science grants, hear about what's planned for National Science Week, learn a little more about one of our members...and much more!

ACSA Seed Grants are back for 2019!

WHAT COULD YOU DO WITH AN EXTRA \$1000?



**Members - apply for a 2019 Seed
Grant by Fri 13 Sept, 5pm AEST!**

Do you need a little bit of extra cash and perhaps the motivation to initiative something you have always wanted to do? ACSA is pleased to announce Seed Grants 2019 are NOW OPEN.

Seed Grants of **\$1000 each** will be awarded to two ACSA members to seed their professional growth or their project's growth in line with ACSA's strategic goals of Participation and Practice.

This is our second round of Seed Grants and in response to your feedback, we have increased the grant value and simplified the application process.

Applications close **Friday 13 September, 2019**. Full details, including how to apply for the grant and the T&Cs, can be found [here](#). We encourage all members to apply. Not a member yet? [Join us!](#)

2018 Seed Grant Recipient: Jodi Salmond

Jodi Salmond, Reef Check Australia, winner of one of the 2018 Seed Grants, used her grant to undertake self-development training, to gain a better understanding as to how she



them to be more accountable, whilst also ensuring she does not burn out as a mentor. [Read more...](#)

2019 Citizen Science Eureka Finalists

Congratulations to the three Finalists of the 2019 Department of Industry, Innovation and Science Eureka Prize for [Innovation in Citizen Science](#). We look forward to seeing these worthy finalists on the red carpet at the Australian Museum during National Science Week for the presentation of awards at Australia's "Science Oscars".



The three finalists are:

Frog ID (Australian Museum)

FrogID is a national citizen science project aimed at understanding and conserving one of the most threatened groups of animals on the planet. Using a free smartphone app, participants record and submit information on calling frogs. In less than two years, FrogID has transformed the scientific community's understanding of the distributions, breeding seasons and habitats of frogs.



Virtual Reef Diver (Queensland University of Technology)

By harnessing the power of citizen scientists, Virtual Reef Diver seeks to dramatically increase the amount of environmental monitoring data for the Great Barrier Reef. Crowd-sourced images are uploaded, geo-located and analysed online, providing valuable scientific information that reef managers can use to make better decisions at a scale not previously achieved.



Zika Mozzie Seeker (Metro South Health, Queensland Health)

One of Australia's first health-based citizen science projects, Zika Mozzie Seeker empowers communities to monitor urban mosquitoes in South East Queensland backyards. Using collection kits, members of the public collect



To see the nominees for all the other awards, please [click here](#).

Invitation to interview re "expertise" in citizen science projects

Researchers at the University of Waterloo, Canada, are looking for citizen scientists, and researchers running citizen science projects, to participate in a study concerning how “expertise” is defined and identified in citizen science projects.



This research is part of a bigger project called “Networked Expertise in Multidisciplinary STEM Collaboration,” that is being conducted by Dr. Ashley Rose Mehlenbacher at the University of Waterloo. The goal of this research is to better understand the implicit and explicit assessment of expertise that researchers use in multidisciplinary STEM collaborations. Understanding these mechanisms has significance to training initiatives at local and national levels.

Would you like to participate?

All you need to do is join in a 30-minute interview (via Skype / FaceTime etc.) with Dr. Mehlenbacher or a member of her research team. Individuals can sign-

This study has been reviewed and received ethics clearance through a University of Waterloo Research Ethics Committee.

Queensland Citizen Science grant recipients

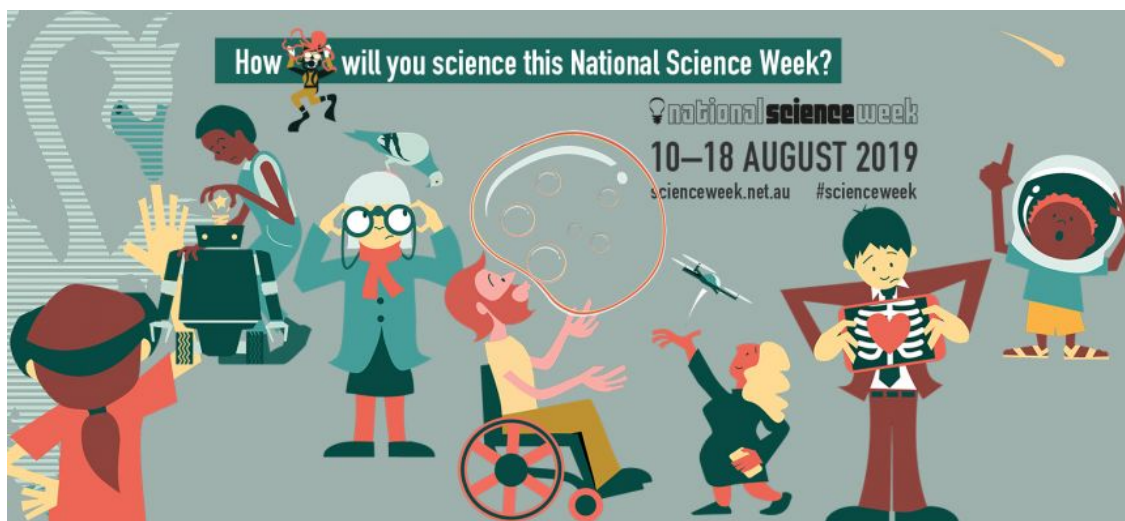


The Australian Citizen Science Association congratulates the 21 recipients of the first ever Queensland Science Citizen Science Grants. The Queensland Citizen Science Grants opened to applicants earlier this year and were available to Queensland-based projects actively engaging citizen scientists and addressing one or more of the [Queensland Citizen Science Strategy Goals](#).

You can read the [media release](#) from the announcement and find out more about the Grant recipients [here](#).

We look forward to hearing how these projects progress.

Hooray for Science Week!



Over the next couple of weeks there are loads of events, festivals and activities happening all across Australia as part of National Science Week. We encourage all science lovers to get on down to an event near you! You can find out what's happening in your area on the official [Science Week website](#).

around Australia - check them out [here](#). Is your citizen science project running an event? If so, tag us on Facebook, Twitter (@CitSciOZ) or LinkedIn and let us know! And it's not too late to add your event to the [National Science Week calendar](#).

CitSci publications listing

The August edition of the ACSA publications listing is now live on our website. Check out the recent publications by clicking on the link below:

[ACSA Publications Listing No. 8 – August 2019 \(PDF\)](#)

Monthly Member Spotlight

Continuing our new "member spotlight" feature, this month we are heading to Victoria to meet citizen science practitioner **Tess Hayes**. Over to you, Tess!

Name: Tess Hayes

Role: Masters student; Vice Chair - ACSA Victoria; formally Citizen Science Officer, EPA Victoria Citizen Science Program

How long have you been an ACSA member?: Since December 2017

Why did you join ACSA?: I have always been extremely grateful for the community that exists among citizen science practitioners. There is a willingness to collaborate, to share ideas and come together with a solution focus to unpack common challenges that confront citizen science projects. I joined ACSA in late 2017 in order to attend the upcoming conference. After being involved for a while in an informal citizen science group in Victoria, it seemed a logical next step in widening my citizen science circle.

What do you love about citizen science?: The thing I love most about citizen science projects are the connections you can make and the strength and relevance able to be achieved through citizen science partnerships. I'm most interested in projects where knowledge partnerships are created. Working in the role of citizen science practitioner, you either broker, transfer or communicate knowledge between science/scientists and citizens. It's changing the way we do science and I think that's exciting and beneficial for the future of science.

What is the most awesome citizen science project you have been involved in and why? The best citizen science project I have been involved in

community, local catchment management authority and EPA. These partners where brought together by a common interest in ensuring the health and protection of Waterhole Creek waterway. The project involved water monitoring by both citizens and EPA for different parameters, combining both data sets enabled understanding of water quality to ensure ecosystem function was maintained and contributed to the atheistic of the area. The project was a real meeting in the middle, where both citizens and scientists learnt from each other, shared their different and common knowledge and experiences to make a fit-for-purpose project.



Tess conducting water quality testing for the Caring for Waterhole Creek project

If you would like to share your citizen science story, or would to nominate a fellow ACSA member to be featured in an upcoming newsletter, please let us know! coordinator@citizenscience.org.au.

Please consider helping spread the word about ACSA by sharing this

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us:

coordinator@citizenscience.org.au or via our [website](#).

Erin, Stephanie, Rosemary, Michelle, Jenn, Mij, Patrick and Amy



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