

# POSTGRAD 2019

NOVEMBER 23, 2018



Emma Macri  
Acupuncture



Kerinne Jenkins  
Filmmaking

## HOW THEY FOUND THEIR MOJO



Patrick Smith  
Palaeontology



Zoe Black  
Social Enterprise

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From left: Kate Murray, Paramedicine;  
Bridget Shelton, Law; Aaron Prestipino,  
Public relations; Rachel Varghese, 'New Law'



**P**ostgraduate study is at a turning point. For many years, the standard masters degree or the graduate certificate or diploma has been seen as the surefire way for professionals to ensure that their qualifications stay current and that their careers continue to advance.

But now things are changing. After many years of growth, enrolments by domestic students in postgraduate courses in Australia has flatlined since 2014. It is not that people in the professional workforce no longer see a need to upgrade their qualifications. Quite the opposite.

As we get closer to the so-called “fourth industrial revolution”, which is being driven by automation and artificial intelligence, professional workers are more aware than ever of the need to learn new skills to take them forward.

But now there are other learning options besides a masters degree or a graduate certificate or diploma. For example, there are a growing number of micro-credentials, which allow you to learn a specific skill quickly in response to an immediate need. They save time and money, and you don't risk a large investment in learning skills that might become outmoded.

This is not to say that traditional postgraduate education will disappear. Far from it. More than 400,000 students – most of them domestic students – are currently enrolled in postgraduate courses. But it is more important than ever, when considering a course, to be sure that it will be a good investment. Will it boost your career in the way you are looking for? Will it pay for itself in the form of higher salary?

*The Australian* and [postgradaustralia.com.au](http://postgradaustralia.com.au) have partnered on this magazine to help you answer these questions. Our writer, Melissa Chan, has taken a deep dive into the data, sought the views of industry experts and gathered first-hand experience from students. There is also a wealth of detailed statistical information, curated by specialists at [postgradaustralia.com.au](http://postgradaustralia.com.au), to help you see what the career rewards are from postgraduate study across the range of disciplines.

In the age of the fourth industrial revolution this is crucial information to plan and advance your career. For full details of all postgraduate courses offered by Australian universities go to [postgradaustralia.com.au](http://postgradaustralia.com.au).

Happy reading!

**Tim Dodd**  
Higher Education Editor  
*The Australian*

**Richard McKeon**  
Founder and Managing Director  
[postgradaustralia.com.au](http://postgradaustralia.com.au)

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ABS Labour force data

ABS Census 2016, 2006

Australian government, Department of Education and Training, Higher Education Statistics 2016

PostgradAustralia course database and research

Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching

Law Council of Australia

THE AUSTRALIAN\*

## POSTGRAD 2019

Editor Tim Dodd

Writer Melissa Chan

Art director Shireen Nolan

Sub-editor Deirdre Blayney, Penny Durham

Advertising James McCluskie

+61 2 9288 3342 [james.mccluskie@news.com.au](mailto:james.mccluskie@news.com.au)

Advertising co-ordinator Renee Connors

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