

ERGA Workshops 2007

10:00-12:30 PM

Applying for a Carrick Grant: practical strategies and potential collaborations

John Willison

In order to successfully apply for a Carrick grant, you may need to be able to tick most of the following:

- A fairly mature project, with indicators of successful outcomes already
- Your own university has demonstrated buy-in eg a local L&T grant
- Strong collaboration with other universities is planned
- Project proposal demonstrates a mix of levels* of structured dissemination
- Budget clearly aligned with project outcomes

This workshop will help you consider appropriate steps towards being a successful applicant. It will be facilitated by Dr John Willison, who is the leader of the 'Coursework Student Research Skill Development' project, funded under a Carrick Competitive Grant for \$215K.

The workshop will provide practical guidelines on how you may develop the aspects above, and include an analysis of relevant sections of a successful application. We will also consider the different types of grants, and break into groups that each focus on one type. There will be scope for exploring the issues through questions and discussion, and importantly for developing potential future collaborations.

Duration: 2.5 hours

Outcome: Your own strategy towards a successful application.

Pre-reading: It is advantageous if you read one of dissemination papers, and one of the Grants Scheme Program Guidelines available on the Carrick website.

12:30-1:00 PM

Light lunch provided

1:00-2:30 PM

How to design and test effective multiple choice questions

Peter Devitt, Edward Palmer

Multiple choice questions (MCQs) are a common form of assessment, both in summative examinations and online formative assessments. Although seemingly trivial to construct, they can be extremely challenging to design and test. The Medical Council of Canada estimates the cost of a fully tested MCQ of appropriate content to be of the order of \$3000. This difficulty in design often means that MCQs can be inadequate assessment tools.

In order to provide a reliable and valid MCQ based assessment, it is important to understand some basic construction guidelines and have appropriate processes in place to ensure that MCQs conform to those guidelines.

In this workshop, you will be informed about the process used to develop some of the best MCQs in the world by the chief assessment officer of the Australian Medical Council. Methods of designing and testing MCQs will be discussed in a workshop which will encourage participation from the attendees.

Duration 1.5 hours