THE UNIVERSITY of ADELAIDE

CELEBRATING OUR INSPIRING WOMEN

International Women's Day 2021

Amanda Able

Amanda led the Faculty of Sciences in the successful transition to online teaching. She provided sound advice on guidelines and managing online exams. Her leadership has been truly amazing.

Khushboo Aggarwal

Khushboo has supported me during the hard time of COVID19 both emotionally and mentally. She helped me to get employed and simultaneously braced me up in academics. I am pleased to see the maturity and womanhood in her behaviour at such a young age.

Kathryn Amos

Kathryn inspires me as a creative and energetic leader, bringing her team along on revolutionary discussions and strategic thinking, working with industry leaders to bring everything together, while maintaining her genuine relationships with all of her colleagues.

Claire Armstrong

Claire has been a joy to supervise and has consistently applied herself to her research project while always looking to exploit new angles. She has a great sense of humour, is hard-working, has a strong intellect and is blossoming into a great independent researcher.

Thushari Atapattu

Thushari's work on applying AI-based solutions to societal problems is inspiring, demonstrating real community benefits. Thushari's an active mentor, working with students to ensure they achieve the best. Thushari inspires all with her thoughtfulness and deep awareness of how technology helps people in meaningful ways.

Julia Atterton

Watching Julia steadily steer Careers through COVID19 was truly inspiring. Responding to daily challenges quickly, efficiently and effectively highlighted her calm and decisive nature. Julia smoothly led our online service provision, streamlining operations and implementing innovative services to meet the changing needs of our students.

Susie Barber

Susie Barber is Project Manager of our CSER Digital Technologies Program in ECMS. She wrapped up our main 4-year project last year which saw 2,000+ loans via our free national lending library to schools across Australia and our team having incredibly delivered 2,000+ PD events!

Deeksha Beniwal

Deeksha sets a great example of perseverance through difficulties to achieve research passion. She is extremely supportive of fellow students, creating a friendly and healthy workplace. She is an outreach superstar, advocating for science education, ready to give a helping hand to anyone in need.

Bree Bennett

Bree, an academic in Civil Environmental and Mining Engineering, acted as Director of the new ECMS Technology Education Centre, during its inaugural year. She has led TEC calmly and confidently amidst uncertainty and some resistance. Bree also brought fresh perspectives to the Faculty's Leadership Group.

Morgan Blades

Dr Blades consistently provides mentorship and leadership to students and research colleagues through her academic ability and collaborative approach to her work. Her student stewardship has led many students to achieve to their highest standard.

Erica Boyle

Erica manages many volunteers caring for the Urrbrae House Gardens; during COVID19 the volunteer program was closed. Erica selflessly took on all the work the volunteers would do, and kept in touch with them on a weekly basis. She also did her normal duties. Inspiring!

Fiona Brammy

Fiona inspires me every year and 2020 was no exception. Always extremely generous with her time, she wants to do nothing but support and empower students. When COVID hit, without skipping a beat she found ways to continue to provide impactful training and workshops.

Dimitra Capone

Dimitra has not only progressed her research agenda but has provided me with great support in numerous ways. She has been instrumental in the efficient running of the lab, provides critical input across a range of project areas, and offers first-class training to HDR students.

Mandi Carr

Mandi completed this year the virtual reality cattle handling experience that will be used at this University and elsewhere.

Sue Carthew

Sue leads with her signature style of calm strategic thinking, adaptability, and compassion. Ecologist first and foremost, Sue continues fundamental research, plus she has contributed positive, decisive and diversity-focused senior leadership at two universities. Sue always gives 110% to her family, friends and colleagues!

Natasha Caulfield

Tash continuously demonstrates excellent leadership, vision and innovation. In 2020, she went above and beyond, innovatively solving problems and supporting staff, students and external stakeholders, ensuring we performed as a cohesive, resilient and productive team. She inspires through empathy, positive attitude, time and energy.

Vilma Cavuoto

Vilma has been a strong pillar of support, both personally and technically in her role for me. Her selfless attitude and generosity to her colleagues is a true sign of her kind character. Her deep knowledge makes her a go-to resource for the company.

Ane-Lise Chaber

She understood it was everybody's duty to help and fight against the sanitary situation and she created the COVID-19 dog detector program, using her ability to create link between people, political subtlety and unequalled negotiation skills, making national and international entities work conjointly.

Linda Ciampa

In the past year the nominee has run a business, ensured that her clients were fully informed and reassured about the COVID situation and how it affects business and continued to put smiles on her family's faces.

Jennifer Clark

Jennifer is an excellent mentor and is very encouraging to women academics in particular. She also showed great care for staff (both professional and academic) at all levels during COVID, especially ECRs. She's an outstanding educator.

Shona Crabb

Shona has been a significant driver of gender, equity, diversity and inclusion strategy since 2014 - at all levels across the university. She lives to elevate staff and students around her and has an intrinsically genuine interest in leveraging diversity, mentorship and collaboration.

Bindee Davis

Bindee has vision and is determined to achieve it. She perseveres regardless of challenges she may encounter. Her courage and drive to achieve her goals while balancing all aspects of her life is inspiring.

Nikki Dumbrell

Nikki has shown empathy for international colleagues studying in Adelaide who are unable to return home due to COVID-19. She checks on their welfare, assists with tedious solo tasks such as moving house and arranges positive and inclusive social activities.

Amy Dwyer

Provided excellent mentorship to PhD students. Undertook a mammoth effort in submitting 3 research grant applications over a period of two months, and also published two manuscripts from her previous work in the US.

Natalie Edwards

As Director of the Fay Gale Centre for Research on Gender and as Faculty of Arts Graduate Studies Director, Professor Natalie Edwards empathetically supported and encouraged many colleagues, including Postgraduate Coordinators, supervisors and HDR students. She was nationally awarded in 2020 for outstanding HDR leadership.

Jaklin Eliott

Jaklin has showed an outstanding resilience, successful conflict resolution skills, and a leading role modelling in asking others for help. Jaklin's dedication to student matters has been second to none, always being non-judgemental, all-inclusive, and both transparent and clear in communication.

Katrina Falkner

Kat is an inspiring and empowering leader, becoming the first female Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences. This is a fantastic appointment and demonstrates to our staff and students alike that women truly have a place in STEM.

Rebecca Forder

Dr Rebecca Forder is an inspiring teacher. She provided immense support to all students at AVS last year. Her passion for student support is inspiring. Bec made a difference in students' lives every day by establishing healthy boundaries and creating an environment of trust.

Kirsty Gallacher

Dr Kirsty Gallacher has worked numerous hours in the clinic as the only staff member in order to provide reproduction service to the equine clients. Without family support, she would bring her two daughters to the clinic for after-hours work when needed.

Sarah Gilbert

Sarah is a champion of mass spectrometry, providing continued analytical support to research and student training at Adelaide Microscopy. Her expertise, dedication and readiness to help are second to none.

Bronwyn Gillanders

She has stepped into the role of interim Head of School of Biological Sciences, whilst maintaining strong relationships with her postgraduate students. She has remained a strong role-model for women in STEM at the university and creates an extremely supportive environment for her students.

Gabrielle Golding

Dr Gabrielle Golding (Lecturer in the Adelaide Law School) is a passionate advocate for the career development and well being of the University's law students. In the past year, she has gone above and beyond in developing initiatives to support those students during the pandemic.

Belinda Gosden

Whenever you enter Belinda's office, you are met with warmth and a willingness to listen or help. Regardless of the issue, Belinda takes the time to help find a solution or someone else who can assist. She is reliable, humorous, generous and diligent.

Leah Grantham

During a very difficult time for our team, Leah has shown great leadership abilities in stepping up and uniting us, helping us to get through the very challenging events of 2020. She has done so with compassion and humanity, helping to bring us closer together.

Jennifer Gray

Jenny has significantly contributed to my professional and personal growth. I trained under and was later employed by Jenny, published and presented at conferences with her, developed a sense of social justice and, importantly, learned how to lift others as a result of her mentorship.

Isabelle Greco

Supported the Women in STEM Society as treasurer, took on majority of the tasks ascribed to events planning and managing, and has always been a warm and positive presence on club committees, and as a friend.

Caitlin Gregory

Caitlin is a new teacher, employed at the ELC (English Language Centre) immediately after completing her qualification. She admirably met the substantial demands of a high stakes joint venture program with Kansai Gaidai University, Osaka and mentored other experienced staff in using new online platforms.

Cally Guerin

We who walk in fields of research, rarely see mentors who care; Who don't demand published merch, To sing their name with fanfare. Thankfully I'm blessed, With Cally, Dr., from the Eyre. Miles apart, Zoom-tied, In my work and wellness she breathes fresh air.

Michelle Guzik

Michelle always remains compassionate whilst achieving success in her research. Extremely generous with her time, this past year Michelle has constantly provided advice and support to students and postdocs whilst continuing to serve the broader university community through increased leadership roles within the School.

Susan Hazel

Dr Susan Hazel is one of the most innovative lecturers. Her courses are an exemplar of student engagement, allowing discussion of opinions and development of independent thought. Susan's generosity coupled with her selfless leadership makes her an amazing role-model, for both students and staff.

Samudra Herath

Samudra Herath is an amazing PhD student in Mathematics, exploring novel methods for Entity Resolution to handle Big Data. She is selfless in nature, an environment lover, she leads by example, particularly in matters regarding women empowerment and environment. She truly inspires people around her.

Theresa Hickey

Published paper in a high impact journal Nature Medicine, on a new groundbreaking treatment for breast cancer. This is a culmination of nearly 10 years of research effort, whilst also providing excellent support to research team.

Leila Hosseinzadeh

Leila navigated her PhD with quiet determination during what was an especially challenging year.

Melissa Humphries

Mel is an amazing human being who is driven to support equity and diversity in the University. She is a hard-working, supportive and thoughtful person which shines in both her teaching and supervision of students. There should be more Mels!

Nazia Hussain

Nazia Hussain inspires me with her dedication, persistence, and determination. These were on full display in the lead-up to her PhD deadline in late December 2020, even submitting before the deadline. She is also a fantastic solo mum, and a supportive, considerate peer and colleague.

Elodie Janvier

Elodie is the strategic research development manager at IPAS, supporting researchers in seeking funding and mentoring ECRs developing their research profile. Through her intuitive and visionary leadership, she has enabled a substantial increase in securing research funds and enhanced the university prestige through additional awards.

Alice Jones

You need only mention Alice's name to any of her students and you instantly see how important and inspiring she is. Over the past year alone Alice has won awards, led me through two paper submissions, and looked after my mental health, all at once.

Kym Jones

Constantly vigilant, creating a safe, welcoming environment for all staff, students and visitors on campus. Kym is The University of Adelaide's only remaining female security officer employed at the North Terrace Campus.

Georgia Kappos

In 2020, Georgia was the President of the University of Adelaide Engineering Society, the largest student society of campus. Despite the disruptions caused by COVID-19, Georgia remained tenacious. With the approval of SA Health, the AUES held several successful large-scale events in the year.

Zoya Kikhtyak

Zoya was instrumental in quickly and efficiently bringing our lab activities into line with COVID restrictions. She is excellent at training staff in lab techniques and keeping up morale by creating a fun work environment. She is always smiling and cheerful.

Elizabeth Kuczek

Managed a diverse team of staff and students during a challenging year, providing excellent research administrative support. Developed a new website for the promotion of the research group and their activities.

Aline Kunnel

Supported the activities of the Women in STEM Society as Vice President. Brought positivity, encouragement, and enthusiasm to the role, while inspiring me to strive for excellence through demonstration of her own leadership.

Geraldine Laven-Law

Geri is a staff member that goes above and beyond in any task she is given. She is highly self-motivated and constantly surprising in terms of what she has taught herself and the speed with which she works. An invaluable staff member.

Eunice Lee

Eunice has persisted with a challenging PhD project, submitting in 2020 and publishing a major part of her work, despite all the difficulties with the project and COVID. Eunice has initiated and led student networking events and contributed to the lab and wider University community.

Megan Lewis

Professor Megan Lewis' impact on students, colleagues and the spatial science community exceeds what any scholarly index can measure. She gracefully leads by example, inspiring and changing the lives of those around her through unwavering professionalism, enthusiasm, generosity, dedication, empathy, creativity and scientific rigour.

Wenjun Liu

Since commencing her postgraduate studies, Nora has shown extraordinary resilience overcoming many obstacles and changes within her research project. She applies herself with commitment and has shown a very high-level of understanding within her research work.

Michelle McArthur

Michelle is always there to help a student or colleague who is struggling. Her creative and innovative teaching empowers students and staff with skills in communication and wellness. Those who have helped her teach know she is also an amazing cook!

Faye McCallum

Professor McCallum's strategic leadership during COVID-19's disruption inspired her academic and professional staff to maintain pre-service teachers' placements with hundreds of schools during professional experience, author new research on teacher wellbeing during the pandemic and develop new initiatives to engage with the broader education community.

Hayley McGrice

Hayley is committed to excellence in the student learning experience; is dedicated to student wellbeing; provides invaluable support to academics in transitioning to online learning through creation of online workshops; has undertaken leadership roles (Team Leader ADEPT; Associate Head, Students).

Alexis McKay

Alexis spearheaded the nationally recognised WiSC program, as well as key gender and indigenous diversity initiatives across our STEM cohort and industry partners. She literally changes people's lives! She has accomplished ground-breaking outcomes for the University, but never self-promotes. She deserves huge recognition.

Sandra Millburn

When I found study difficult due to personal circumstances, Sandra was there every step of the way. She is always willing to help. Knowing I have someone I can turn to for support means the world to me. I can't thank her enough.

Louise Miller Frost

Grew Catherine House to deliver more services for women experiencing homelessness. Led merger negotiations with HCA. Chair of Adelaide Zero Project - led statewide reforms in homelessness with significant collaboration. Led Vinnies through COVID-19, maintaining critical services for vulnerable people during the crisis.

Robyn Mills

After 15 years (and her final year) of service, Robyn has furthered the University's strategic interests by reinforcing the voice of our most senior management, through speech writing, publicity, and internal communications, generating hundreds of thousands of words and millions of dollars in publicity.

Dorothy Missingham

For sticking with me through thick and thin, she believed in me when I didn't believe in myself and pushed me to step up. She has made it clear that I am capable, bright and everything else in-between. I simply needed to see it.

Louise Mitchell

Despite COVID-19, Louise has re-energised Wiltu Yarlu and created a culture of inclusion within the office. She has prioritised Indigenous education across the University and shared her passion and experience to support institution-wide reconciliation.

Natasha Moy

Tash is the current president and former pubcrawl coordinator of AUES. Facing multiple set backs from covid19, she always has a backup plan. She's worked throughout 2020 to create events and connections for students online and off. She's also helped others through difficult situations.

Ebtihal Mustafa

Over the last year, Ebtihal has grown into a capable, proactive PhD student, all while raising two small children.

Yung Ngothai

Yung overcame health difficulties to raise $15,284 in the Ride for a Reason challenge for Cancer Council SA. Her initial goal was to complete 500kms and raise $1,000. She pushed herself to the limit, rode over 1000kms and raised over 15 times her original target.

Rachel Norris

Rachel is driven to provide an educational experience for students that respects their individual needs. She works incredibly hard in all roles in the School and will step up and meet challenges as they arise. She is a leader and a reliable and inspirational colleague.

Kathy Ophel-Keller

Kathy contributes to building and strengthening the University-SARDI alliance as Research Director, SARDI Crop Sciences. She provides leadership in developing and managing joint research projects and is particularly good at managing competing demands. She is a sounding board for ideas and an inspiration to staff.

Louise O'Reilly

Louise leads with passion and enthusiasm, works hard and inspires others in kicking big goals for the Faculty and University. In 2020 she stepped up and led ECMS as the Faculty Executive Manager during one of the most challenging years the Faculty has faced.

Jasmin Packer

Jasmin has challenged, inspired, and helped shape who I am, professionally and personally, by leading by example. She is empathetic, compassionate, an effective leader, strives for the highest standards, a community creator, and a source of strength and resilience.

Amanda Page

Amanda has supported me when I had to shift my PhD research field due to the pandemic. She walked with me and guided me through the difficult transition. She is always there when I need her – without her I would never make it this far.

Laura Parry

Outstanding and selfless person who has led School and Faculty over the last year. Patient and thoughtful in all she does. Has brought together groups to ensure a community, and drive a collegial atmosphere. Passionate supporter of all.

Aleksandra Payne

Aleksandra saved the day! First she led a great team to set up and manage our Masters Multiple Mini-Interviews via zoom, and then when on day 1 South Australia went into lockdown she calmly rescheduled them, keeping our applicants, our staff and our titleholders updated.

Tahlia Perry

Tahlia has led the successful EchidnaCSI project being involved in all aspects from communication to producing novel results. She is a tireless communicator, extraordinarily energetic, advancing all aspects of the work including fund raising. Despite all difficulties she submitted her PhD in 2020.

Sarah Jean Peters

Sarah is the president of Robogals Adelaide and has led two committees for over a year now, including through a global pandemic. She's incredibly gifted and inspires the people around her to strive for better. Not only that, she's an amazing leader and kind friend.

Thu Phuong Pham

Early 2020, I graduated from UoA and moved to the US just to face the COVID head on. Phuong, despite the many challenges she was also facing, has stayed in touch, encouraged us, and shared with our family good advice to get over the pandemic.

Marie Pickering

Excelled in finance support and travel arrangements under challenging circumstances of 2020. Continued technical support for all students in the lab.

Olivia Pineau

Olivia is an exceptional student, and an invaluable asset to our faculty as a representative for other students. Olivia has held multiple positions, including being the student Learning and Teaching representative, helped develop online content within the student ambassador role, and has organised welcome events for new Masters students. She is a great ambassador for our program.

Carolin Plewa

Carolin's passion for promoting research excellence, impact, and engagement; her endless initiatives and ongoing support have inspired our colleagues to move forward in the highly challenging year. Being the Deputy Dean Research, Faculty of Professions, she has been instrumental in driving the faculty's research priorities

Sara Ratna Qanti

Sara Qanti, PhD student representative for GFAR, has demonstrated leadership qualities in advocating for her colleagues during this unusual year. Sara has been empathetic in her support of her colleagues particularly those from overseas that are in Adelaide with and without their children and partners.

Katherine Queen

In 2020, Katherine founded the Adelaide University Society of Architecture & Built Environment (AUSABE). This highly active club nurtures the community within the School of Architecture & Built Environment. She also served as Robogal's Secretary, helping inspire young women to consider a career in STEM.

Georgette Radford

In 2020, Georgette served as the Equity Officer for the Adelaide University Engineering Society (AUES). In this Executive position, Georgette inspired and supported Committee members through an incredibly challenging year. She also completed an Honours Degree of Bachelor of Health and Medical Sciences.

Ruchira Ranaweera

Ruchira is an inspiration, working on her PhD while also being a mother of young children. She effectively balances her time to make excellent gains with her research. Ruchira tackles new tasks with composure and shows a mature level of creativity in her approach.

Rachel Roberts

As Interim Head, Assoc Prof Rachel Roberts has smoothly led the School of Psychology through a challenging period, with her exemplary level-headed and supportive approach. The School is indebted to her for taking on this responsibility, and for leading by example with such grace.

Justine Robins

ECMS internationalisation portfolio: Justine has a wealth of knowledge, and boundless enthusiasm and energy. She is a most valued member of the team and is a real inspiration to all our colleagues.

Alex Sabharwal

Alex drove the transition to online exams while ensuring that we could get the best possible outcome for students. On a personal level, she has been a supportive friend and someone who gives great advice.

Eileen Scott

Eileen has played a significant role in supporting the staff and leadership of our organisation to adopt practices that encourage greater gender parity. Eileen was pivotal in the development of our institutional application for the SAGE Athena Swan Pilot and our landmark gender equity strategy.

Carolyn Semmler

Assoc Prof Carolyn Semmler is a leader in her own high-impact research and in facilitating and encouraging others' research in the School of Psychology. She is also a wonderfully supportive mentor, always willing to chat and share her wisdom and experience.

Bridgette Shackelford

Dr Shackelford coordinated the final year and ultimate exams for our veterinary students. She supported the students under trying circumstances and managed to provide high-quality, peer-reviewed exams in time to confer the successful students in December so they could gain veterinary registration and seek employment.

Jennie Shaw

Professor Shaw has worked tirelessly as Interim DVC(A) and Executive Dean, Arts. Jennie's personal approach to staff and students wellbeing is exemplary. Jennie even home-delivered toilet paper to staff in need. An exemplary leader, she is highly regarded by peers, staff and students alike.

Linda Shearwin

Linda contributed significantly to a large grant (over $800K ARC-DP) and c-led publication in high impact journal (Nature). In addition to driving her own project, Linda initiated new collaboration, supported students in the lab and managed to juggle family and work commitments.

Emma Sherratt

Emma is an emerging trailblazer in evolutionary biology. In 2020, she put aside her Future Fellowship research and showed exceptional willingness to coordinate and teach a challenging field course at very short notice. Her innovative teaching was praised by her students despite being on-line.

Yeganeh Soltanpour

In 2020, Yeganeh has created an online virtual library for students to study in during covid, hosted events for international students, represented the uni through internships, fought for students and their rights and been elected the international SRC rep by students. Her selflessness is unmatchable.

Lira Souza Gonzaga

Lira is amazing for a number of reasons. She came half way across the world to study here, performed so well during her MPhil that she upgraded to PhD, and works very hard to publish her research. Lira's achievements really speak for themselves.

Emily Spencer

Emily has lead the organisation of the ECMS Clubs Tournament of the 12 Tasks challenge, inspiring students to connect and innovate through 2020 and online learning. She was also a key part of the Robogals Adelaide committee, planning a (postponed) rural trip to Kangaroo Island.

Renuka Sri

Outstanding leadership skills in transitioning from a face to face to online/working from home environment with the Kansai Gaidai University program. A great leader with a strong passion for managing difficult situations and a positive attitude towards problem-solving. Extremely supportive to staff professionally and personally.

Claudia Szabo

Claudia has influenced the life of so many students by implementing programs and initiatives, and broken down long-held barriers for inclusivity and success. She is incredibly accomplished and inspirational as a trailblazing woman in STEM.

Diana Tran

Despite having very little free time, Diana has gone above and beyond to help students that aren't even taking her courses! Her compassion and enthusiasm to share her knowledge and help the next generation of chemical engineers is something to be admired and commended.

Laura Tran

Laura is a true feminist, as past International student officer, she has influenced me and shaped my thoughts for the better. She reminds me every day that there is no limit to what we can achieve. She has done the same for many women.

Corinna Van Den Heuvel

Corinna is a magnificent leader, a true friend, and the most caring and supportive mentor to all, as she steers The Adelaide Medical School through a challenging time of change and growth. I am privileged and humbled to witness such genuine wholeheartedness, devotion and commitment.

Rebecca Vivian

Rebecca is an inspiration. She has led some incredibly impactful programs for kids' and teachers' engagement in computer science. She is humble, kind, encouraging and empowering and she deserves to be celebrated. Our institution is lucky to have her!

Lynn Ward

Dr Lynn Ward has been an incredible leader for the School of Psychology, recently driving the development of our new online degree programs. She is highly responsive and generous with her time and knowledge, and helps us all to achieve great things, together.

Brittany Williams

Brittany has pioneered new technology to help revive Australia's lost oyster reefs. Invention and collaboration has been a hallmark of her breakthrough.

Women's Professional Development Network

Established in 1995, Women's Professional Development Network has been connecting women across the University to influence change in their professional and personal lives for 25 years. In 2020, WPDN ran resilience workshops and our flagship Mentoring Program to support women when they needed it most.

Duygu Yengin

She worked tirelessly to create a new playground to provide peer feedback, mentoring for women on various aspects of academic career advancement, taking into account differences in the career path of men versus women; build better interdisciplinary networks; facilitate collegiality among women across different disciplines.

Mansooreh Zahedi

Mansooreh took sole responsibility for a problem course, Software Engineering and Project, that involves significant industry stakeholders as well as students. She navigated the additional obstacles of 2020 incredibly successfully. I received multiple unsolicited messages from the industry partners noting how professionally she ran it.

Sharon Zivkovic

Sharon has become the inaugural Chair of the South Australian Social Enterprise Council, a member of the Social Enterprise National Strategy Advisory Group, presented at the Social Enterprise World Forum and Wicked Lab, a social enterprise she cofounded, has set up a company in Europe.