

**Melbourne School of Health Sciences and Sonova PhD Award**

**Expression of Interest Form**

**Closing Date: 18 August 2021**

# The EOI and all requested attachments are to be combined and submitted as a single high quality PDF to shs-research@unimelb.edu.au by the closing date, 18 August 2021.

# important

**Note:** **you must have at least 6 months of clinical audiology experience** in order to be eligible for this award.

We gratefully thank our industry partner [Sonova](http://www.sonova.com) who is jointly funding this award.

Please ensure you’ve read the [entry requirements for a PhD](https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doctor-of-philosophy-medicine-dentistry-and-health-sciences/entry-requirements/) in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences. If successful, you will be required to submit a formal application under the Department of Audiology. Your Primary Supervisor will be Associate Professor Julia Sarant. For any queries about the project, please contact her at jsarant@unimelb.edu.au

# Applicant Information

|  |  |
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| **Title:** |  |
| **First name:** |  |
| **Last name:** |  |
| **Current institution:***(If relevant)* |  |
| **Telephone contact:** |  |
| **Email:** |  |
| **Australian citizen (y/n)** |  |
| **Permanent resident (y/n)** |  |
| **Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background? (y/n)** |  |
| **New Zealand citizen holding a Special Category Visa (y/n)** |  |
| **Are you able to commence your PhD within 6 months of the offer being made? (y/n)** |  |

# work-place based experience and leadership

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| **Type of Experience: Clinical Research or Clinical Audiology Experience in dealing with people with significant hearing impairment / experience with hearing devices** | **Leadership role (Y/N)** | **Institution/Department** | **Length of employment (years and months)** |
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# ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

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| List below all tertiary level studies you have undertaken, including those in which you are currently enrolled (whether you have completed them or not) beginning with the most recent.† If you are currently completing a degree, please write CU for ‘current’ and include the date that you anticipate completion. If you began a degree and did not complete it, write INC for ‘incomplete’ and include the date when you ceased study. If you completed the degree please write CO for ‘complete’ and include the completion date.‡ Program length is the usual duration of the program on a full-time basis. |
| **Name of degree****(e.g. Bachelor of Physiotherapy)** | **Name of institution and country** | **† Current (CU)/ Incomplete (INC)/ Complete (CO)** | **Date completed/ceased/ Expected date of completion (mm/yy)** | **Program length‡****(e.g. 3 years)** |
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PROJECT DETAILS

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| **Title of project:** | **FACTORS AFFECTING DEVICE UPTAKE AND USE IN PEOPLE WITH HEARING LOSS** |
| **Topic:** | Up to 80% of people with HL either do not seek treatment or are not being referred for hearing care by their doctors. Both hearing aid ownership and regular use have been reported to be low, with 67-86% of adults who may benefit from HAs estimated not to use them. A combination of factors is thought to contribute to this outcome. These include social attitudes that undervalue hearing, ignorance of the associated comorbidities of HL, cost and perceived stigma of HAs, the perception that HAs are unnecessary and insufficient benefit or discomfort in wearing them. A significant proportion of people who buy HAs do not use them regularly, with estimates of between 4-24% never doing so. Even in European countries with free HAs, it is reported that of people with self-reported HL, at least 36% are not even referred for hearing care. The effects of failing to maintain social networks, activities and support due to HL exceed the effects of well-established risk factors for mortality such as obesity and lack of physical activity and have been reported to be comparable with the effects of smoking and alcohol consumption. Addressing the ongoing low rates of HA uptake in many countries to promote better quality of life and longer independence for older adults with HL is therefore very important. We need to improve our understanding of the factors that motivate both HA use and non-use and the psychosocial experiences of these.  |

CAREER OBJECTIVES.

At the Melbourne School of Health Sciences, the aim of our research is to optimise the health and wellbeing of the community we serve.

Please summarise your career objectives and vision for the next 5 years (max 200 words):

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# Referee 1 - Contact details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Full name:***(including title)* |  |
| **Institution:** |  |
| **Department:** |  |
|  |  |
| **Email:** |  |

# Referee 2 - Contact details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Full name:***(including title)* |  |
| **Institution:** |  |
| **Department:** |  |
|  |  |
| **Email:** |  |

**Please attach:**

* **your Curriculum Vitae** (maximum three A4 pages)
* **your academic transcripts**

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| Please note the following documentation requirements:• You must provide the full official transcript(s) on official university letterhead, indicating all subjects and results in all years of study for each qualification completed or attempted. • If you have completed a degree but your transcript does not state this, you must provide a copy of the award certificate or an original or copy of a letter from your institution on university letterhead confirming you have completed all the requirements of the degree program and are eligible to graduate or have graduated.• If your transcripts do not contain actual numeric marks (e.g. 82%) or Grade Point Averages (e.g. 3.4) you should provide a separate official explanation of the relevant university’s grading system, or official advice from the awarding institution detailing the numeric marks you achieved for your tertiary studies.• Applicants with a Masters qualification that is graded as Pass/Fail only should provide examiners’ reports (a report containing examiners’ feedback/ detailed information about your thesis) if they are available.• All applicants with a Masters qualification should provide an extract from the relevant university handbook (or website) that clearly states (i) the normal duration of the Masters course (e.g. two years full-time) and (ii) the structure of the course (e.g. minimum of 24 points, of which 18 points are a research project). You must provide information about the amount of research required for the qualification.• If you are currently enrolled in a tertiary course, please provide a transcript that shows your results to date and provide final transcripts as soon as they become available.• If you have received credit toward your degree at the third-year level or higher, please include the transcript/s for the studies for which you have received credit.• Documents in languages other than English must be accompanied by an English translation by an accredited translator.• If your current name is not the same as the name on your transcripts please provide a copy of evidence of change of name. |

***Privacy***

1. The information on this form is being collected by the School of Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences. You can contact us at shs-research@unimelb.edu.au
2. The information is being collected in order to consider your expression of interest for the MSHS PhD Award.
3. You can access any personal information the University holds about you. See <http://unimelb.edu.au/governance/compliance/privacy>
4. The information will be used by authorised staff for the purpose for which it was collected and will be protected against unauthorised access and use.
5. Information may also be passed on to other organisations if permitted or required by law.
6. The University has a detailed Privacy Policy: <http://policy.unimelb.edu.au/MPF1104>.