**2019 SHRS UQ Winter Research Project Description**

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| **Project title:** | **How can an early clinical visit to an aged care setting prepare speech pathology students for future interactions with older clients?** |
| **Project duration:** | * 4 weeks * 21 hours/week |
| **Position/s available** | 1 |
| **Description:** | This research will investigate how brief, early clinical visits to aged care settings can prepare and influence students’ self-perceived attitudes towards ageing and aged care, and their confidence in communicating with older persons.  Specifically, the project will aim to determine whether early exposure to the aged care environment, supported by formal reflective tasks can influence students’ attitudes towards ageing and confidence in communicating with older people. Findings from this project will be used to advance current clinical education models for speech pathology students in their early years of training, specifically, identifying mechanisms to effectively support students entering the professional environment for the first time, in order to enhance a ‘positive’ learning experience. Importantly, the findings may reveal new educational strategies which can help to nurture speech pathology graduates with greater competency in interacting with ageing populations. |
| **Expected outcomes and deliverables:** | The research scholar will have the opportunity to participate in a literature review, mixed methods data analysis and the write up of a journal article which will be submitted for publication. |
| **Suitable for:** | This project is open to Bachelor of Speech Pathology (Hons) or Master of Speech Pathology Studies. |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Dr Sarah Wallace  [*s.wallace3@uq.edu.au*](mailto:s.wallace3@uq.edu.au) |
| **Further info:** | Apply via [UQ Advantange](http://www.uq.edu.au/uqadvantage/wr-info-for-applicants). |