

ABOUT cADRE

cADRE – the Community of Associate Deans (Research) in Education – is a network of the Australian Council of Deans of Education (ACDE), dedicated to guiding and facilitating collaborative research on shared issues and promoting a culture of research cooperation in Australian education.

OUR PURPOSE

Established in 2013 by the ACDE, cADRE works to:

- **Advise the ACDE on Education Research Policy:** Providing recommendations on matters critical to educational research excellence.
- **Support Research Excellence:** Advising on processes and leading projects to help the ACDE advance educational research in Australia.
- **Foster Collaboration:** Extending links between researchers, policymakers, and the wider community to support, promote and advance educational research.
- **Facilitate Collegial Discussion:** Offering a supportive forum for conversations about important issues in educational research, including the role of Associate Deans (Research) in Education.

WHO WE ARE

cADRE is led by a steering committee with one representative from each state and territory. The steering committee meets online six times per year to advance the work of the Network, on behalf of the ACDE.

The cADRE Network is comprised of Associate Deans (Research) in Education (or those in equivalent research leadership roles in Education) from each of the institutional members of the ACDE, across each state and territory in Australia. The Associate Deans (Research) are members of state and territory network groups, who meet to discuss issues related to education research, disseminate information provided by the cADRE steering committee and the ACDE, and engage in activities in their respective jurisdictions.

RECENT & CURRENT PROJECTS

cADRE National Report on the State of Education Research: Launched in March 2025 by the ACDE, this report presents a comprehensive national analysis of the current landscape of education research in Australia. The key aims of the report are to provide an update on the status of education research and funding in Australia and how this has evolved over time; and to offer a forward-looking commentary on the prospects for education research in Australia. **Access the report here.**

Enhancing ARC Success: cADRE is currently leading a 2-year, ACDE-funded project that is building education researchers' capacity in assessing ARC grant applications, and supporting researchers to nominate for the ARC College of Experts. The series of workshop recordings is now available on the cADRE website, while planning is underway for a pre-conference workshop at the AARE annual conference in Brisbane, 2026.

Webinars and policy forums: cADRE continues to offer online webinars and forums that address important issues in educational research, including mid-career researcher support, post-election educational research priorities, and collaboration with external partners.



Education Roundtable – Approvals to Conduct School-based Research: In February, 2026, cADRE facilitated a virtual roundtable with key stakeholders regarding education research governance in Australia to develop a shared understanding of key issues and constraints, and discuss how Schools of Education and Departments can work in partnership to effectively manage research approvals processes. A draft white paper has been developed and will be finalised in late 2026.

MEET THE STEERING COMMITTEE – Click to email

Chair: Associate Professor Louisa Tomas Engel, James Cook University
Deputy Chair: Professor Karen Dooley, Queensland University of Technology

State and Territory Network Representatives:

ACT	Professor Deborah Pino-Pasternak, University of Canberra
NSW	Professor Lina Markauskaite, University of Sydney
NT	Associate Professor Jon Mason, Charles Darwin University
QLD	Associate Professor Linda Pfeiffer, CQUniversity
SA	Professor Shane Pill, Flinders University
TAS	Associate Professor Abbey MacDonald, University of Tasmania
VIC	Professor Linda Hobbs, Deakin University
WA	Associate Professor Melanie Brooks, Edith Cowan University

STAY CONNECTED

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