**2019-2020 Psychology UQ Summer Research Project Description**

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| **Project title:** | **Using citizen science to create supportive, safe and inclusive transport alternatives for older people** |
| **Project duration:** | * 7 weeks
* 32 hours/week
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| **Position/s available** | 1 |
| **Description:** | Australia like most developed countries has an ageing population. In order to maintain health into older age, it is important for people to be active, maintain their connections to the neighbourhoods and have social interactions. However, these factors can be impacted by lifestyle changes such as stopping driving. The aims of the project are to investigate ways to keep older people active and engaged in their communities, to promote safe mobility, to explore attractive and safe alternatives to the car. This project will use the Our Voice Citizen Science Framework to ask new and existing public transport users to discover things that help or hinder them to use public transport, using a mobile application on a tablet that allows them to record geo-stamped images and audio. They will then come together to discuss the positive attributes of public transport and also to brainstorm solutions to the negative features they identified. These solutions will be presented to decision makers within relevant bodies, e.g. Brisbane City Council (for buses) or Queensland Rail (for trains). This project will result in older adults, who are often an overlooked group of the community, having a voice to improve public transport for their peers. This will be a quasi-experimental pre-post study. |
| **Expected outcomes and deliverables:** | The student will gain skills in data collection using mobile technology, they will gain insights into facilitating focus groups and analyzing qualitative and quantitative data. The student will be an author on any publications resulting from this project. |
| **Suitable for:** | A student enrolled in a health professional/clinical focused degree such as medicine, psychology, physiotherapy etc. or health sciences. Experience in working with older people would be an advantage. |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Dr Theresa Scott (Psychology)Other project staff: Dr Paul Gardiner (Medicine)Dr Yvonne Hornby-Turner (Psychology) |
| **Further info:** | Please contact supervisor Dr Theresa Scott theresa.scott@uq.edu.au for further details prior to submission of an application.  |