

## EMCR Forum virtual catch-up

### WHAT CAN THE FORUM DO FOR YOU IN A COVID-19 WORLD?

Hosted on Thursday 28 May 2020



Facilitated by Dr Adrian Murdock, member of the EMCR Forum Executive and Research Scientist at CSIRO

This virtual catch-up was an opportunity for like-minded EMCRs to share insights on what it is like to work in a COVID-19 world. The attendees at this session shared a list of opportunities that could be facilitated to support their careers and provided suggestions to help the Forum amplify their voices during the pandemic.

#### Concerns shared by attendees:

- Lack of funding and job security greatly affect EMCRs' future in research.
- PhD students are losing funding, this makes international students highly vulnerable.
- Hiring freezes are restricting opportunities for PhD students to start postdocs. This affects the career pipeline of future STEM researchers.

#### Can the EMCR Forum help?

- Participants shared the benefits of attending online webinars and networking opportunities in topics relevant for their careers. The EMCR Forum will continue to provide relevant online opportunities for EMCRs.
- There is greater awareness of the activities of EMCR groups and their advocacy activities. The EMCR Forum will continue to champion the need for support for EMCRs with employers, funding bodies and government.
- A report on the survey of the impacts of COVID-19 for EMCRs will be published in the coming weeks and shared with relevant stakeholders.