

CONNECT ENGAGE SUPPORT

Annual Report 2019/20

Raid Network is a program of the **Crawford Fund** and is supported with funding from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (**ACIAR**).



Executive summary

The RAID Network is an active group of early to mid-career researchers (EMCRs) with an interest in agriculture and international development. Over the 2019/20 period, we have continued to share knowledge and opportunities, build research capacity, and communicate the value of agricultural research.

RAID continues to curate new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships alongside the Crawford Fund to engage, connect and support the international agricultural community. The key achievements for 2019/20 are highlighted below.

Strategy and management

- RAID advocated for EMCRs passionate about agricultural research for development (AgR4D), including providing a submission to Australia's New International Development Policy and continuing to discuss with Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) the importance of, and opportunities to support EMCRs in its projects, in particular in a post-COVID environment.
- To determine how it is tracking against its five-year strategic plan (2017-22), RAID developed an internship project to understand some of the outcomes and impacts being realised. Wei Te (Wade) Lu, a Master's of Global Food and Agricultural Business student at the University of Adelaide, is helping RAID undertake this evaluation as part of his master's research project.
- Jack Hetherington finished his time as President in December 2020, with Rebecca Cotton succeeding the role.

Partnerships

- ACIAR continues to be RAID's major supporter, contributing \$50,000 to RAID's core budget in 2019/20. RAID has continued to work closely with ACIAR to maintain a strong relationship with shared goals.
- In 2019/20, RAID formed an exciting new partnership with the Australian Volunteers Program to initiate, plan and develop short-term volunteer assignments in Vietnam with the Vietnam National University of Agriculture (VNUA).
- As part of this initiative, ACIAR approved a Launch Funding proposal RAID submitted (\$29,770 GST exclusive for funding in FY 2019/20) for workshops that will occur when the volunteer assignment takes place in Vietnam.
- The State and Territory Committees of the Fund have been a key partner for local events, including stand-alone networking events and training workshops. For example, Crawford Victoria supported a digital data workshop held at VNUA in October 2019. This included 31 participants, 23 were associated with an ACIAR funded project and countries represented were Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Fiji, Samoa and Australia.

Events and representatives

- RAID hosted 14 networking events, engaging over 556 people, supported by RAID's team of 34 representatives across Australia.
- RAID and its reps were able to quickly adapt to social distancing with new events being held via Zoom, with three webinars being hosted.

Capacity building

- RAID successfully wrapped up the delivery of the series of *'Agricultural Research Leadership and Management'*, with two more workshops held in Darwin (September 2019) and Perth (March 2020). In total, 32 early to mid-career researchers participated in these two workshops and in both cases the local Crawford Fund State Committee provided financial support.

Communications

- RAID finalised the upgrades to its online presence. The two-stage web redesign project saw a revamp and streamlining with the Crawford Fund website, which was launched in August 2019.

Additional features added to the members' platform functionality were finalised and launched in May 2020. These features included a searchable database of members and discussion forum to engage with other members. Additionally, an events management system and e-shop were built into the new system.

- RAID published twelve blogs in the past year, which is supported by the annual blog competition. The winners for the 2019 competition were announced in May 2020. The 2020 competition was held as an intensive month-long campaign, with blogs published over the course of the coming months.
- RAID has increased its following across all platforms, including by 38% on Twitter and 26% on RAID's Facebook Group.

About RAID

Researchers in Agriculture for International Development (RAID) is an Australia-based network, bringing together early to mid-career researchers with an interest in agriculture and international development.

RAID was founded by a group of motivated Australian researchers who saw an opportunity to establish a network through which they could better **CONNECT** with their peers and share knowledge, experiences and opportunities working internationally. The group also believed that by raising awareness about career pathways into international agricultural research, more Australians would **ENGAGE** in agriculture. Finally, the group wanted to **SUPPORT** the career development of early to mid-career researchers.

RAID is a program of the Crawford Fund Ltd and was established in December 2013 with the support of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).

Mission

To connect, engage and support early to mid-career researchers with an interest in agriculture and international development.

Vision

RAID is an active network of early to mid-career researchers with an interest in agriculture and international development, through which knowledge and opportunities are shared, research capacity is built, and the value of agricultural research is communicated.

Objectives

1. Connect researchers involved in international agricultural research for development by facilitating networking and knowledge sharing.
2. Engage more people in agriculture by raising public awareness about career pathways into, and the importance of international agricultural research for development.
3. Support career development of early to mid-career researchers through targeted capacity building initiatives.



Figure 1. Participants of the digital data workshop at VNUA; Trang (Hanoi Uni of Public Health) working with Priscilla (UNE, Armidale) on mapping out the research process with input from Nhung (VNUA), Hoa (Nat. Inst. Animal Sci) and Shayal (UniMelb).

Strategy and management

The RAID Network is managed by a central committee with a team of regionally based representatives. The central committee oversees the implementation of RAID's strategic plan and manages day-to-day business. RAID regional representatives report to the Events Directors and are responsible for organising regional events and raising awareness at a local level. The RAID central committee and network of representatives operate on a voluntary basis, supported by the part-time Administrative Officer, Sue Faulkner, based in Crawford Fund Canberra office.

In February 2020, the Crawford Fund and the RAID Network submitted complimentary contributions to the DFAT New International Development Policy process, emphasising the importance of international agricultural R&D and ACIAR's significant role in this area. RAID's submission emphasised the importance for strategic and long-term support for Australian agricultural research capability. Following this, a dialogue has started with the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) has evolved regarding the importance of, and opportunities to support early and mid-career researchers in ACIAR projects, in particular in a post-COVID environment.

In 2017, RAID launched a five-year Strategic Plan (2017-22) to guide the network as it continued to grow. To help inform the committee and its stakeholders how it is tracking against the outcomes and impacts in the strategic plan, RAID developed an internship project in partnership with the Centre for Global Food and Resources (CGFAR) at the University of Adelaide. Wei Te (Wade) Lu, a Master's of Global Food and Agricultural Business student at the University of Adelaide, is helping RAID undertake this evaluation as part of his master's research project.

In recognition of the considerable effort of committee members, Rebecca Cotton was awarded for the RAID Committee Member of the Year during the annual planning meeting in August 2019. Bec played a crucial role in supporting the delivery of the Leadership and Management workshops series. Additionally, the committee also recognised the substantial efforts of Candice Skelton, who led the website redesign project. Candice and the RAID Rep of the Year, Maddison Clonan, were sponsored by the Crawford Fund to attend the week-long '*Research Leadership and Management*' during November 2019 in Penang, Malaysia.

To streamline the committee's communications and management, RAID adopted an innovative platform called 'Slack'.

Central committee

Executive

President: Jack Hetherington July - December 2019. Rebecca Cotton January 2020 - present
raid.president@crowfordfund.org

Vice President: Madaline Healey (Jack Hetherington currently acting)

Secretary: Sarah Hain: raid.secretary@crowfordfund.org

Treasurer: Tamaya Peressini: raid.treasurer@crowfordfund.org

Core portfolios

Communications: raid.comms@crowfordfund.org

- Thomas Williams
- Candice Skelton
- Harry Campbell-Ross
- Ebony Ackland

Events: raid.events@crowfordfund.org

- Bianca Das
- Shanice Van Haefen
- Maddison Clonan

Capacity Building: raid.capacity@crowfordfund.org

- Rohan Yargop
- Megan Williams (previously Rebecca Cotton)
- Mia Dunphy
- George Chapman

Partnerships: raid.partnerships@crowfordfund.org

- Jenny Hanks
- Mia Dunphy

Administrative officer: Sue Faulkner: raid.network@crowfordfund.org

Partnerships

In 2019/20, RAID has strengthened its existing key partnerships, as well as developing new and innovative partnerships. RAID has continued to build relationships with key agricultural research agencies, funding bodies, volunteer organisations, and other networks and research enterprises.

Volunteering initiative

This year in particular RAID has strengthened our partnership with the Australian Volunteers Program to plan and develop a series of short-term assignments in Vietnam with VNUA. This partnership involves: the Australian Volunteers Program, VNUA, the Crawford Fund and ACIAR. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the assignment has been postponed, however all partners remain enthusiastic about going ahead as soon as possible.

The proposal was developed to send four Australian volunteers concurrently to VNUA for one month to undertake and facilitate a workshop, conference and mentoring with post-graduate students from VNUA. In addition, a fifth volunteer will complete a two-three month assignment, arriving at VNUA to co-ordinate and lead the other volunteers and strengthen partnerships and capacity development initiatives. This is being supported further by ACIAR, which approved a Launch Funding proposal for \$29,770 (GST exclusive) for funding in FY 2019/20. This will cover costs workshops that will occur when the volunteer assignment

takes place in Vietnam. This will involve participation by EMCRs working on ACIAR-funded projects within the region, as well as VNUA post-graduates and Australian volunteers.

On 31 July 2020, RAID is hosting a webinar with five panel members from these partner organisations to discuss this opportunity. This webinar is titled '*Volunteering in international R4D: during COVID & beyond*' and will be reaching out to both Vietnamese and Australian EMCRs to express their interest for the assignments.

Crawford Fund

Parliamentary conference

The 2019 Annual Conference, held on the 12th and 13th of August at Parliament House in Canberra was another successful event. The theme of this year's conference was 'Weathering the 'Perfect Storm': Addressing the Agriculture, Energy, Water, Climate Change Nexus.' Madaline Healy and Rebecca Cotton, as part of the RAID committee acted as keynote listeners for the event and produced the [listeners report](#).

RAID once again supported the event with the successful delivery of the conference scholar program (12th 14th of August) to 51 scholars, as well as a networking event at the Kingston hotel. More information on the Scholars program and annual conference can be found at the [Crawford Fund website](#).

Previously, RAID was heavily involved with the Crawford Fund Parliamentary Conference through the development and delivery of the Young Scholars days, and as Keynote Listeners delivering the Crawford Fund Parliamentary Report. This is one of the key activities delivered by RAID as a program of the Crawford Fund and is a key example of the ongoing partnership between Crawford Fund and RAID. It has long been a key calendar event of the Crawford Fund and increasingly RAID has had greater input. However, due to the current environment of COVID-19, the 2019/20 conference has been cancelled. We hope that the 2020/21 conference will allow our involvement once again.

Nex-Gen initiative

RAID has also partnered alongside ACIAR and the Crawford Fund with the Next-Gen initiative driven by the Crawford Fund. This has mainly been through drawing upon the network to speak at next gen events, writing blogs, participating in promotional videos and a presence at the University of Queensland Market Day.

State/Territory Committees

RAID representatives continue their involvement with Crawford State/Territory Committees. RAID committee members are also part of the Crawford State/Territory Committees in Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, New South Wales and ACT which strengthens our connections at a state level providing opportunities for co-branding and funding of events. RAID values the ongoing support provided by the Crawford Fund and we will continue to work closely together in pursuit of our shared goals.

ACIAR

ACIAR continues to provide the majority of RAID's funding and will again for the coming financial year. We have continued to work closely with ACIAR to maintain a strong relationship with shared goals. As a tangible measure of this, ACIAR graduate officers have continued to hold positions on our committee with new graduates starting at ACIAR eager to be involved in RAID. Additionally, the close proximity of the ACIAR Outreach team has assisted with communicating the important stories of RAIDers in the field.

Other partnerships

We have partnered with numerous organisations in organising networking events across Australia. These have included:

- State and Territory Crawford Fund Committees
- The Australian Volunteers Program (as a program of Australian Volunteers International (AVI))
- Vietnam National University of Agriculture (VNUA)
- Australian Association of Animal Production (AAAS)

- Australasian Plant Pathological Society (APPS) (Event support)
- Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES)
- Pacific Biosecurity Partnerships
- The Agriculture Institute of Australia, Western Australia branch.
- Charles Sturt University, Graham Centre for Agricultural Innovation
- The University of Queensland / Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, QAAFI (Event and Funding Support)
- The University of the Sunshine Coast (Event and funding support)
- The University of Adelaide (Event support)
- The University of Tasmania (Event support)
- The University of Western Australia (Events support)
- The University of Sydney (Event support)

Events and representatives

Networking events

RAID networking events provide EMCRs with an opportunity to connect with their peers, as well as interact with more experienced researchers in an informal setting. During these events, knowledge and information is shared and career pathways in international agricultural research are discussed.

During the 2019-20 financial year, RAID has hosted 14 networking events, engaging over 559 people, which is an increase in engagement compared to the previous twelve-month period (469 event participants). See table one for a summary of RAID's events in 2019/20.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, two events were disrupted (1. Hobart in March, 2. Gatton in March). However, RAID has adapted to the lockdown restrictions by hosting multiple online webinar events. These events opened the opportunity to bring together researchers from all career stages and from across the world. The Reps have shown incredible resilience and willingness to upskill in running virtual events.

Table 1. Summary of RAID networking events in 2019/20

Date	Title	Location	Participants
11 July 2019	RAID SA Networking Event and Pizza Night	Adelaide, SA	25
12 August 2019	RAID Trivia Networking Event	Canberra, ACT	75
21 August 2019	ECRs Presentation Competition	Perth, WA	30
21 August 2019	Pathways to Opportunity	Tasmania, TAS	32
11 September 2019	Communication in Agriculture	Northern Territory, NT	40
10 November 2019	RAID TropAg Trivia Night	Brisbane, QLD	45
26 November 2019	RAID Networking Lunch	Melbourne, VIC	110
28 November 2019	End-of-Year Trivia Event	Adelaide, SA	12
10-14 February	AARES ECRs Event and Conference Presence	Perth, WA	50
3 March 2020	Trivia and Networking Event	Perth, WA	30
15 May 2020	May #RAIDsocialhour	Brisbane, Online via Zoom	8
27 May 2020	Doing International Research in Lockdown Webinar	Brisbane, Online via Zoom	60 (Over 747 views on Facebook)
4 June 2020	Women in Agriculture and Climate Change Webinar	Broken Hill, Online via Zoom	30 (over 753 views on Facebook)
19 June	June #RAIDsocialhour	Melbourne, Online	9
		TOTAL	556 (2,056 including Facebook views)

A summary of each networking event can be found in the Appendix (Attachment 1).

RAID representatives

To reach its growing member-base, RAID relies heavily on its network of representatives (reps) to host events in their local areas. Reps, as with the central committee, contribute their time voluntarily, yet they are essential for ensuring RAID can reach its members.

Currently RAID has 34 reps and in the past twelve months, the network has gone through a number of transitions, with the departure of five long-term reps and the addition of ten new reps to help expand our reach. Table 2 (below) outlines the current list of RAID Representatives.

The RAID Events team have begun hosting weekly ‘virtual chin wag’ meetings with the reps to discuss event ideas in light of the COVID-19 challenges and how RAID can provide support. Reps are also being encouraged to provide career aspirations and interests that RAID can help to develop their career.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions and the subsequent disruptions, the Events team and reps have responded proactively, coming up with new online event ideas including webinars, photo and video competitions and zoom networking events. RAID reps Lizzie Worrall and Anika Molesworth took the initiative to host RAID’s first two webinars, which both had approximately 750 views on Facebook. The respective webinars were titled ‘*Doing International Research in Lockdown Webinar*’ and ‘*Women in Agriculture and Climate Change Webinar*’.

To further encourage friendships, mentoring, support and networking with the RAID reps and central committee, the Events team has launched a monthly #RAIDsocialhour online event. These events involve reps from each region taking a turn every month to host an evening of online games, quizzes and discussions. This also doubles as a chance to build confidence and practice hosting online events using the new RAID Zoom platform.

In August 2019, Madison Clonan (Darwin rep) was recognised as the RAID Representative of the Year Award. The award for 2020 will be finalised in the coming months.

Table 2. Current RAID Representatives by state and city.

State	Hub	RAID Representative	
QLD	Brisbane	Shanice Van Haefen – Queensland University of Technology	
		Elizabeth (Lizzie) Worrall - University of Queensland, QAAFI	
		Bianca Das - CSIRO and the University of Queensland	
		Tarni Cooper – University of Queensland	
	Gatton	Millicent Smith - University of Queensland	
	Toowoomba	Megan Williams - Syngenta	
NSW	Townsville	John Otto – James Cook University	
	Sydney	Lucinda Dunn – University of Sydney	
		Franny Earp - University of Sydney	
	Wagga Wagga	Thomas Williams – Charles Sturt University	
		Emma Hand – Charles Sturt University	
Griffith	Matt Champness - Deakin University		
ACT	Broken Hill	Anika Molesworth – Deakin University	
		Canberra	Dave Gale – Plant Health Australia
		Emily Lamberton - Plant Health Australia	
		Jenny Hanks - University of Melbourne	
		Ebony Ackland - ACIAR	
VIC	Melbourne	George Chapman - ACIAR	
		Sophia Callahan – University of Melbourne	
		Tim Luke – La Trobe University	
		Bethany Donker - University of Melbourne	
		Mia Dunphy - University of Melbourne	
TAS	Hobart	Beth Penrose – University of Tasmania	
		Elya Richardson – University of Tasmania	
		Lucy Cooper - University of Tasmania	
		Anna Mackintosh - University of Tasmania	
SA	Adelaide	Emma de Courcy-Ireland – Flinders University	

WA	Perth	Rohan Yargop – University of Adelaide
		Alicea Garcia – University of Western Australia
		Ana Manero – University of Western Australia
		Rodrigo Pires – University of Western Australia
		Daniel Waterhouse - University of Western Australia
NT	Darwin	Maddison Clonan – NT DPI
		Samantha Nowland - NT DPI

Capacity building

Enhancing the skills of agricultural researchers and professionals in the agricultural development sector is an important priority for RAID. One key area is the development of research leadership and management skills.

The RAID committee and Crawford Fund collaboratively delivered the final two *'Agricultural Research Leadership and Management'* workshops for Australia-based researchers in FY 2019/20, to develop an introductory understanding of management and leadership of agriculture research.

This series of workshops were continuously built upon from the original workshop held in Brisbane (June 2018) and were conducted as part of RAID's initiative to build the capacity of motivated early to mid-career researchers. In each case, RAID has coordinated with the local State Committee of the Crawford Fund who have kindly sponsored the workshop. Based on feedback received in previous workshops, RAID Central Committee members played a critical leadership role in delivery of the workshop which included facilitating Group Discovery Learning sessions. These sessions supplemented the core components delivered by Crawford Fund experts and enhanced the value of the workshops

Additionally, RAID hosted an intern based at the CSIRO, Irene Parisi, who synthesised and assessed the feedback from all of RAID's capacity building workshops (commencing in 2015). As a token of thanks, RAID sponsored Irene's travel and provided complementary registration to the Darwin workshop in September 2019.

Darwin workshop

- The Darwin workshop titled 'Agricultural Research Leadership and Management' was held from 9 to 10 September 2019. The workshop was held at the Waterfront room at the Charles Darwin University.
- 17 participants from institutions including the Charles Darwin University, NT Government agencies, Australian Mango Industry Association, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australian Academy of Sciences attended the workshop.
- RAID central committee members Rebecca Cotton, Madaline Healey and David McGill co-facilitated the workshop along with Shaun Coffey and Lynne O'Brien.
- The Northern Territory Crawford Fund Committee provided financial support.
- This workshop was held in conjunction with the 2019 APEN conference.



Figure 2. Participants at the Darwin workshop (September 2019).

Perth workshop

- RAID's final 'Agricultural Research Leadership and Management' workshop was held in Perth from 3 to 5 March 2020.
- 15 participants from institutions including the University of Western Australia, Murdoch University, Curtin University, Edith Cowan University and ACIAR were in attendance.
- Ag Institute of Australia, WA branch and Crawford Fund WA State Committee provided financial support for the workshop.
- The Perth workshop was successfully facilitated by RAID Central Committee members Rebecca Cotton and Tamaya Perissini. Dr Peter Horne, General Manager, Country Programs, ACIAR was invited to present as a guest lecturer which elevated the value of the workshop.
- The workshop received positive feedback, in particular, the involvement of RAID Central Committee members as facilitators, which received positive feedback from the participants.



Participants at the Perth Workshop (March 2020).

Webinars

On 25 June 2020, the Capacity Building team hosted a webinar workshop titled 'Selling Science: How to Communicate your Research'. For this workshop we had three panel members who are experts in the field of science communication. These include: Dr Jen Martin from the University of Melbourne, Elizabeth Brennan from ACIAR, and Dr Jenni Metcalfe from Econnect Communication. The webinar had over 100 people watching live on Zoom and Facebook, and since then has been viewed over 900 times. During the webinar a poll was launched to gauge the states/location and career stage of the audience. The highest proportion of responses were from New South Wales and career stages were 'professional', followed by 'PhD' as second.

Additionally, as previously mentioned, two webinars were hosted by RAID reps, titled '*Doing International Research in Lockdown Webinar*' and '*Women in Agriculture and Climate Change Webinar*'. Information about these can be found in the Appendix.

Planned activities for 2020-21

RAID will continue to offer Capacity Building offerings to its membership base and EMCRs in the AgR4D space. Due to the impact of COVID-19 on restrictions on face-to-face offerings, RAID will transition a significant component of the capacity building initiatives to online mode, while planning face-to-face offerings as and when restrictions on travel and large gatherings ease. We are working within the restrictions to develop numerous webinars to develop capacity building workshops. The RAID team are currently working on delivering more webinar workshops for our members and non-members and hope to have five more in the next year.



Host Mia Dunphy with panel members Dr. Jenni Matcalfe, Dr. Jen Martin and Elizabeth Brennan at the webinar event (June 2020).

Communications

Website project

Finalisation of the initial scope and extra membership forum platform was completed during the 2019/20 financial year. The number of registered users of the RAID website was reset with the development of the new website so that the number of active users could be captured and users with multiple accounts struck from the system. As at September 2020, the number of users registered through the new website stands at 189. The members database under the previous website has been archived and members continue to be contacted for official communications.

Membership

RAID's primary modus operandi is via its website and social media platforms. RAID's website (<https://raidnetwork.crawfordfund.org/>) is the central location of all stories, jobs, opportunities and events. These are then pushed through the various communication channels, primarily Facebook and Twitter however, RAID also publishes material to Instagram and YouTube.

RAID has increased its following across all platforms, including by 487 new followers on Twitter, a 36% increase and 328 new members on RAID's Facebook Group, a 26% increase. See Table 3 for membership and followers across all of RAID's online platforms. Formal membership on RAID's website was reset with the development of the new website. This was pursued as it afforded the communications team an opportunity to measure the number of active RAID members and rid the membership list of double/triple account holders.

Table 3. Number of people engaged with RAID across platforms

Platform	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Increase from the previous 12 months
RAID website	214	384	561	827	1080	189*	N/A
Facebook group	282	386	519	686	921	1249	26%
Facebook page	NA	726	868	1036	1180	1578	14%
Twitter	141	310	619	947	1363	1850	38%
Instagram	NA	NA	95	113	143	177	19%

**Reflects memberships under the new website. An annual renewal process will help keep updated information about active memberships.*

Blogs

In 2019-20, RAID published twelve blogs, announced the winners of the 2019 blog competition and held the 2020 blog competition.

The winners of the 2019 blog competition winners were announced in May 2020 and were:

1st prize: Lucinda Dunn - ["Is Cambodia's agricultural land wasting away?"](#)

2nd prize: Jay Anderson - ["UXOs are UCPs"](#)

3rd prize: Jimmy Bidstrup - ["Cooperatives, characters and culture"](#)

The 2020 blog competition was held as a month-long campaign, which will be published in the second half of 2020. A shortlist of blogs was selected by the RAID communication committee members and finalists were sent to RAID's regular invited blog judge, Oiko's Storyteller Director, and former RAID blog winner, Caspar Roxburgh. The winners will be chosen based on their readability, engagement with the RAID community, and the novelty of the topic. The winners will be announced once Caspar's analysis of these blogs come back.

Newsletters and Email alerts to RAID Network Members

We kept our members updated on news and events by way of Mailchimp email alerts and newsletters. Here is a list of Mailchimp correspondence:

- [RAID Network Agricultural Research Leadership and Management Workshop - 9-10 September 2019, Darwin](#)
- [Canberra RAID Networking Event - Tuesday 13 August 2019](#)
- [RAID Network News - March 2020](#)
- [RAID Network 2020 Blog Competition](#)
- [RAID 2019 Blog Competition Winners Announced!](#)
- [Welcome to The Member's Lounge...](#)
- [Two Online Events Presented by RAID Network](#)
- [RAID Network Zoom Online Event - Selling Science, June 2020](#)

RAID news and events were also featured in the Crawford Fund's quarterly newsletter that is sent out to Crawford Fund subscribers.

Financial summary

RAID's revenue and expenditure is outlined in Table 4.

The primary source of RAID's budget for 2019/20 was funding from ACIAR. Additional revenue came from: capacity workshop delegate registration in Darwin and Perth, sponsorship of networking events in Perth and Darwin through the WA and NT Crawford state committees respectively and the Ag Institute of WA.

In response to COVID-19, RAID strategically invested in a 12 month Zoom account with webinar hosting ability to enable networking and capacity events to occur in the 'online space' and thus enable RAID to continue to connect, engage and support EMCRs.

Operationally this year, RAID acquired a credit card which will be managed by the RAID Administrative Officer. This will give more flexibility in deposit and invoice payments. Relevant policies and procedures have been updated to manage the spend of RAID funds by credit card.

Total expenditure for the fiscal year was \$57,093.27. The remaining balance was \$15,590.97, which will go towards salary and costs for part-time administrative support in 2019/20.

Table 4. Financial summary for 2019/20.

	Amount (AUD)
REVENUE	
Reserves Brought forward	\$14,143.70
C/O-Interest Recd +Dividends	\$260.60
Fed Government Distribution	\$50,000.00
Workshop revenue	\$8,279.94
Total Revenue	\$ 72, 684.24
EXPENDITURE	
Capacity Building	(\$19,998.57)
Communications	(\$12,061.66)
Events	(\$10,061.75)
Committee operational costs	(\$14,971.29)
Total Expenditure	(\$57,093.27)
Net profit (loss)	\$15,590.97

Appendix

Attachment 1 - Event details

1. Adelaide, 11 July 2019 - “RAID SA Networking Event and Pizza Night!”

RAID Adelaide reps Emma de Coursey-Ireland and Rohan Yargop hosted a speed networking event bringing together researchers from all walks of life to talk about their work and interest in the international ag scene. Jack Hetherington, President of RAID shed light on what RAID is and how to get involved and John Radcliffe, Crawford Fund SA Chair, shared insights on the work Crawford Fund does in helping early career researchers in agriculture. The participants also met and interacted with two of this year’s Crawford Fund conference scholars from SA, Anh Duc Nguyen and Tara Gerrard on what they hope to get out of the conference next month. 25 people attended.

2. Canberra, 12 August 2019 - “RAID Trivia Networking Event”

RAID held its annual networking event for the Crawford Fund scholars aligned with the Crawford Fund Annual Parliamentary Conference. The event included a wide range of activities which allowed those in attendance to build connections and knowledge by engaging widely. Between 70 and 75 people attended the event, with the majority being Crawford Fund Conference Scholars as well as some ACT RAIDers and a few that had not attended the conference. The scholars were very receptive of the chance to mingle amongst themselves and build connections with RAID members.



3. Perth, 21 August 2019 - “ECRs presentation competition”

The event consisted of a competition for HDRS and ECRs where participants presented their research in a three-minute, one-slide format. The competition was hosted by the Ag Institute of Australia, following their *Ag Futures 2035 conference - What is the future of Western Australia Agriculture?* The competition was followed by networking over nibbles, kindly sponsored by the Ag Institute of Australia. Research snapshot - 3 min Pitch. There were six participants from UWA and Curtin University, who covered a range of disciplines, from economics to genetics. The level of experience ranged from M.Sc. students to scholars in the final stages of their PhDs. The audience included around 30 people, who were attending the Ag Future 2035 conference. Most attendees were senior agricultural experts and academics.



4. Hobart, 21 August 2019 - “Pathways to Opportunity”

The TAS Rep team hosted a “Pathways to Opportunity” networking night. This event had three guest speakers who discussed their career pathways (Dick Warner - Chair of the Crawford Committee, Stephen Ives - ACIAR project leader and Elya Richardson - who is working on an ACIAR project for her PhD) and had the opportunity to engage with the students throughout the evening. There were 32 participants that attended the event, with most being agriculture and microbiology students (undergraduates, masters, and PhD students).



5. Darwin, 11 September 2019 “RAID Networking Event”

RAID held a panel discussion and networking event in conjunction with the 2019 Australasia Pacific Extension Network (APEN) Conference. This event enabled our NT RAID members to engage with the APEN conference delegates, as well as facilitated an interesting panel discussion on “Communication in Agriculture”. The panel guests included Prof Andrew Campbell (CEO, ACIAR), Wendy Pritchard (Director, Strategic Engagement and Communication, NT Department of Trade, Business and Innovation), Matt Brann (NT Country Hour, ABC Rural), Sally Leigo (NT Project Manager, CRC for Developing Northern Australia) and Clinton Muller (Senior Consultant, RMCG).

6. Brisbane, 10 November 2019 - “RAID TropAg Trivia Night”

RAID held a trivia night in conjunction with the 2019 TropAg conference. This was a fun filled event with door prizes, a twitter photo competition and a mixture of 45 senior, mid and early career researchers attending. Expertise and experience were spread out among 8 teams. This event was the first RAID event that has charged a door fee of \$5 which did not appear to reduce numbers or satisfaction of attendees. Trivia questions included topics on movies, songs, science animals and plants in international agriculture. The winning team was unofficially crowned “Professors of Ag Trivia.” Prizes included Prof Ian Godwin’s recent book and local ruby chocolate. Dr Elizabeth Worrall was the lead organiser, supported by the Brisbane/Toowoomba RAID Rep crew Tarni Cooper, Megan Williams, Bianca Das and William Nak.

7. Melbourne, 26 November 2019 – “RAID Networking Lunch”

RAID ran a student lunch on day 1 of the Australasian Plant Pathology Society (APPS) Conference at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. This lunch aimed to enable students attending the conference to network with members of the plant pathology community and learn about the different career paths and options within this area. Approximately 110 people attended the event including 80 students (PhD, honours and undergraduates), 7 international guests, 20 academics and industry professionals as well as 4 facilitators.



8. Adelaide, 28 November 2019 - “End-of-Year Trivia Event”

RAID ran an end-of-year Trivia event for the SA rep members Emma De-Courcy Ireland and Rohan Yargop. The trivia questions included topics on movies, songs, food, animals and plants related to international agriculture, with two teams participating in the event. One of the teams was Masters students and the other team was PhD students.



9. Perth, 10-14 February 2020 - “AARES ECRs Event and Conference Presence”

RAID was the major sponsor for the Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society’s (AARES) Early Career Researchers event which was held alongside AARES 64th Annual Conference. The event was designed to allow participants to network and exchange their experiences with one another and had around 50 attendees consisting of mostly ECRs and MCRs from all over Australia. RAID also had a presence at the conference itself, with the RAID banner and flyers advertising the Perth Capacity Building workshop and Networking Event available near the Crawford Fund stand.



10. Perth, 3 March 2020 - “Trivia and Networking event”

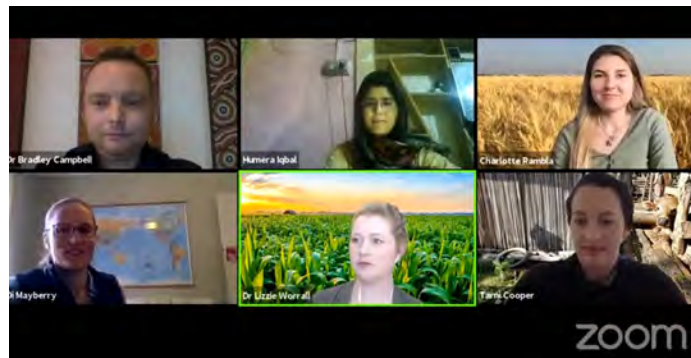
Held in conjunction with the ‘Agricultural Research Leadership and Management’ workshop 3-5 March 2020 at the University of WA Watersports Complex. This event involved short talks by RAID and other WA organisations on opportunities for ECRs to get involved in agricultural-related research, followed by trivia and networking with researchers and professionals. The event was hosted by reps Ana Manero, Rodrigo Pires and Alicea Garcia.

11. Brisbane - 15 May 2020 - the first “#RAIDsocialhour

This event brought together members of the RAID central committee and state reps from all over the country. There were introductions and attendees played the online pictictionary-style game <https://skribbl.io/>. For many it was the first chance to share with a group how the COVID-19 lockdown was affecting each other. It also helped the Brisbane reps and Central Committee to prepare for the upcoming webinar and gain confidence using Zoom as a networking tool. The event was hosted by Bianca Das and 8 people attended.

12. Brisbane, 27 May 2020 - “Doing International Research in Lockdown Webinar”

This event was the first of the RAID webinar series discussing the important topic of what changes have happened to researchers in international agriculture, how they are managing the complexities of not being able to travel and what their research looks like for the future. Hosted by Brisbane rep Dr Lizzie Worrall, a panel of 4 experts (Dr Di Mayberry, Humera Iqbal, Dr Tarni Cooper, Dr Bradley Campbell), from a variety of disciplines and career stages gave their insights. More than 60 attendees on zoom (50% were from outside of Australia) and had at least 747 views on Facebook using the facebook live application. The event was run in conjunction with the UQ QAAFI Student Association Seminar series and will be put into a podcast for early career researchers. The panel members also submitted a blog for the 2020 RAID Blog Competition.



13. Broken Hill, 4 June 2020 - “Women in Agriculture and Climate Change Webinar”

The second RAID Webinar was a 3-person expert panel discussion hosted by Anika Molesworth. Panelists were Tamara Jackson, Elizabeth Brennan and Humera Iqbal. Topics discussed included gender and climate change and the complexities with considering a whole farm system for increasing resilience and efficiency. This event was attended by 30 people on Zoom and has received more than 753 views on facebook live.



14. Melbourne, 19 June 2020 - the second #RAIDsocialhour

The second #RAIDsocialhour was hosted by the VIC reps Mia Dunphy, Bethany Donker, David McGill, and Jenny Hanks. New rep, Bethany, led the activity by presenting light-hearted questions to the group using the Polls function and playing hangman using the whiteboard function on Zoom. This was a great success as attendees got a chance to share their personalities and learn about each others' experiences. Nine people attended the event.

