

The AI Carrots Project:

*Building supportive resources for
researchers*

Cameron Fong, Darya Vanichkina,
Rose Smail, Eden Zhang, Angus Fisk



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Resources are available but...

- *Education-focused:* Modules and Resource page
- *General advice* for using GenAI.

we need **research-focused** modules



GenAI & Researchers

Generative AI is out of the box and continues to be the “hot topic” 🔥

- Encouraged to use GenAI.
- Potential efficiencies.

Research is *Different*

Research data has different rules:

- Ethics.
- Data providers.
- Intellectual property.

Existing research orientated resources tell us *what not to do*:

- No positive examples = No carrots.
- Lots of sticks.



No funding to
develop
positive
resources!

Researchers are *resourceful* –
They will find a way!



Planting Carrots

Proposed Solution: Build a web-based resource to showcase positive and safe solutions for GenAI in a research context.

- Co-creation sessions with our researchers, especially HDRs.
- We must pay the HDRs who participate.

x Research Portfolio
Capex funding late
2024 - Did not get
approved ☹️

✓ **Researcher
Development Unit
provided \$\$\$ -
YAY!!!**



✨ The Plan ✨



Get EOIs



Pick best



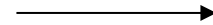
Organise Date



Hire



Run Hackathon



Consult with

Stakeholders



Publish 🎉

How hard can this be???





The Journey... Finding the Right People

- Qualtrics survey advertised through our newsletter & Viva Engage.
 - Mostly academics.
- Tried via word of mouth.
- Eventually – HDR news (bimonthly).
- And then – July pay bump!

News and Announcements

Generative AI in Research: Call for Case Studies

We are developing an **online resource** with case studies of how to do research "things" with **GenAI** - and we need your help! Please tell us how you're using GenAI in your research via this [short survey](#).

Selected contributors will be invited to participate in a **remunerated** two-day in-person **hackathon/AI co-creation session** at the Camperdown campus. Attendees will discuss, share and collaborate to write about their experiences to develop GenAI use cases to share with the wider research community.



Using AI for Research Hackathon

The Sydney Informatics Hub is inviting expressions of interest from HDRs to participate in a 2-day paid co-creation session around the use of AI for research.

[Submit how you're using Generative AI for Research via this form](#) to be considered for participation. Applications close June 19th.

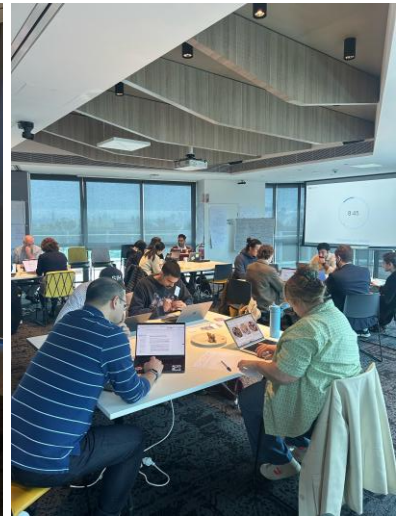
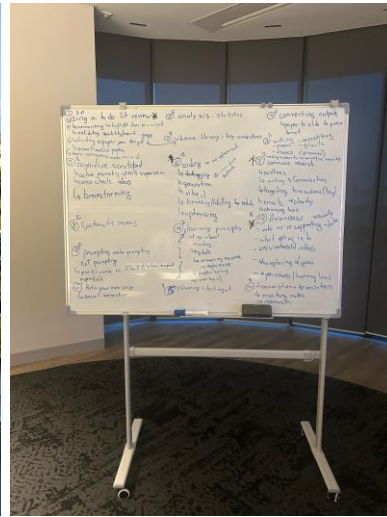


Scheduling: Found the 10 Right People, Picked Midsemester Break

Hiring! 🤖

- Ended up needing as much process for most of them as when we recruit externally – EVEN if they were tutoring at Uni (and even worse if they weren't).
- Lots of 📞 📞 📞 to HR by our Ops manager to speed up.
- Even then – 1 ended up being added to payroll AFTER we held the hackathon – so couldn't submit timesheets!

RUN THE HACKATHON



HACKATHON
July 17-18th, 2025



“That’s all Folks!”

...right?



EDITING

Some were
2000 words...



Some were
800 words...

Inconsistent
tone and
structure

Repetitive
Information



Agreement & Templates

- Who do we liaise to get this "approved"?
- Branding templates – how do we fit in our creative mess with the Researcher Development more formal content/work?



Overall, on track.
at the speed of sandstone



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Thank You!!! *Any Questions?*



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