

## **The Strategic Academic**

*Workshop facilitator: Shelda Debowski*

**11 and 12 April 2018**

Getting established as an academic can be challenging and confusing: so many demands and so little time. It can be hard to work out what matters and how to plan for a long-term future. This workshop offers early-career academics and researchers guidance on how to plan a successful career that ensures balance, good outcomes and self-fulfillment. Various theories relating to career management will be explored, encouraging increased clarity as to both personal and professional priorities that need to be supported. The workshop guides participants through the process of clarifying their career priorities, identifying their critical goals and building a support base. It explores the challenges of combining research and teaching, and working in difficult employment settings. The workshop will encourage participants to think about how they are positioning themselves for success and explores some of the ways they can move toward a more strategic approach to their careers.

### **Topics Covered**

- The complex world of the academy: What makes it challenging?
- Understanding the key expectations of your role.
- The key principles of academic career management: Identifying your career goals and priorities.
- Managing your priorities and contextual challenges.
- Activating your mentorship and sponsorship strategies.
- Developing and acting on your academic plan.

### **Learning Outcomes**

After attending this workshop, you will have developed:

- A clear understanding of higher education and what it requires of its academics and researchers.
- A clearer understanding of your work context and its support for your career aspirations.
- A capacity to identify and focus on critical career goals and priorities.
- The capacity to address issues that are impeding your career progression.
- The ability and confidence to source and effectively activate mentorship and sponsorship to support your career needs.