

## RESEARCH STATEMENT

### Original Report

Citation: Webb, Jen, Brien, Donna Lee & Burr, Sandra (2013) 'Examination of Doctoral Degrees in the Creative Arts: Processes, Practices and Standards', OLT Grants, final projects, PP10\_1801, Office of Learning and Teaching, Canberra, Australia.

### Research Background

The creative arts disciplines constitute an important growth area for research higher degrees (HDR) and have developed a body of knowledge and set of practices associated with research and research training. However, there has been little theoretical or empirical research that investigates how examiners of creative arts doctorates arrive at the commentary presented in their reports, or how such reports add value to research in these disciplines.

### Research Contribution

The first sustained study of HDR examination in the creative arts, this report documents the important new knowledge contributed by the research to the examination of HDR in the creative arts. Based on a mixed method approach and mobilising the creative arts HDR community as a community of practice, new findings include those regarding processes, practices and standards, and eight research-based recommendations for the sector. The report innovatively also presents data on the beliefs and expectations of candidates, supervisors, examiners and administrators of HDRs in the creative arts, both in relation to examination and many other relevant aspects of HDR study in the creative arts.

### Research Significance

This report was produced as a result of a nationally funded OLT project. The report and its recommendations were peer reviewed by OLT research leaders and published on the Australian government website. Numerous research offices in Australian and New Zealand universities which supervise HDRs have requested, and been supplied with, hard copies of the report to guide practice and policy in this area.

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