



SHAPE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Wednesday 16th June – Friday 18th June 2027

Educating the Health Management Workforce in the Age of AI: Innovation, Evidence and Partnership

**Hosted by the SHAPE Executives in Hybrid Mode
at the University of New South Wales (Sydney, Australia) and via Zoom**

Symposium Program Overview

The program will run over three days in hybrid mode and bring together health service management educators, researchers, students, practitioners and health sector leaders from across Australasia and the Asia-Pacific region. Keynote and panel speakers will include leading voices in health management education, workforce development and healthcare leadership. The program will include keynote presentations, panel discussions, interactive workshops, student sessions and concurrent oral presentations. The Symposium will focus on the opportunities and challenges for health service management education, research and workforce development, the challenges artificial intelligence presents and its practical applications, collaborative learning and real-world impact.

The Symposium also serves as a platform for SHAPE to act as a consortium advancing health service management (HSM) education, research and workforce development in the AI era. Through the sharing of evidence, innovations, case studies and collaborative initiatives, the Symposium aims to strengthen the collective capacity of SHAPE members to prepare the future health management workforce and advance scholarship in health management education.

Wednesday 16th June 2027 – This day will focus on health service management education and research, with particular emphasis on the practical use of artificial intelligence by educators, researchers and higher degree research students. Sessions will explore how AI is being used in teaching, assessment, supervision, research design and scholarly activities and being managed in health services. How well these align will be explored as well as opportunities for developing collaborative research programs across SHAPE member institutions.

Thursday 17th June and Friday 18th June 2027 – These days will focus on the Symposium themes detailed below, exploring how health service management educators, researchers, students and industry partners can work together to strengthen curriculum design, teaching and learning, workforce capability, industry engagement and research impact in an increasingly AI-enabled healthcare environment. A dedicated student session will provide higher degree research, postgraduate and undergraduate students with opportunities to present their work, receive academic feedback and engage with colleagues from across the SHAPE network.

Call for abstracts is now open

We are now inviting abstracts for presentations at the SHAPE International Symposium 2027, either in person or online. Presentations are encouraged from a broad range of topics aligned with the three themes outlined below. Research presentations, case studies, viewpoints and examples of innovative practice are welcome. Abstracts should demonstrate clear relevance to health service management education, research, workforce development and industry engagement, and highlight implications for educators, researchers, students, practitioners and health services.

Theme	Focus
One	Artificial Intelligence in Health Management Education and Research: Practical Applications, Challenges and Lessons Learned. This theme focuses on how educators, researchers and students are using AI in day-to-day practice. Topics may include AI-supported teaching and assessment design, supervision, student learning, research design, literature reviews, data analysis, academic writing, ethical considerations, governance challenges, workforce capability development, and reflections on implementation successes and failures. Case studies demonstrating practical applications and real-world experiences are particularly encouraged.
Two	Fostering Collaborative Initiatives a. Building Collaborative Research Programs for Health Management Education and Workforce Development This theme explores how SHAPE members can move beyond individual projects toward coordinated and impactful research programs. Topics may include research methodologies, programmatic and longitudinal research, multi-institutional collaborations, international partnerships, shared datasets, health management education scholarship, workforce capability research, early-career researcher development, and strategies for building a collective SHAPE research agenda. b. Strengthening Industry Partnerships to Advance Education, Research and Workforce Capability This theme examines how educators, researchers and industry partners can work together to improve workforce outcomes. Topics may include university-industry collaboration, co-design of curriculum, health service partnerships, placement and internship models, professional development programs, leadership development initiatives, workforce planning, commissioning and system improvement, and mechanisms for translating research into practice and policy.
Three	Transforming Curriculum, Teaching and Learning for the Future Health Management Workforce This theme focuses on how evidence, innovation and emerging technologies can strengthen health management education. Topics may include curriculum redesign, AI-enabled learning, innovative teaching and assessment approaches, student engagement, graduate capability development, work-integrated learning, online and hybrid education, accreditation requirements, and preparing future leaders and managers for increasingly complex health and social care systems.
Important to note for all presentations Irrespective of the topic all presentations are expected to make explicit links to the interests of and implications for health management educators, researchers and practitioners.	

In addition to research presentations, SHAPE particularly welcomes case studies, viewpoints and practical examples demonstrating how artificial intelligence is being applied to support health management education, research, workforce development and industry engagement. Presentations that showcase lessons learned, implementation experiences and collaborative initiatives are strongly encouraged.

Deadline for abstract submission

5pm (AEST), December 18th, 2026

Three types of presentations are acceptable:

- 1) 15-minute presentations including Research Presentation, Case Studies, and Viewpoints to encourage debate and discussion or identify research agendas based on literature, research findings and practical experience, and
- 2) 5-minute student presentations on a specific aspect of the presenter's research at the scheduled student session, 10mins feedback will be provided

All abstracts must be submitted using one of the provided templates and emailed to shape.symposium@gmail.com. Abstracts that do not follow the required template, exceed the specified word limit, or are incomplete will not be considered.

Information required by the Abstract Submission and three different abstract template can be downloaded from the SHAPE website www.shape.org.au

Abstract review and acceptance

Abstracts will be assessed by the Symposium Review Committee consisting of SHAPE Executive Committee Members. The assessment focuses on relevance and clarity of abstract, novelty of the ideas/key messages to be included in the presentation, and how likely the presentation will encourage / facilitate meaningful debate on the proposed topic. **Results will be notified by January 29th, 2027.**

Student abstract submission

SHAPE also invites Higher Degree Research students and other postgraduate students completing a research component or a project as part of their studies to present an aspect of their work. A specific session will be devoted to this with each student given 5 minutes to present, then work in breakout groups according to themes and receive feedback.

This provides an opportunity for students to share their work and receive constructive feedback and advice from experienced researchers, and to foster networking around research projects. An award will be made to the best student presentation during the Symposium.

Dr Mary Harris Student Bursary

SHAPE is offering a Student Bursary covering airfare, accommodation, and Symposium registration, up to a value of \$1,500, for the best abstract received from an undergraduate, postgraduate or Higher Degree Research student who is currently completing their degree program with one of the SHAPE Program Members.

To be eligible,

- You must be an undergraduate or postgraduate student studying in a health management research or coursework degree in the Asia Pacific, or a PhD student completing research in a health service management related field.

- The program in which you are enrolled must be a financial member of SHAPE.
- You are not currently employed as a full-time researcher or academic in any of the research institutions or Universities.

The winner of the bursary will be notified by January 29th, 2027. For further information, please access the SHAPE website: www.shape.org.au

Enquiries:

Dr Mary Harris Student Bursary and Symposium sponsorship:

Professor Zhanming Liang, President of SHAPE

Email: Zhanming.Liang@jcu.edu.au

SHAPE Symposium General Matters: shape.symposium@gmail.com

Current SHAPE Program Members

Central Queensland University

Curtin University

Fiji National University

Flinders University

Griffith University

Hong Kong Polytechnic University

James Cook University

Kaplan Business School

La Trobe University

Queensland University of Technology

Tung Wah College

University of Canterbury

University of New South Wales

Western Sydney University

SHAPE International Symposium 2027 registration fee

	Non student	Fulltime student
3 day full program	\$450	\$230
3 day full program Early bird	\$360	\$180
Thursday and Friday only:	\$320	
Early bird price Thursday and Friday only	\$250	
Online only	\$100	\$50
Symposium dinner	\$120	\$120

Please note:

Registration fee for student of member program presenting at Symposium: \$0

Registration fee for student of member program attending online: \$0