

Dr Donna McDonald
Senior Research Fellow

Dr Donna McDonald is a Senior Research Fellow and Convenor of Disability Studies in the School of Human Services and Social Work at Griffith University. She is currently leading an industry-university research partnership, which aims to get an improved understanding of people's lived experiences of disability services delivery. Donna has extensive policy networks, developed throughout her 30-year career in public policy as a social worker, policy adviser and writer working at federal, state and local government levels in Australia and England. Donna's book, *The Art of Being Deaf: a memoir*, was published by Gallaudet University Press, Washington, in March 2014.

Present Appointment (Secondment)

Senior Research Fellow
Griffith University
Menzies Institute
School of Human Services and Social Work
Appointment Date: 1 January 2015

Substantive Appointment

Senior Lecturer (Disability Studies)
Griffith University
Menzies Institute
School of Human Services and Social Work
Commencement Date: 24 January 2011

Education

Doctor of Philosophy (Creative Writing), awarded 2011, The University of Queensland
Master of Arts (Creative Writing), awarded 1998, QUT
Graduate Diploma Communication Practice (Journalism) awarded 1992, QUT
Bachelor of Social Work, awarded 1981, The University of Queensland
Bachelor of Arts (Literature & History), awarded 1975, The University of Queensland
Bachelor of Social Work, awarded 1981, The University of Queensland

Fields of Expertise/ Research Interests

Disability and social policy
Disability rights and history in Australia
Ethical professional writing
Disability in the Arts: identity, health and wellbeing

Selected project experience

Endeavour Foundation-Griffith University NDIS Readiness Research Partnership 2015
Translating Values into Ethical Professional Writing for Human Services and Social Work Students
(Ethical Professional Writing Program: 2012 ongoing)

Selected Publications

McDonald, D., Boddy, J., O'Callaghan, K., & Chester, P. (2015). Ethical Professional Writing in Social Work and Human Services. *Ethics and Social Welfare*. doi: 10.1080/17496535.2015.1009481

Sawrikar,P., Lenette,C., **McDonald, D.,** Fowler, J. (2015) Don't silence 'the dinosaurs': Keeping the caution with distance education in social work programs alive. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*

McDonald, D. (2014) *The Art of Being Deaf: a memoir*. Washington DC: Gallaudet University Press.

McDonald, D. (2014) Joining the diaspora of deaf memoirists: a personal account of writing deafness. *American Annals of the Deaf*. Spring 2014 Reference Edition.

McDonald, D. (2013) When Time Stops: The Courage for Joy. Book chapter; *Complicated Grief*, Miller, E.D. (ed) National Association of Social Workers, USA.

McDonald, D., O'Callaghan, K. (2011) Protecting the health and wellbeing of vulnerable Australians: A submission to Health Ministers on the national regulation of the Social Work profession. Commissioned by the Australian Association of Social Workers.

Previous appointments

Year	Position	Location
2004-2010	Consultant policy analyst and writer (self employed)	Brisbane
2003-04	Policy Manager, Joint Policy Unit, Kent County Council	England
2002-03	Manager, Strategic Policy & Program Development, Community Renewal, Department of Housing	Brisbane
2001-02	Executive Director, Strategy Policy & Program Management, Arts Qld	Brisbane
1999-2001	Assistant Director, Strategic Policy; & Acting Director Housing Policy & Research, Department of Housing	Brisbane
1998	Acting Executive Director Office of Women's Policy	Brisbane
1996-1998	General Manager, La Boite Theatre	Brisbane
1991-1996	Qld Govt: Researcher/ Policy Advisor	Brisbane
1982-1991	Health/Welfare Sector: Social Worker	Brisbane and Melbourne
1976-1982	Australian Public Service and Qld Public Sector: Personnel and Research	Canberra and Brisbane