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ABSS Newsletter - July 2026

Upcoming ABBS mentoring program

We are excited to announce the ABSS mentoring program for 2026. This is a six-month program designed to support PhD and early career researchers (ECRs) by providing a space for informal conversations about development and wellbeing with a mentor. To facilitate this program, we require both mentors and mentees within the ABSS community. We will be inviting expressions of interest for the program in the coming weeks via email.

Past ABSS webinar recordings

For those that missed recent ABSS webinar presentations, please see the ABSS YouTube channel.
See: https://www.youtube.com/@australasianbrainstimulati6329

Get to know your ABSS committee members!

Wei-Yeh (Merrick) Liao,
Early-career researcher (ECR),
Adelaide University

How long have you been involved with ABSS?
Since 2026 as a committee member.

What is your role on the committee?
I am the ECR lead. I help organise events/programs supporting ECRs and PhD student members.



What is your research about and how does it relate to brain stimulation?

My research is about understanding brain function underlying healthy ageing using non-invasive brain stimulation and recording techniques, such as transcranial magnetic stimulation, transcranial alternating current stimulation, electroencephalography and electromyography. A key focus of my research is identifying and understanding new stimulation approaches that can enhance motor function in older adults.

What is your favourite activity outside of work?
I like drawing and painting, hiking, or video games.

Cassandra Russell,
Early-career researcher (ECR),
University of Wollongong



How long have you been involved with ABSS?
I attended my first ABSS conference in 2025, and joined the committee this year. I've really enjoyed being part of a close community of researchers who are supportive, friendly and want to assist one another to further research in this field.

What is your role on the committee?
I am part of the ECR team, and assist with other tasks like webinars.

What is your research about and how does it relate to brain stimulation?
My PhD was in neuromechanics and I used brain stimulation to probe the mechanism of anticipatory postural adjustment (APA) execution in the brain. I attempted to collide

transcranial magnetic stimulation and startle stimuli during a variety of postural scenarios to derivate the cortical versus subcortical excitability during the APA. Nowadays I've moved towards using stimulation in cadaveric tissue to map the field potentials and how they might be altered by surrounding tissue structures.

What is your favourite activity outside of work?
I am an avid cricket fan, so can often be found watching/following/playing somewhere! I'm also involved in my local church and its community programmes, and love spending time in the beautiful outdoors of the Illawarra.

ABSS student and ECR engagement survey - Please respond

Are you an honours, masters, or PhD student involved brain stimulation research? Or are you an ECR? Please fill in our survey (see link below).

ABSS is seeking input from students and ECRs to better understand your background, needs, and priorities. Your responses will help us design relevant events, programs, and opportunities in 2026 and beyond.

Link to survey:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfDnzBGrKStlP86GxmvgIYL4tizrq40pHnUyuj0Ikzp-fSztw/viewform?usp=dialog

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Recent papers from Australasian brain stimulation researchers!

Brain Stimulation
Volume 19, Issue 2, March–April 2026, 103036

Establishing naturalistic brain stimulation targeting aperiodic EEG features: Transcranial endogenous current stimulation (tECS)

Athena Stein [a b], Ellen Floegel [a b], Mengsen Zhang [a c], Akshada Subramaniyan [a b], Swarup Sharma [a b], Zachary Feldman [a b], Michael Evers [d], Julia Riddle [b], Samantha Meltzer-Brody [b], Flavio Frohlich [a b]

Article link: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.brs.2026.103036

Brief Communication | Published: 14 April 2026

White matter pathways mediating dorsolateral prefrontal TMS therapy for depression

Caio Seguin, Sina Mansour L., Richard F. Betzel, Evgeny J. Chumin, Maria Grazia Puxeddu, Jinglei Lv, Linden Parkes, Paul B. Fitzgerald, Robin F. H. Cash & Andrew Zalesky

Nature Neuroscience **29**, 1048–1053 (2026) | Cite this article

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Article link: https://doi.org/10.1038/s41593-026-02248-6



Article link: doi.org/10.1113/JP289141

If you, or any of your students/colleagues in Australia or New Zealand have recently published a paper related to brain stimulation, then please reach out to get it featured in our next newsletter! Contact: jthorste@bond.edu.au

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ABSS on socials

Reminder that the ABSS has LinkedIn and Bluesky pages, as well as our Twitter (X) and YouTube pages. Make sure you follow us across all social media platforms to avoid missing out on posts and society updates! Simply click the icons at the bottom of this newsletter or enter the details below.

LinkedIn:
https://www.linkedin.com/company/australasian-brain-stimulation-society-abss
or search “Australasian Brain Stimulation Society (ABSS)” in LinkedIn

Bluesky:

https://bsky.app/profile/ausbrainstimsoc.bsky.social

@ausbrainstimsoc.bsky.social

Twitter (X):

https://x.com/abs_society

@abs_society

YouTube:

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