

PhD Confirmation Seminar: Alex Devine

The life circumstances of job seekers with psychosocial disability and their engagement with government funded Disability Employment Services

Supervisors:

Professor Anne M Kavanagh, Gender and Women's Health Unit, Centre for Health Equity, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne

Dr Cathy Vaughan, Gender and Women's Health Unit, Centre for Health Equity, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne

Date: Friday 15th December 2017 at 10:00am

Venue: Seminar Room 302/303, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

Australians with disability are less likely to be in the labour force compared to people without disability (53.4% vs 83.2%), of which people with psychosocial disability have the lowest participation (29%). People with psychosocial disability are known to experience socio-economic inequalities, poor health outcomes, and multiple challenges in relation to access to appropriate support services. These factors are both causes and consequences of poorer employment outcomes. The Disability Employment Services (DES) program is the main Government program to improve employment outcomes for people with disability. This study aims to explore whether and how the life circumstances of job seekers with psychosocial disability are influenced by their engagement with the DES program.

Ms. Alexandra Devine is a Senior Research Officer with the Nossal Institute for Global Health. Her local and international research and technical assistance experience has a focus on disability inclusive development. Alexandra's recent collaborations include a focus on improving access to quality sexual and reproductive health for women with disability in the Philippines; exploring the situation of children with disability in Cambodia; and, the development of the Rapid Assessment of Disability. Alex is currently providing technical assistance to a Government funded Skills for Development Program in Kiribati, as well as pursuing a PhD.

