# Transcript of the video ‘Finding your place’

Now the debate about journals is very much around ‘what are the best journals’ and related to that; ‘what's the best fit?’

There are dangers of simply just picking journals from the list without having a broad sense of the kind of papers and the kind of research they're interested in.

And the best fit is probably a good one for you to think about; maybe the best journal in your field isn't the area for your particular research because they're not particularly interested in it. And you may need to go for another journal.

So what's important is that you locate your work and associated with that, kind of your community. You've got to think about who you're trying to talk to, who are the people in your discipline or field you're trying to talk to; and that will start giving you a good sense of the journals that you should be aiming for.

Now I think in a broader sense than just the journals; knowing your community is an important thing for you to know as a PhD student, as an early career researcher, and this is because it gives you a sense of where you want to hang out; kind of intellectually, but possibly also physically like which conferences you go to. There's tons of conferences out there; if you're able to go to a conference, which one do you go to? Well you go to the one where there is your community, your tribe, your gang interested in talking about these particular areas.

Now, it doesn't mean they agree with you; they don't have to agree with you, gangs and so on, communities can have furious debates. That's okay, but they're interested in engaging with you and talking to you. So I think locating your community is very important as a researcher, as you're developing, because it kind of gives you a home. This is your kind of intellectual home.

Further down the line, it's important in terms of, you know, ‘you can't read everything’; so which journals are you going to read? You're going to read the journals of your community, you're going to read the journals of your tribe, you're going to go to those conferences.

And that's also in the longer run for your career where you're going to get your referees from, you know. One of the issues with people getting promoted is they need referees, but they don't have referees, you know, say at Griffith, they don't have referees outside of Queensland, and so on. Well, you get those referees by meeting people at conferences, developing a reputation, and then you've got your international referees.

But you need to be part of that community. So, it's kind of building a reputation, but to build a reputation you need to build it in a particular area and that requires you identify your community.