

25th August 2024

Application for Master of Applied Cybernetics

I am writing to apply for the 2025 intake of the *Master of Applied Cybernetics* degree.

I'm a volunteer, research software engineer, adventure bike tourer, harvest farm operations hand, professional website and web application developer who has worked in non-for-profit, government, university and private sectors.

The project I'm currently working is opendata.fit/opendata.studio: a declarative data analysis and publication platform for reproducibility and publication. My interests and specialisation in the project are research data standardisation, schemas and specifications as well as metadata and provenance management.

I believe in contributing to community and its power to build connection, resilience and inspiration. I've been a rescue volunteer with the NSW State Emergency Service, taught ethics as an alternative to Special Religious Education in public schools delivered by Primary Ethics, mentored autistic children in The Lab technology clubs and worked at a charity op-shop as a volunteer.

I help run a makerspace based in Giralang ACT—[Canberra Makerspace](#)—which provides a workshop and meeting space for the Canberra community.

A common thread in my professional and community roles is an interest in workspace and workshop ergonomics. Specifically, the task of how to create tools and spaces—in both the physical and digital world, and their intersection—which minimise the cognitive overhead of creation, work and play. An interest I would like to explore further with the cohort of the degree.

From sailing on the STS Young Endeavour to riding the length of Aotearoa New Zealand, I've had the immense privilege of many mad adventures. And there will be many more to come.

Outside my professional, community and personal commitments I enjoy running, cycling, playing hockey and being outdoors.

Professional references provided on request.

Yours sincerely,

James

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