

**Hello.  
I'm Robert  
Finnegan.**



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## **My Background.**

I am a current PhD student in medical physics at the University of Sydney, undertaking research at the Ingham Institute with linkage to Liverpool Hospital and the South West Sydney Local Health District, in collaboration with researchers from institutes around Australia and internationally. The overarching theme of my research is the use of image processing, in particular deformable image registration, in radiation oncology. My current research projects focus on automatic delineation of cardiac structures in computed tomography images, with the aim of providing the consistent and robust delineations necessary to accurately measure the radiation dose received by these structures during treatment for breast cancer. I am interested in many fields of research and have previously undertaken projects in intergalactic astrophysics and astronomy.

## **Education.**

**2016 - Current**

**Doctor of Philosophy,  
Science (Physics)**  
**University of Sydney**

**2013 - 2015**

**Master of Physical Science,  
with Distinction**  
**University of Western Australia**

**2010 - 2013**

**Bachelor of Science**  
**University of Western Australia**

**2005 - 2009**

**High School Certificate**  
**Prendiville Catholic College**

**Thesis title:** Deformable Image Registration for Multi-Modality Image-Based Radio-therapy Treatment Planning and Verification.

Refining Photometric Redshifts in the GAMA Survey  
This degree was an equal split of postgraduate coursework and a dissertation. The research extended recent work on creating a catalogue of gravitationally bound galaxy clusters, by using this catalogue to improve measurement of the distances to galaxies. The successful completion of this dissertation provided new knowledge and capabilities for astronomers, as well as a suite of programs and data manipulation tools for easier and faster application of work in the future.

Majors in Astrophysics and Applied Mathematics  
Graduated with Physics Achievement Prize (Level III).  
Undergraduate projects include measuring the mass of the Milky Way using the SRT radio telescope at UWA and imaging of nearby star clusters using the SPIRIT II optical telescope, also located at UWA.

Graduated as House Captain and Dux.

# Research Experience.

2018

**Syddansk Universitet, Odense**  
**Universitetshospital**  
**Odense, Denmark**

## Endeavour Research Fellowship

Project details:

- Develop, implement and apply a processing pipeline for the automatic delineation of computed tomography images collected from hospitals around Denmark. Analyse and validate this pipeline in the context of the dose received by the heart during radiotherapy for breast cancer. The aim of this project is to understand the link between radiation dose to susceptible parts of the heart and the increased risk of coronary events later in the patient's life.
- Strengthen collaboration between research groups in Australia and Denmark, including presentations and discussions with researchers and clinicians from around Denmark. clusters, by using this catalogue to improve measurement of the distances to galaxies. The successful completion of this dissertation provided new knowledge and capabilities for astronomers, as well as a suite of programs and data manipulation tools for easier and faster application of work in the future.

2014 - 2015

**Gravity Discovery Centre**  
**Gingin, WA**

## John De Laeter Scholarship Student

Project details:

- Research and design of a gamma ray detector to be used for cosmic ray detection, including liaising with staff off the centre for support and decision making.
- Fabricate cosmic ray detector with all supporting hardware and structures, using the on-site workshop and available materials.
- Design software to process detector output, analyse data stream and present visualisations.

2012 - 2013

**Australian Astronomical**  
**Observatory**  
**North Ryde, NSW**

## Student Research Fellow

Project details:

- Working with a large research group to process optical imaging data from the Hubble Space Telescope. The subject of study was the physical properties and history of extragalactic star clusters.
- Accurately monitoring, investigating and analysing all statistical information.
- Presenting results from the study at conferences to professional astronomers.

My project results prompted the submission of a Hubble Space Telescope (HST) proposal to acquire further imaging of nearby star clusters from space-borne and ground-based telescopes.