



MSc in Major Programme
Management Scholar Profiles

Scholar Profiles



Carolyn Moore

MSc in Major Programme Management Scholarship for Women (2020-2022)

Country of nationality: Australia

Sector: Energy

Carolyn is a specialist in new concept development and programme management in the energy sector, with a keen interest in distributed renewable energy. Currently based in Australia at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia's National Science Agency, Carolyn is Programme Manager of the National Energy Analytics Research (NEAR) initiative which is building new data and research capability to inform the future energy system.

Prior to her current role, she has worked in research and consulting about consumer technology, managing a range of global and emerging market projects and subsequently leapt into the energy sector, developing strategic initiatives in energy utilities. Carolyn was Chief Marketing Officer for a pioneering energy storage start-up and following that, established an energy storage business for ENGIE, and led major virtual power plant programmes which contributed to energy market design.

Alongside her experiences, in recognition of her commitment to development of women in the energy sector she received a candidateship in the Women in Clean Energy Fellowship with EnergyLab, a cleantech development community, and mentors women cleantech founders. Outside of energy, Carolyn is an active participant in Junior Chamber International (JCI) a not-for-profit organisation, and builds projects related to sustainability, innovation, and social enterprise.

Carolyn holds a Masters in Energy Studies from the University of Queensland and a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) from Monash University and has completed German Studies at the University of Vienna. She is recipient of the Glencore Xstrata Energy Leader Award and fulfilled her Masters thesis exploring the application of energy storage and new business models.

Carolyn's experience in pioneering renewable energy programmes and navigating complexity at the helm of energy transition is of salience to the MSc in Major Programme Management.

Regarding the scholarship, Carolyn writes:

'I am so delighted to receive the MMPM scholarship. The opportunity to expand my skills and knowledge with the leading academics and expertise in major programme management is significant. Saïd Business School is world-class and the calibre of the MMPM global cohort is impressive. To be part of this cohort, and inspire women in major programme pathways is indeed an honour and I commend Saïd for supporting this. The MMPM course is unique, challenging, and truly targeted towards major programmes, presenting the perfect canvas for possibility and transformation. I'm excited about the journey ahead and looking forward to engaging with the Oxford community.'



Xiao Yu

MSc in Major Programme Management Scholarship for Women (2020-2022)

Country of nationality: China

Sector: Finance & Insurance

Xiao is a Life Insurance Actuary and Risk Management professional, and worked extensively in consulting and financial services industry.

She is currently a Senior Risk Manager at M&G, providing risk oversight for key business initiatives impacting c.£350bn assets and 5+ million UK and European policyholders. Before this role she was a Principle Consultant at PwC UK. Prior to that she worked for Aon, Hannover Re and McKinsey in South Africa. Over her career, she has managed a variety of projects and programmes, ranging from transforming large international banks in financial distress, to advising small African and Caribbean insurers on new insurance products.

Xiao was born in China, grew up in South Africa and is now living in the UK. Having spent her life almost equally in three continents, adapting to constant change with tenacity and positivity and appreciating different culture and perspectives have become the fabric of her life.

Xiao holds a Master degree in Finance and two Bachelor degrees in Actuarial Science and Finance.

On the subject of the scholarship, she writes:

'I feel extremely honoured and privileged to have been awarded the MMPM Scholarship for Women at Saïd Business School.

I first heard of the MMPM through a friend, who has been on the course and highly recommended it to me. Further research on the degree convinced me that major programme management is becoming an essential skill for business leaders in this increasingly dynamic and complex world, and Saïd Business School has a world-class faculty on this subject matter, so I applied without hesitation.

I very much look forward to the 'Oxford experience': visiting the beautiful campus, expanding my theoretical knowledge in MPM, and meeting and forging friendships with the rest of the 2020 cohort from all over the world.

I am also very enthusiastic to share my experience as widely as possible through my network, and with my baby girls in the future. I recently became a new mum, my twins are approaching 12 weeks as I write this statement, it is hard work. MMPM is hard work too. So I'm under no delusion that it's going to be easy to juggle both roles at the same time, but it makes me very proud to demonstrate to my girls some of the potential cornerstones of success - the power of motivation, the importance of determination and the value of support from family and friends.'



Farah Chatila

MSc in Major Programme Management Scholarship for Women (2019-2021)

Country of nationality: Lebanon

Sector: Banking & Finance

Born and raised in Beirut, Farah attended a multicultural school which gave her the opportunity from a young age to interact and learn from a wide variety of cultures and heritages. During her school years she participated in several team sports such as basketball and football. She completed her bachelor's degree in business administration and master's degree in finance at the American University of Beirut.

Farah is currently the Assistant Head of Group Remedial Banking and Real Estate at Bankmed, where her main duties include managing the Bank's non-performing loans and foreclosed assets portfolio, in addition to other corporate finance tasks.

In 2016, she was offered by the bank to take part in INSEAD's Management Acceleration Programme, where she was the youngest in her cohort. In her free time she enjoys exploring culinary experiences, searching for the best coffee in town, working out and listening to music.

Regarding the programme and scholarship, Farah writes:

'Given the transformational stage Lebanon is currently in, I believe the MPPM will provide me with insights and experiences that the country needs in order to successfully implement large scale projects that are currently in the pipeline. Furthermore, as the programme is a part-time programme I will be able to continue focusing on and developing my professional career. This degree, with the support of the Women's Scholarship, as well as the interactions with the professors and colleagues, at Saïd Business School will equip me with the required knowledge needed to excel in my current and future roles.'



Moira McCarthy

MSc in Major Programme Management Scholarship for Women (2019-2021)

Country of nationality: USA

Sector: Defence & Cyber Security

Moira is a Principal Cybersecurity Engineer with the MITRE Corporation and a Captain in the United States Navy Reserve. She has spent most of her career working in the national security sector, with the past seven years focused on cyber strategy and policy development, international engagement, and counterterrorism. She has led projects across a range of strategy and policy areas for the U.S. Navy, the U.S. intelligence community, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Department of State, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. She has also been a guest lecturer at Old Dominion University and a leadership and ethics instructor for the Naval Leadership and Ethics Center.

As a Captain in the U.S. Navy Reserve Moira is currently serving as the Commanding Officer, Navy Reserve, Navy Installations Command Headquarters in Washington DC where she is responsible for a 3,500 person Reserve enterprise. During her time in the Navy Reserve Moira has returned to active duty multiple times including a three-year mobilisation after September 11, 2001 when she served as the Homeland Security/Homeland Defense Operations and Plans Officer for the U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

Moira's legal career includes time as a staff attorney for the Fourth Judicial Circuit of the State of Florida where she conducted impartial analysis of trial and sentencing transcripts to determine if sufficient facts existed for the Court to rule on whether an inmate, pre-trial detainee, or other litigant was entitled to post conviction relief, re-sentencing, or review. A member in good standing of the Florida BAR, Moira holds a Juris Doctor with a concentration in International Law from California Western School of Law, a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies (with distinction) from the U.S. Naval War College, and received a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts from George Washington University.

Regarding the scholarship Moira writes:

'I am thrilled and honoured to be awarded the MSc in Major Programme Management Scholarship for Women. It is a supreme vote of confidence in my potential and a show of trust on the scholarship committee's part in my ability to lead major programmes. I am excited to represent the School and the programme because its values are in alignment with the Navy and MITRE values I have embraced for years. This programme offers me the opportunity to develop a more structured framework for applying the practical skills I have developed throughout my career and benefit from the multi-national perspectives of my colleagues. I look forward to learning from them and the MPPM faculty and am very excited to be joining the Oxford community.'



Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford blends the best of new and old. We are a vibrant and innovative business school, but yet deeply embedded in an 800-year-old world-class university. We create programmes and ideas that have global impact. We educate people for successful business careers, and as a community seek to tackle world-scale problems. We deliver cutting-edge programmes and ground-breaking research that transform individuals, organisations, business practice, and society. We seek to be a world-class business school community, embedded in a world-class university, tackling world-scale problems.

'I wish to wholeheartedly thank my donors for helping me achieve my potential, which I do not think I was entirely aware of before my studies at Oxford University. Given predominantly my familial commitments, without the scholarship it would have been very difficult if not impossible for me to study at a prestigious university away from home. I will continue to be committed to the roles that can make social impact and disseminate knowledge and good energy, especially to other women.'

MMPM Scholar, 2017-2019

Your support

We are dedicated to inspiring the next generation of business leaders and entrepreneurs. To help us achieve this, we need your support. If you are interested in funding a scholarship at Saïd Business School, please contact Tom Childs.

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