

## WAIER Fogarty Postgraduate Student Prize Winners 2022

*Ashah Tanoa is a Noongar woman from Perth, studying a Master of Education by Research at Murdoch University. Ashah also works as an associate lecturer at the Kulbardi Aboriginal centre at Murdoch University.*



*Prior to this, Ashah worked as a primary school teacher. In a university-based student support role, Ashah found that, despite efforts to support Aboriginal students through their degrees, many students left university before graduating. Ashah wanted to pursue this further, therefore, her research project focuses on Indigenous students' university experiences, looking at why Aboriginal people leave university before attaining a degree. Although early in the project, Ashah will conduct yarning circles with Aboriginal university students, past and presently enrolled, to hear their stories and gain an understanding of the factors that cause Aboriginal students to depart early.*

*The Fogarty prize has enabled Ashah to be able to remunerate the research participants for their time, knowledge, and contribution to the project. As a young, emerging academic, Ashah will also use the funds to immerse herself in the academic community and build networks through conference attendance. This is a great opportunity to share the findings of the project, further improving the Indigenous student university experience.*