

## **PhD Scholarship Guarantee**

The School of Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering recognises that research is one of its principal activities and that the attraction, retention and support of high quality research students is undoubtedly one of its most important objectives.

A postgraduate research degree provides a unique opportunity to follow your interest in an area of research, to focus on this for a few years and make an important contribution to the development of human knowledge. The focus is on your capacity for creative, independent research, critical thinking, time and project management and problem-solving, and you will also need to have, or to develop, excellent skills of organisation and communication of information.

To successfully undertake research higher degree study a candidate must have an aptitude for research - for intellectual enquiry and rigour. A candidate requires imagination, flexibility and persistence to work on what may be a lonely, frustrating but rewarding task. If a candidate enjoys the challenge of striving for and achieving difficult goals, is disciplined in work habits yet creative in approaches to problem solving, and, most important of all, genuinely believes in the value of research training, the experience will be one of the most rewarding life has to offer.

The School would like to encourage well-qualified higher degree research candidates to undertake doctoral study within the School, and to encourage this the School will make available a number of PhD Scholarship Guarantees.

After the first semester Board of Examiner's meeting, the Head of School in consultation with other senior academic staff will consider the results of the students who are in their final year of the BE degree. Students who have achieved a Course Weighted Average (CWA) of about 75% or greater for all engineering programme units will be offered a guaranteed PhD scholarship for the following year.

The School's PhD Scholarship Guarantee will consist of a stipend at the same level as the Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) and the University Postgraduate Award (UPA).

### **Eligibility**

To be eligible for the School's PhD Scholarship Guarantee, a candidate must:

- Be enrolled in a programme offered by the School or combined degrees with those programmes;
- Have achieved a course weighted average of about 75%+ for all engineering programme units undertaken previously;
- Be eligible to enrol in a PhD;
- Accept the offer of the PhD Scholarship Guarantee by the end of the first week in October 2007;
- Consult with a potential supervisor prior to accepting the offer of the PhD Scholarship Guarantee;
- If an Australian citizen or a permanent resident apply for an APA or UPA in the year of accepting the offer of the School's PhD Scholarship and be eligible to receive an APA or UPA if awarded.
- If an international student apply for IPRS or SIRF in the year of accepted the offer of the School PhD Scholarship Guarantee and be eligible to receive a IPRS or SIRF if available.

### **Other Conditions**

- For candidates who are awarded an APA/UPA/IPRS/SIRF, the PhD Scholarship Guarantee will not be necessary.
- Candidates who are not awarded an APA/UPA/IPRS/SIRF, will be required to re-apply in all subsequent years.
- The PhD Scholarship Guarantee may not be deferred.

For further information on the **School's PhD Scholarship Guarantee** please contact either:

#### **Associate Professor Gary Bundell**

Head of School

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Director of Postgraduate Studies

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Tel: 6488 3111

## 7.3. Postgraduate Awards

### Australian/University Postgraduate Awards

A/UPA awards are for Australian citizens or permanent residents only. Please see IPRS/SIRF for scholarships for other applicants.

The information is for 2007 but does give an indication of when applications are due. You need to start thinking about a career in research around July 2008.

The University of Western Australia invites applications for Australian Postgraduate Awards, University Postgraduate Awards and prestigious scholarships funded from bequests. These awards are tenable at The University of Western Australia for up to two years for Masters by research candidates and three years for PhD candidates.

#### Value of Awards

- **Australian Postgraduate Awards** were valued at \$19,616 per annum (non taxable) in 2007
- **University Postgraduate Awards** were valued at \$19,616 per annum (non taxable) in 2007
- **Robert and Maude Gledden Postgraduate Scholarships** funded from the Gledden Trust were valued at \$25,627 per annum (non taxable) in 2007 with an additional \$5,000 travel allowance
- **Hackett Postgraduate Scholarships** funded from the Hackett Trust were valued at \$25,627 per annum (non taxable) in 2007 with an additional \$5,000 travel allowance
- **Samaha Research Scholarship** funded from a bequest by Mr George Tonie Samaha
- **William and Marlene Schrader Postgraduate Scholarship (Biomedical Engineering)** This scholarship will include an annual stipend of \$25,650 (estimated for 2006) for up to 3 years.
- **Mixed-Mode Integrated Circuit Design (Camera-on-a-chip Design)** The PhD scholarship provides a tax free stipend of AU\$24,650 pa (2005 rate), which will be indexed annually in line with the Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry).

Supplementary awards provide additional funding of at least \$5,000 per annum to top ranked applicants

Some of the above awards make provision for a relocation allowance for interstate transfers and a thesis allowance within the time limit specified (see individual Conditions of Award).

Establishment allowances of \$2,000 will be paid to interstate applicants in addition to relocation allowances provided by the various scholarship schemes.

Applications are to be made through the online application form at <https://www.admin.uwa.edu.au/scholarships/apply/start.asp>

Applications must be approved by the Head of School for PhD and Masters by Research degrees. It is essential that candidates consult with the relevant School and potential supervisors prior to submitting their application.

**CLOSING DATE: 31 October 2007**  
**(Applications will open mid-August 2007)**

Applications must be lodged with the  
Graduate Research and Scholarships Office M358  
The University of Western Australia  
Hackett Hall  
35 Stirling Highway  
CRAWLEY WA 6009

Any queries regarding this programme may be directed to  
The Graduate Research and Scholarships Office  
Telephone (08) 6488 2807  
Facsimile (08) 6488 1919  
or E-mail: [help@scholarships.uwa.edu.au](mailto:help@scholarships.uwa.edu.au)

## **International Postgraduate Research Scholarships**

### **Conditions**

International Postgraduate Research Scholarships are available to eligible overseas candidates for higher degrees by research at The University of Western Australia ('the University') and provide course tuition fees for each semester of the course in line with the scholarship tenure and conditions described below.

### **Eligibility**

- 1.(1)** An award holder must be enrolled in a full-time postgraduate research degree at the University.
- (2)** An award holder must be a citizen of an overseas country, excluding New Zealand.
- (3)** An award holder who has already obtained an Australian PhD or equivalent degree is ineligible for a scholarship.
- (4)** Candidates must hold a degree from a recognised university, normally of at least 2A honours standard or its equivalent.
- (5)** In order to be considered for a scholarship an applicant must be recommended by the head of the school in which the proposed study is to be undertaken.
- (6)** An award holder must not have commenced PhD or master's study prior to 1 January of the year for which the scholarship is to be awarded.
- (7)** An award holder must not be an overseas student who has held a scholarship sponsored by AusAID and is seeking to apply for an International Postgraduate Research Scholarship immediately following the AusAID-funded study: this applies to students who have held the following awards:
  - (a)** the Australian Sponsored Training Scholarships (ASTAS);
  - (b)** the Equity and Merit Scholarship Scheme (EMSS); and
  - (c)** the Australian Development Co-operation Scholarships (ADCOS—formerly the John Crawford Scholarship Scheme).
- (8)** An award holder must not have applied for permanent residence in Australia.

### **Duration of Scholarships**

**2.** The period of tenure of a scholarship is two years for a master's course and three years for a PhD. The University may approve an extension of the tenure of a scholarship for a PhD by up to six months where the research has been delayed due to circumstances beyond the award holder's control and related to the research rather than of a personal nature. Extensions beyond this to a maximum of three years for a master's course and four years for a PhD will be at the discretion of the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST).

### **Nature of Scholarship**

**3.(1)** A scholarship may only be used for the course of studies in respect of which it is awarded and must not be used for any other purposes. Any proposal by an award holder to change from the research area indicated in the original application must be submitted to the Scholarships Committee.

**(2)** The award of a scholarship is subject to the written acceptance of the Offer of a Scholarship by the award holder and must be taken up in the first semester of the year for which the offer is made.

### **Leave Arrangements**

**4.(1)** An award holder is entitled to 20 days' paid recreation leave a year calculated on a pro-rata basis.

**(2)** No more than 20 days' recreation leave may be accumulated and leave must be taken during the tenure of the scholarship.

**(3)** The agreement of the supervisor and head of school must be obtained before leave is taken.

### **Employment**

**5.(1)** An award holder may undertake only a strictly limited amount of paid employment—generally no

more than eight hours of employment a week during normal working hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday.

(2) The University does not require a student to undertake employment.

### **Suspension**

**6.(1)** If an award holder is unable to pursue the degree they must seek approval in the first instance from their supervisor and head of school for a period of suspension. Such applications will be considered by the Scholarships Committee.

(2) Students may apply for suspension for a cumulative period of up to 12 months during the tenure of the award.

### **Termination**

**7.(1)** The scholarship will be terminated two weeks after the thesis is submitted or at the end of the award, whichever is earlier. Scholarships will be terminated before this time if after due enquiry, the Scholarships Committee decides that an award holder has not fulfilled obligations, met eligibility criteria or is not making satisfactory progress.

(2) A scholarship may be terminated—

(a) if, in the opinion of the Scholarships Committee, the course of studies is not being carried out with competence and diligence or in accordance with the Offer of Scholarship and no suitable alternative arrangements satisfactory to the Scholarships Committee are made for continuation of the postgraduate degree;

(b) when an award holder ceases to be a full-time research student;

(c) on the death, incapacity, resignation or retirement of an award holder and in circumstances where no suitable alternative arrangements satisfactory to the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) can be made for the reallocation of the scholarship;

(d) on the granting of permanent resident status to the award holder (other than under the Permanent Resident Class 818 provisions); or

(e) if the cumulative period of suspension of the award exceeds 12 months.

### **Specific University Obligations**

#### **Supervision**

**8.** The University has a code of supervision of postgraduate research degrees which award holders should read.

#### **Administration**

**9.(1)** The University must be fair and equitable in the use of its discretionary powers.

(2) The University will advise award holders of appropriate appeal mechanisms for resolution of any academic disputes that might arise during their candidature.

#### **Specific Award Holder Obligations**

**10.(1)** When at any time during or after completion of the scholarship the award holder publishes a book, article, newsletter or other literary or scientific work which relates to research carried out under the scholarship, the publication must acknowledge that the research was carried out whilst the author was an International Postgraduate Research Scholar in Australia.

(2) Award holders must diligently and to the best of their ability apply themselves to the successful completion of the degree.

(3) An award holder is required to conform to the regulations (including disciplinary provisions) of the University.

(4) An award holder must maintain international student status for the duration of the degree.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, award holders must inform the Scholarships Office at least two weeks in advance if they intend to vary their enrolment. Failure to provide this notice may result in overpayment of allowances which must then be refunded by the award holder.

(6) The award holder must abide by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) codes on human and animal experimentation, guidelines established by the Australian Government's Recombinant DNA Monitoring Committee and rulings of the safety and ethics committees of the University.

(7) Award holders must provide all reports required by the University including an annual report submitted through the supervisor. If the University does not consider that progress is satisfactory the scholarship shall be terminated, or the award holder placed on probation.

(8) The University of Western Australia will not accept liability for injury or damage suffered or caused by the award holder.

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## **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FEES**

### *CONDITIONS*

*Effective from 1 January 2007*

Scholarships for International Research Fees (SIRFs) are available to eligible overseas candidates for higher degrees by research at The University of Western Australia and provide course tuition fees for each semester of the course in line with the scholarship tenure and conditions described below.

#### Eligibility

To be eligible for a Scholarship for International Research Fees an applicant:

1. (1) must be eligible to enrol in a full-time postgraduate research degree on-campus at the University, unless permission is granted by the relevant Head of School and the Scholarships Committee for the candidate to be enrolled on an external basis. External candidates will be required to work on campus within the appropriate University school for at least 13 weeks for PhD degrees and at least 10 weeks for Masters degrees during the total period of enrolment, and suitable internal and external supervision arrangements must be organised by the School;
- (2) may have commenced a higher degree by research in 2006 but was unable to apply for an award in the last selection round due to the timing of their enrolment, or other exceptional circumstances;
- (3) must be a citizen of an overseas country, excluding New Zealand;
- (4) must not hold a Doctorate by research degree deemed the equivalent of an Australian Doctorate by research degree.
- (5) must not hold an Australian equivalent research Master degree if enrolling in a degree of Master by Research;
- (6) must hold a degree from a recognised University, normally of at least First Class Honours standard or its equivalent;
- (7) must be enrolled in an area of research concentration, meet the University's English language requirements for scholarship holders and be recommended by the Head of the School in which the proposed study is to be undertaken;
- (8) must be commencing full-time, on-campus study for the degree of Master by research or Doctor of Philosophy in the year for which the scholarship is awarded, unless approval has been granted for external enrolment (see (1) above).

### Tenure and Extension of Award

2. (1) The period of tenure of an award will be up to two years for the degree of Master and three years for a PhD;
- (2) Award holders may apply for an extension of their award for a maximum period of six months where the research has been delayed due to circumstances beyond the student's control and related to the research.

### Visa Entitlements and Requirements

3. (1) International students are required to pay for visa application fees and meet the costs of any medical examinations associated with the issue or renewal of visas for themselves and their dependants. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure they hold a valid visa while in Australia.
- (2) If a visa expires, the student may be removed from Australia.
- (3) Where an award holder is granted an extension to their award, they may be required to renew their student visa. International students are required to undergo a compulsory medical examination and X-ray administered through Health Services Australia (HSA) before applying for a renewal of their visa.

### Health Care Cover

4. International students and their dependants are required to join the Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) scheme.

### Nature of award

5. (1) The award covers the payment of tuition fees set by the University and required health insurance premiums. It does not cover, student union or **amenities fees**, costs associated with overseas fieldwork, living expenses, bridging English language courses or travel expenses associated with the relocation of the student to take up the award.
- (2) The award may only be used for the course of studies in respect of which it is awarded and can not be used for any other purpose. Any proposal by an award holder to change from the research area indicated in the original application and letter of offer must be approved by the Scholarships Committee. Approval will be subject to the new research area being an area of research concentration where adequate supervision and facilities are available.
6. The award of a Scholarship is subject to the written acceptance of the Offer of a Scholarship by the award holder and shall be taken up in the first semester of the year of offer.
7. An award offered at The University of Western Australia may not be taken up at another institution.

### Recreation Leave

8. An award holder is entitled to 20 days' recreation leave a year calculated on a pro-rata basis. No more than 30 days' recreation leave may be accumulated and leave must be taken during the tenure of the Scholarship. The agreement of the supervisor and Head of School must be obtained before leave is taken.

### Paid Overseas Leave

9. (1) Applications for overseas leave to undertake fieldwork, conduct research, attend conferences or take annual leave must be approved by the Scholarships Committee.
- (2) Approval to undertake fieldwork or conduct research outside Australia will only be granted where the research is essential for completion of the degree and the work can be credited to the award holder's research programme. Award holders may only spend up to a total of twelve months overseas to study by remote candidature, unless approval has been granted for external enrolment (see 1(1) above).
- (3) The Scholarships Committee will only approve overseas leave to undertake fieldwork or conduct research where the university has been assured that the proposed destination site has not been listed as a dangerous zone by the Department of Foreign Affairs, there is adequate supervision at the overseas institution and the student remains enrolled at this university. Students should note that in the event of war or civil disturbance breaking out in a country to which a student has travelled for the purpose of research, the University's travel insurance policies may cease to apply.
- (4) The Scholarships Committee will not normally approve overseas leave to attend conferences, undertake fieldwork or conduct research within the first six months of the commencement of the award or prior to the approval of a candidate's research proposal.
- (5) Failure to obtain approval for overseas leave may result in the award being suspended or terminated.

### Employment

10. (1) International students are not automatically given the right to work when they are issued with a student visa. Award holders who wish to work while studying in Australia will be required to apply for, and receive a new student visa with permission to work attached as a condition of that visa. Any enquiries concerning visas and visa applications must be made through the University's International Centre.
- (2) Award holders and dependants may only apply for a visa with work rights after they arrive in Australia and the student has commenced their research. Work rights cannot be given with a student visa granted outside Australia.
- (3) A full-time international award holder is only permitted to undertake a strictly limited amount of paid employment. Generally no more than 240 hours of employment a year and no more than eight hours employment a week between the hours of 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. Part-time work commitments cannot be accepted as grounds for an extension of the scholarship.
- (4) The University does not require a student to undertake employment and the Scholarships Committee must be satisfied that part-time work does not interfere with the study programme. Candidates should refer to the regulations governing work permit visas, defined by the Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA).

### Suspension

11. (1) If an award holder is unable to pursue the degree they must seek approval in the first instance from their supervisor and Head of School for a period of suspension.

- (2) Applications for suspension must be submitted to and approved by the Scholarships Committee.
- (3) An award holder may apply for suspension of their award and candidature for a cumulative period of up to twelve months during the tenure of the award.
- (4) Applications for suspension will not generally be approved in the first six months of an award and will not be approved for the purpose of employment.
- (5) Award holders **must** seek advice from the University's International Centre in relation to the effect that a period of suspension may have in relation to visa regulations. An award holder's Overseas Student Health Cover may not continue during a period of suspension.

### Termination

12. An award will be terminated:

- (1) on submission of the thesis or at the end of the award, whichever is earlier;
- (2) if in the opinion of the Scholarships Committee, the student has committed serious misconduct including, but not limited to, the provision of false or misleading information;
- (3) if after due enquiry, the Scholarships Committee considers that an award holder has not fulfilled his/her obligations, has not met the eligibility criteria or is not making satisfactory progress and no alternative arrangements can be made for continuation of the postgraduate research degree;
- (4) if an award holder does not resume study at the university after a period of study overseas, or does not make arrangements for an extension of the period of study away;
- (5) when an award holder ceases to be a full-time research student;
- (6) on the death, incapacity, resignation or withdrawal of an award holder;
- (7) upon the granting of permanent resident status to the student (other than under the Permanent Resident Class 818 provisions);
- (8) if the cumulative period of suspension of the award exceeds 12 months

### SPECIFIC UNIVERSITY OBLIGATIONS

#### Supervision

13. The University has established a Code of Good Practice for Postgraduate Research and Supervision. It is recommended that award holders read the Code of Good Practice for Graduate Research Supervision.

#### Administration

14. (1) The University must be fair and equitable in the use of its discretionary powers;
- (2) abide by the principles contained in the Commonwealth *Privacy Act 1988*;

- (3) advise students of appropriate appeal mechanisms for the resolution of any academic disputes that might arise during their candidature;
- (4) provide the award holder with adequate facilities and appropriate supervision;
- (5) make provision for Student Plan Personal Accident Insurance.

#### SPECIFIC STUDENT OBLIGATIONS

15. (1) Scholarship holders shall diligently and to the best of their ability apply themselves to the successful completion of the degree.
- (2) An award holder is required to conform to the regulations (including disciplinary provisions) of the University.
- (1) Award holders must inform the Scholarships Officer at least three weeks in advance if they intend to vary their enrolment. Failure to provide this notice may have financial implications that become the responsibility of the award holder.
- (2) The award holder shall abide by the NH&MRC codes on human and animal experimentation, guidelines established by the Australian Government's Recombinant DNA Monitoring Committee and rulings of the safety and ethics committees of the University.
- (3) Award holders must provide all reports required by the University including an annual report submitted through the supervisor and Head of School. If the University does not consider that progress is satisfactory the Scholarship will be terminated, or the award holder placed on probation.
- (6) The University of Western Australia will not accept liability for injury or damage suffered or caused by the award holder.