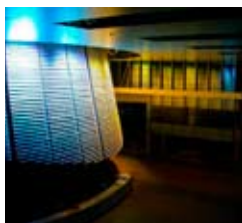


Graduate Research Student News

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Message from the Dean



Welcome to the November edition of Graduate Research Student News.

As a result of feedback from both staff and students, and regular reviews that are carried out on all UNSW policies and procedures, a number of major policy reviews relevant to higher degree research students are in progress. This month the Academic Board will consider revised *Conditions for the Award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy*. The Conditions have been significantly revised to clarify the role of Faculty Higher Degree Committees in management of candidatures, the examination of PhD theses, and monitoring of progression of research students. Subject to approval by the Academic Board and the University Council, these new Conditions will come into effect in 2009 and you will receive updates on key changes next month. We are also reviewing the *Guidelines for Minimum Facilities and Resources for Postgraduate Research Study*.

I am pleased to advise that in response to many requests from students, we are reviewing the

management of the Postgraduate Research Student Support (PRSS) scheme with a view to introducing two rounds of applications in 2009. The release of funds twice a year is designed to address the uncertainty and financial cost to students who often need to pay costs up-front and are not reimbursed costs for several months. More details will follow next month, as well as application dates and guidelines.

Applications for Commercialisation Training Scheme (CTS) scholarships as well as Completion Scholarships for Semester 1, 2009 soon. For full details please see the stories later in the newsletter.

Margaret M Harding
Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Strategy)
Dean of Graduate Research

Important Dates

- **6 Nov - Networking for Research Students (Careers & Employment)**
- **12 Nov - Ethics Seminar (Graduate Research School)**
- **12 Nov - Applications for CTS Open (Graduate Research School)**
- **24 Nov - Occupational Health & Safety Awareness Training (OHS Unit)**

Important Notice for PRSS Funding

Please note that due to a change in the University closing dates for this year we have had to bring forward the **final closing date for 2008 PRSS claims to 28 November 2008**. Claims submitted after this may not be paid.



Please submit your claim as soon as possible if you have not already done so. You need to **fill in all of the details** on this form: http://www.grs.unsw.edu.au/downloads/PRSSReimbursementInfo_Form.pdf and attach your **receipts** before handing in your claim to the Graduate Research School.

If you have any questions with regard to this please feel free to contact Shona Blair (s.blair@unsw.edu.au) at the Graduate Research School.

Commercialisation Training Scheme (CTS) – Applications open Mid-November

Applications for \$10,000 Commercialisation Training Scholarships (CTS) open on November 12.

UNSW will offer CTS funded places for local PhD students covering full course fees and providing a scholarship of \$10,000 to obtain a Graduate Certificate in Research Management and Commercialisation as part of their higher degree research training commencing in Semester 1, 2009.

Are you a research student:

- Intending to pursue a career in industry or research
- Currently conducting research which may have some commercial application
- Carrying out research in collaboration with industry or hold an APAI

Then this is an excellent opportunity to gain skills in research and project management, financial planning and development and commercialisation of new products.

For further details regarding the scholarship, graduate certificate and how to apply, please visit: <http://www.grs.unsw.edu.au/scholarships/ctsinfo.html>

The webpage will be updated with the closing date and other information relevant by Friday, November 7.



The Postgraduate Research Student Study Space

The Postgraduate Research Student Study Space opened on level 4 of the Library on 30 March 2006 and is currently available to postgraduate research students from all faculties. The space is an excellent facility that allows students access to a workstation with a computer, internet access, printers, etc (see <http://www.grs.unsw.edu.au/resources/libspace.html>). It is very much enjoyed and appreciated by the students who do actually use it, however it is grossly underutilised.



Currently the 75 workstations are shared between 90 students, but many of these spaces are poorly used. We are proposing to introduce some changes to access for the space next year so that more research students will be able to take advantage of the facilities, and that the space will be available to more students who really need a place to work.

Some of the changes we are considering include:

- o Allowing all research students (who do not have access to a workspace elsewhere on campus) swipe card access to the space
- o Changing the access to workstations
 - Some of the workstations will be assigned to individual students for their sole use if they are using the space as the primary area for their research or writing up their thesis
 - Some of the workstations to be placed on a booking system (similar to the one that the library already uses in other spaces) so that students can book workstation access in advance
 - Some of workstations be available on a first-come-first-served basis
- o Increasing the number of desks that do not have desktop computers, so the students can use their laptops (University network will be available via ports or wireless)

Please feel free to send any feedback with regards to the Level 4 Postgraduate Library Space and/or the proposed changes to Shona Blair (s.blair@unsw.edu.au) at the Graduate Research School.

Human and Animal Ethics Seminar for Research Students

The Graduate Research School will be hosting a seminar for research students on Human and Animal Ethics in November.

This seminar will provide information to research students on:

- When ethics clearance is required
- What research students need to know about research ethics at UNSW

- UNSW Ethics Application Procedures and contacts
- Case Studies and history

Speakers include representatives from the UNSW Ethics Secretariat and ethics panels.

When: 12 November, 12 - 1.30pm

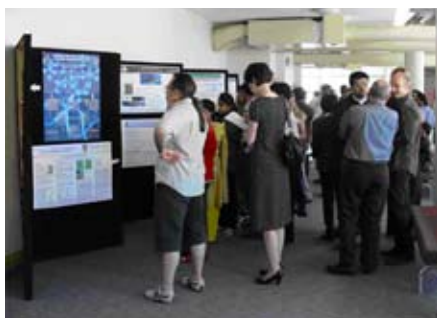
Where: G31, Old Main Building

RSVP: rsvp.grs@unsw.edu.au

UNSW@ADFA Research Day 2008

Once again, the annual UNSW@ADFA Research Day was a great success, thanks to the efforts of postgraduate research students in preparing a great array of posters and spectacular presentations.

The Research Day consisted of research student presentations, a supervisor training workshop and an employer information fair with representatives from relevant organisations in Industry and Government.



During the morning, twelve ten-minute presentations were held: three each from the schools of Aerospace, Civil and Mechanical Engineering (ACME); Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS); Information Technology and Electrical Engineering (ITEE); and Physical, Environmental and Mathematical Sciences (PEMS).

The judges were very impressed with the high calibre of student presentations and after a long deliberation the following students won awards:

Best Presentation

1st Prize of \$800

Ms Kirsten Randle, School of PEMS, for her presentation 'A Blast of Colour'.

Kirsten's research presentation focussed on developments toward

enhanced visual detection of explosives through peroxide-initiated colour reactions.



From left: Sven Wittig, Laurie Brown, Kirsten Randle and Victoria D'Alton

2nd Prize of \$500

Mr Laurie Brown, School of ACME, for his presentation '2D, or not 2D?'

Laurie's research presentation described research conducted at UNSW@ADFA on shockwave/ boundary layer interaction (SWBLI).

3rd Prize of \$300

Ms Victoria D'Alton, School of HASS, for her presentation 'Behind the Valour'.

Victoria's research aims to investigate how the Victoria Cross was awarded to 53 members of the Australian Imperial Force on the Western Front and the influence the Victoria Cross had on the recipients and Australia.

Best Poster

Cash prize of \$500

Mr Sven Wittig from the School of ACME.

Congratulations to all UNSW@ADFA students who won awards and participated in the Research Day.

Changes to the Main Library Building over the 08 / 09 Summer

There will be building works in the UNSW Main Library on the Kensington Campus over the summer period to extend the space to Level 10. This will create:

- 900 additional student study spaces
- 20 group study rooms
- a presentation practice room
- a variety of other flexible spaces for library users

These works are expected to commence late November and be completed by the end of April. Unfortunately as with all building works, disruptions occur and this project will be no exception. There will be some disruption to access throughout this period, particularly to those parts of the collection currently housed on Levels 3 and 4.

The following steps have been put in place to minimise inconvenience to users:

(a) Items currently on loan with a call number between 000 and 330 will be extended automatically until the end of April (unless recalled).

(b) The library will operate a stack service where possible.

(c) Students are encouraged to take advantage of Document Delivery Services over this period.

Updates on the building project will be posted on the Library website and the plasma screens inside the library. If you require additional information please contact your Faculty Outreach Librarian, the Library on 9385 2650 or info.library.unsw.edu.au/help



Careers Panel in Criminology

Are you interested in a Career in Criminology? Hear from UNSW Alumni and industry professionals about job opportunities, career paths, and training options.

This session is being held by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and UNSW Careers and Employment. Speakers include:

- Garner Clancy, Director, CHD Partners
- Lee Toney, Senior Aboriginal Programs Officer, Crime Prevention Division, NSW

Attorney General's Department

- Alex Ryan, Graduate Program, RTA
- Karen Patterson, Senior Policy Officer, Crime Prevention Division, NSW Attorney General's Department
- Leah Brown, Project Coordinator, Safe City Program, City of Sydney

Registration compulsory at: www.careers.unsw.edu.au/careerEd/workshops

Thursday 6th November 5-7pm, CLB5

Sydney Beaches Valuation Project

Please take a moment to help a PhD student in the School of BEES with his research project by filling in an online survey, asking questions about your current beach usage and how you think Sydney beaches should be managed in the future.

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group (SCCG) has partnered with the University of NSW to undertake a valuation of selected Sydney beaches, in order to inform both existing coastal management, and also the response to enhanced climate change impacts.

As part of this project, you are invited to participate in an online survey, which asks questions about current beach usage and future management of Sydney beaches.



Your responses will be used to assist Local and State Governments to make more informed decisions on how to protect coastal property, infrastructure, beach environments and amenity at threat of coastal erosion due to enhanced climate change impacts.

This survey typically takes around 10 minutes to complete, and all responses are completely anonymous.

To complete the survey, click the link below
<http://www.unipark.de/uc/sydneybeachesvaluation>

UNSW PhD Student Completion Scholarships Applications open 8 December 2008

UNSW PhD Student Completion Scholarships are designed to enable PhD students in the final stages of their candidature, who have not received any scholarship or other financial support during their candidature, to spend uninterrupted time (up to 6 months) to complete their thesis. Up to 5 scholarships, valued at approx. \$10,000 each will be available via a competitive application process for successful completion and submission of thesis in semester 1, 2009.

Applications for semester 1, 2009 will opening on Monday, December 8, 2008.

Full information, including an application form, and further relevant dates will be available on the website when applications open at:

<http://www.grs.unsw.edu.au/scholarships/phdcompletion.html>



UNSW Research Students Awards, Achievements and in the News

RESEARCH STUDENT'S THESIS PUBLISHED AS A BOOK

Congratulations to Prajakta Sane, who recently had her Masters of Architecture Research Thesis submitted last year published as a book. The book is titled 'Experiential Shaping of Public Space during Pilgrimage' and the research is based on Prajakta's study of the Alandi-Pandharpur pilgrimage in India.

http://www.amazon.com/Experiential-Shaping-Public-during-Pilgrimage/dp/3836491540/ref=sr_1_16?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1217218575&sr=1-16

Postgraduate Students Workshop - Disability Research

On Thursday 27 November 2008, 2 – 4pm, the Disability Studies Research Centre (DSRC) will host a workshop for postgraduate students who are involved in disability research.

This is an excellent opportunity to discover how DSRC can support your research and to network with other postgraduate students working in disability studies. Students from all universities are invited to attend.

Established in 2008, DSRC is a national inter-disciplinary research centre which values opportunities for participatory research and collaborative research programs. Its forerunner was the Disability Studies and Research Institute (DSaRI). Its focus is on accessibility and participation across the spectrum of disability as a social experience. Recent research by DSRC and DSaRI includes disability and human rights, international development, accessible information, financing of disability services, specialist service design and delivery, housing and supported accommodation, bioethics, employment and income-support.

For more information or to book a place in this workshop, please contact DSRC at dsrc@unsw.edu.au or call 9385 9908.

Program

- Introduction to DSRC
- Roundtable introduction about your disability research
- Discussion about opportunities for networking and support with other postgraduate students

Please advise Iona Reid, Student Liaison Manager, in the Graduate Research School of upcoming events including seminars, conferences and any research student achievements or awards for incorporation into 'Graduate Research Student News' and our News and Events website listing.

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