SUMMER RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES – 2015

Background
The Charles Perkins Centre research strategy is built around the development and promotion of a range of collaborative, multidisciplinary activities that engage and connect the broadest possible research strengths and interests of the University and supports the notion of a community of scholars.

The research strategy is thematic and responsive to societal needs and has a focus on four major research domains:

• Populations
• Biology
• Society and Environment
• Solutions

Several themes run as threads throughout all four domains and offer a means of tying together the entire research network within the Centre and link beyond to research on infectious disease, food production, and environmental sustainability.

The research themes include:

• Nutrition
• Exercise and energy expenditure
• Complex systems and sustainability
• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and nutrition
• Politics, governance and ethics of health

Objective
To support our strategy the Centre is offering up to 10 Summer Research Scholarships to provide students currently enrolled in any undergraduate or postgraduate coursework program the opportunity of undertaking research relevant to the research strategy, mission and goals of the Centre. These scholarships are intended to provide a unique experience that will encourage students to explore career and research options in the broader obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease areas.

The projects will provide students with the experience of working with well-established researchers in multidisciplinary research environments and high quality facilities.

Funding guidelines
Applications will be approved by the Academic Director and the CPC Executive Committee based on the following guidelines:

1. alignment to the Centre’s research strategy, mission and goals
2. involvement of staff from at least two faculties or disciplines in the design and supervision of the project
3. achievement of research project outcomes within eight weeks of full time research
4. projects should be innovative and have the potential to seed new research and research collaboration opportunities.

Tenure and stipend
The period for which the Summer Research Scholarships will be awarded is eight weeks. Projects may commence as soon as awarded and must conclude by 26 February 2016.

Students on the project will receive a stipend of $300 per week (maximum of eight weeks). The stipend will be paid in two installments at dates specified in the letter of offer.

31 August 2015
Students must be available for a full eight weeks, taking into account the two week University closedown period over Christmas/New Year.

Students will be required to submit a 250 word summary report suitable for non-technical audiences and present their work as a 15 minute PowerPoint research talk. Presentations by the students of their work will be organised to coincide with the submission of the project report.

Students must agree to having both themselves and their work profiled by the Centre in communications materials including, but not limited to, website, media and printed materials.

Eligibility

Australian or New Zealand citizen, holder of an Australian permanent resident or permanent humanitarian visa or an International student

University of Sydney students currently enrolled in any undergraduate or postgraduate coursework program are eligible to apply.

Students currently enrolled in a research-based Masters or PhD program or who have been awarded a research-based Masters or PhD degree are not eligible to apply.

Health Cover for non-resident students

Project recipients who are not eligible for Medicare must have valid medical and hospital insurance for the period of the Summer Research Scholarship. Proof of cover will be required upon commencement as a condition of eligibility for the project.

Assessment

All applications will be assessed by the Charles Perkins Centre Executive Committee against the listed guidelines.

Successful applicants will be notified by the Academic Director by 30 October 2015.

Termination

The project may be terminated at any time if the research or conduct of the student is deemed to be unsatisfactory or if ill-health seriously interferes with the research.

How to apply

To apply for a Summer Scholarship Project, interested students should submit their application by close of business 2 October, 2015:

• A completed application form which includes an outline of the proposed research project
• Academic record (including certified academic transcript for current degree)
• A completed academic reference form
• Signed agreement from project supervisors
• Evidence of health insurance for the period if not covered by Medicare

Please direct any queries to Sarah Anthony, Project Officer.
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31 August 2015