The John Makepeace Bennett Gift Scholarship - University of Sydney Nano Institute and the Australian Computing Society

Terms and Conditions

1. Background

a. The aim of this Scholarship is to foster research and to recognise and encourage excellence amongst postgraduate candidates working in the fields of nanoscale science and technology at the University of Sydney specifically in the theme of Communications, Computing and Security.

b. The Scholarship is named in honour of the late Professor John Makepeace Bennett AM, who was the Foundation Professor of Computer Science at the University of Sydney (1961-1986) and the Founding President of the Australian Computer Society (1966-1967).

c. This Scholarship is funded by the University of Sydney Nano Institute (Sydney Nano) and the Australian Computing Society.

2. Eligibility

a. Applicants must be students currently enrolled in a full-time PhD at the University of Sydney, and be broadly undertaking research in the areas of nanoscale science and technology.

b. Within the broad field of nanoscale science and technology the applicant must specifically be undertaking research in the Sydney Nano research theme of communications, computing and security.

c. The applicants must be the holder of a Primary Stipend Scholarship for eg. RTP or equivalent.

d. Applicants cannot be awarded this Scholarship more than once.

3. Selection Criteria

a. The successful applicant will be awarded the Scholarship on the basis of:

   I. academic merit,
   II. area of study and research proposal,
   III. evidence of research output/publications,
   IV. curriculum vitae,
   V. letter of support from the current research supervisor, and
   VI. a personal statement which demonstrates their interest in the Sydney Nano research theme of communications, computing and security as well as how the Scholarship will assist with the completion of their studies.

b. The successful applicant will be awarded the Scholarship by a Selection Committee comprising the Executive Committee of Sydney Nano and representatives from DVC-R and DVC-E.
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4. Value
   a. The Scholarship will provide an annual supplementary stipend (top-up) allowance of $5,000 annum (fixed rate) for up to a maximum of two years, subject to satisfactory academic performance. No extension is possible.
   b. The Selection Committee reserves the right to amend the value and duration awarded depending on funding availability.
   c. The Scholarship cannot be deferred or transferred to another area of research.
   d. No other amount is payable.
   e. The Scholarship will be offered subject to the availability of funding.

5. Eligibility for Progression
   a. Progression is subject to passing the annual progress review.

6. Acknowledgements and other requirements
   a. Successful recipients must acknowledge the Sydney Nano affiliation on their related project publication, presentations, and other relevant documents.
   b. Successful recipients are expected to attend AINST events and contribute to the growth of the Sydney Nano community through participating in and organising seminars, workshops and events for postgraduate students within AINST.
   c. Successful recipients will be invited to participate in further Sydney Nano activities dependent on their interests and capabilities.

7. Leave Arrangements
   a. The same conditions as indicated in the terms and conditions of the primary stipend scholarship.

8. Research Overseas
   a. The same conditions as indicated in the terms and conditions of the primary stipend scholarship.
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9. Suspension

a. The same conditions as indicated in the terms and conditions of the primary stipend scholarship.

10. Changes in Enrolment

a. The Scholarship recipient must notify HDRAC, Sydney Nano Institute and their supervisor promptly of any planned changes to their enrolment including but not limited to: attendance pattern, suspension, leave of absence, withdrawal, course transfer, and candidature upgrade or downgrade. If the award holder does not provide notice of the changes identified above, the University may require repayment of any overpaid stipend.

11. Termination

a. Unless terminated earlier under this paragraph, the Scholarship will terminate:

I. on resignation or withdrawal of the student from their PhD,
II. upon submission of the thesis or at the end of the award,
III. if the student ceases to be a full-time student and prior approval has not been obtained to hold the Scholarship on a part-time basis,
IV. upon the student having completed the maximum candidature for their degree as per the University of Sydney (Higher Degree by Research) Rule 2011 Policy,
V. on receipt of another supplementary scholarship that increases the overall supplementary rate paid to a student to more than 75% of the primary amount. In such circumstances, the supplementary scholarship of the higher value prevails
VI. does not resume study at the end of a period of approved leave, or
VII. if the student ceases to meet the eligibility requirements specified for this Scholarship, (other than during a period in which the Scholarship has been suspended or during a period of approved leave).

b. The Scholarship may also be terminated by the University before this time if, in the opinion of the University:

I. the course of study is not being carried out with competence and diligence or in accordance with the terms of this offer,
II. the student fails to maintain satisfactory progress, or
III. the student has committed misconduct or other inappropriate conduct.

c. Stipend payments will be suspended throughout the duration of any enquiry/appeal process.

d. Once the Scholarship has been terminated, it will not be reinstated unless due to University error.
12. Misconduct

a. Where during the Scholarship a student engages in misconduct, or other inappropriate conduct (either during the Scholarship or in connection with the student’s application and eligibility for the Scholarship), which in the opinion of the University warrants recovery of funds paid to the student, the University may require the student to repay stipend amounts and any other payments made to the student in connection with the Scholarship. Examples of such conduct include and without limitation; academic dishonesty, research misconduct within the meaning of the Research Code of Conduct (for example, plagiarism in proposing, carrying out or reporting the results of research, or failure to declare or manage a serious conflict of interests), breach of the Code of Conduct for Students and misrepresentation in the application materials or other documentation associated with the Scholarship.

b. The University may require such repayment at any time during or after the Scholarship period. In addition, by accepting this Scholarship, the student consents to all aspects of any investigation into misconduct in connection with this Scholarship being disclosed by the University to the funding body and/or any relevant professional body.