

# Postgraduate Research Scholarship in Advanced Food Enginomics

## Terms and Conditions

October 2018

### 1. Background

- a. The Centre of Excellence in Advanced Food Enginomics (CAFE) was established at the University of Sydney in 2017. The Centre aims to meet the food and health challenges of the 21st century by creating and delivering nutritious and wholesome processed foods to improve human well-being.
- b. The Centre of Excellence in Advanced Food Enginomics (CAFE) is offering Scholarships for students with a background in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering or relevant field to undertake a PhD as part of our reputed research team.
- c. The CAFE comprises a cross-disciplinary cluster of high profile researchers. All research will be conducted using the state-of-art facilities and equipment located at the Faculty of Engineering, Charles Perkins Centre and Sydney Institute of Agriculture.
- d. Its purpose is to support their academic course fees and living costs whilst undertaking a PhD as part of the Centre's research team.

### 2. Eligibility

- a. The Scholarship is open to applicants with an unconditional full-time offer to study for a PhD in chemical engineering, bioengineering, food chemistry or a similar relevant field within the Faculty of Engineering and IT at the University of Sydney.
- b. Applicants must have a strong honours degree in Chemical Engineering, Bioengineering, Food Chemistry or relevant field.
- c. Applicants who wish to apply for this Scholarship as a supplementary Scholarship must hold one of the following:
  - I. Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship,
  - II. Australian Partnership Scholarship (APS),
  - III. Endeavour International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (EIPRS), and
  - IV. Faculty of Engineering and IT Research Scholarship (EITRS).

### 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. detailed CV, including a publications list and highlights of research experiences/projects,
  - IV. personal statement which demonstrates:
    - (a) ability to work independently and collaboratively across different research disciplines and industry,

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- (b) excellent communication and interpersonal skills with high level of competency in both written and spoken English, and
  - (c) a proven record of exceptional academic and extracurricular performance.
  - IV. An expression of interest in one or more of the following projects:
    - (a) Project 1: a demonstrated knowledge of material/polymer engineering, mechanical engineering, process design, physics and chemistry and interest and experience in material development, electronics, design and the use of analytics system and equipment.
    - (b) Project 2: a degree in Applied Mathematics, Chemical Engineering or Mechanical Engineering.
    - (c) Project 3: A degree in a related field of engineering (e.g. chemical or mechanical) or science (e.g. chemistry or microbiology).
    - (d) Project 4: A degree in a related field of engineering (e.g. chemical or mechanical) or a degree in food science/chemistry.
    - (e) Project 5: a demonstrated knowledge of material engineering, electrochemistry, physics, chemistry and the use of analytics system and equipment and interest in material processing, biosensor design and food safety.
    - (f) Project 6: strong experience knowledge in polymer engineering, material engineering and chemistry and interest and experience in polymer, biopolymer, packaging and food waste reduction.
  - V. The recommendation of two academic referees.
- b. An interview will be required as part of the selection process.
  - c. The successful applicant will be awarded the Scholarship on the nomination of the relevant research supervisor in the Centre of Excellence in Advanced Food Enginomics.

#### 4. Value

- a. The Scholarship will provide an annual stipend allowance equivalent to the current RTP rate (indexed to the RTP rate on January One each year) for up to three years, subject to satisfactory academic performance. The recipient may apply for an extension of up to 6 months.
- b. Academic course fees are also provided for a successful international applicant for the same duration as stipend allowance.
- c. Successful applicants who receive this Scholarship as supplementary scholarship will receive a stipend allowance of up to \$10,000 per annum (fixed amount) for up to three years, subject to satisfactory academic performance. Successful recipient(s) may apply for an extension of up to 6 months.
- d. Periods of study already undertaken towards the degree prior to the commencement of the Scholarship, will be deducted from the maximum duration of the Scholarship excluding the potential extension period.
- e. The Scholarship is not deferrable or transferable to another area of research.
- f. No other amount is payable.

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- g. 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. Leave Arrangements

- a. Successful recipients of this Scholarship as a primary Scholarship will receive up to 20 working days recreation leave each year of the Scholarship and this may be accrued. However, the student will forfeit any unused leave remaining when the Scholarship is terminated or complete. Recreation leave does not attract a leave loading and the supervisor's agreement must be obtained before leave is taken.
- b. Successful recipients of this Scholarship as a primary Scholarship may take up to 10 working days sick leave each year of the Scholarship and this may be accrued over the tenure of the Scholarship. Students with family responsibilities, caring for sick children or relatives, or experiencing domestic violence, may convert up to five days of their annual sick leave entitlement to carer's leave on presentation of medical certificate(s). Students taking sick leave must inform their supervisor as soon as practicable.
- c. Successful recipients of this Scholarship as a supplementary Scholarship will have the same leave conditions as indicated in the terms and conditions of the primary scholarship will apply.

## 7. Research Overseas

- a. Successful recipients of this Scholarship as a primary Scholarship may not normally conduct research overseas within the first six months of award.
- b. Successful recipients of this Scholarship as a primary Scholarship may conduct up to 12 months of their research outside Australia. Approval must be sought from the student's supervisor, Head of School and the Faculty via application to the Higher Degree by Research Administration Centre (HDRAC), and will only be granted if the research is essential for completion of the degree. All periods of overseas research are cumulative and will be counted towards a student's candidature. Students must remain enrolled full-time at the University and receive approval to count time away.
- c. Successful recipients of this Scholarship as a supplementary Scholarship will have the same conditions in regards to research overseas of the primary scholarship.

## 8. Suspension

- a. Successful recipients of this Scholarship as a primary Scholarship cannot suspend their award within their first six months of study, unless a legislative provision applies.

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- b. Successful recipients of this Scholarship as a primary Scholarship may apply for up to 12 months suspension of the Scholarship for any reason during the tenure of the Scholarship. Periods of Scholarship suspension are cumulative and failure to resume study after suspension will result in the award being terminated. Approval must be sought from the student's supervisor, Head of School and the Faculty via application to the Higher Degree by Research Administration Centre (HDRAC). Periods of study towards the degree during suspension of the Scholarship will be deducted from the maximum tenure of the Scholarship.
- c. Successful recipients of this Scholarship as a supplementary Scholarship will have the same suspension conditions as indicated in the terms and conditions of the primary scholarship.

### 9. Changes in Enrolment

- a. The Scholarship recipient must notify HDRAC 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.

### 10. Other requirements

- a. The recipient may be required to publish the research findings.

### 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 4 years equivalent full-time study for a PhD,
  - V. if the recipient holds this Scholarship as a primary Scholarship and receives an alternative primary scholarship. In such circumstances this Scholarship will be terminated in favour of the alternative scholarship where it is of higher value,
  - VI. if the recipient holds this Scholarship as a supplementary scholarship, 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,
  - VII. if the recipient does not resume study at the end of a period of approved leave, or
  - VIII. 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:

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- 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.