



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW SOUTH WALES



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Two PhD Top-Up Scholarships in Marine Molecular Ecology and Physiology

Two PhD top up scholarships are available as part of a multi-institutional project run by the University of Sydney, the University of New South Wales, the New South Wales Department of Industry and Innovation and the Sydney Institute of Marine Science.

These projects will examine the role of paralytic shellfish toxins (PSTs), a major group of marine biotoxins produced by certain species of phytoplankton, with potentially severe impacts on humans, marine mammals, birds and invertebrates. We will address the unresolved question of how changes in water temperature caused by ocean climate change and the shift in the Eastern Australian Current will affect PST toxin dynamics between a dinoflagellate and commercially important oyster species. We will determine the presence and importance of adaptive (genetic) characteristics in oysters, as well as their capacity for short-term reversible acclimation, as a response to temperature changes and to the presence of PST-producing dinoflagellates.

Students interested in these projects will be required to have an APA/UPA or equivalent Scholarship, which normally requires a first class honours or Masters degree. Top up scholarships of \$6000 per annum will be available to successful applicants. Students can be enrolled at the University of Sydney or the University of New South Wales, and will need to submit an APA application, which is due by 30th or 17th October, respectively. Interested students should contact Dr Shauna Murray (s.murray@unsw.edu.au) or A/Prof Frank Seebacher (frank.seebacher@sydney.edu.au) for more information and to discuss their application.