Research Project for PhD Student

**Project Title:**
Natural History of Canine Cognitive Dysfunction Project

**Project Supervisor:** (name only)
A/Prof Paul McGreevy

**Project Champion:** (name and email address)
A/Prof Paul McGreevy
paulm@vetsci.usyd.edu.au

**Host unit:** (e.g., research institute, school/discipline hosting the project)
Faculty of Veterinary Science

**Host Unit’s URL:**

**One Sentence Project Summary:** (single sentence for Google-style search results)
The project will involve validation of a clinical scale for diagnosing and assessing Canine Cognitive Dysfunction.

**Project Synopsis:** (about 250 words max)
An exciting opportunity has arisen to work for three years with the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Sydney and the School of Psychiatry, University of New South Wales and The Neuropsychiatric Institute, Prince of Wales Hospital towards the award of a PhD.

The project will involve validation of a clinical scale for diagnosing and assessing Canine Cognitive Dysfunction using three approaches:
- Cross sectional behavioural testing
- Longitudinal change analysis
- Neuropathology on a sub-sample of dogs.

Behavioural assessment will involve both olfactory discrimination and memory testing.

**Keywords for Research Area and Clinical Condition** (these are needed so that people may search by key word):
Dog behaviour
Olfaction
Quality of Life
Dementia
Cognitive dysfunction

Other Information: (Optional) (e.g., techniques used in the project - e.g., electron microscopy, current PhD topics; scholarships/funding available; possible research areas for PhDs topics; etc.)

Desirable: An Honours degree in veterinary science or animal science. Demonstrably excellent dog handling and interpersonal skills. Excellent written communication skills.

Essential: Australian or New Zealand residency/citizenship and a clean driving license. Overseas applicants can apply but will be required to cover their own university fees.

Funding for this position is available for 3 years at the APA level. The successful applicant will be expected to establish contact with appropriate organisations and dog owners, carry out behavioural testing and contribute to publication and grant writing for future funding of the project.

Applicants should send an academic transcript, a CV and a letter describing their interest in this field of study to Associate Professor Paul McGreevy, Faculty of Veterinary Science (B19), University of Sydney, NSW 2006. Further details paulm@vetsci.usyd.edu.au