UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY–CHINA SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL
EARLY CAREER RESEARCH SCHOLARS SCHEME
APPLICATION GUIDELINES – 2010

Introduction

The University of Sydney–China Scholarship Council Early Career Research Scholars Scheme was established to permit early career research scholars from leading Chinese research universities to conduct research at the University of Sydney. Up to two new Early Career Research Scholarships will be offered under this programme in 2010. The Early Career Research Scholarships are extremely prestigious, and applicants should preferably be engaged in an established research programme at their home institution. Successful applicants are expected to be based full-time at the University of Sydney for a period of one year.

Scholarship Benefits

The University of Sydney–China Scholarship Council Early Career Research Scholarship covers benefits as outlined below, and under ‘Scholarship Conditions’ in these Guidelines.

The applicant’s home institution shall provide:
- A living allowance
- Appropriate health insurance

The China Scholarship Council shall provide:
- Return international airfare costs between China and Sydney
- Visa costs

The University of Sydney shall provide:
- Office and laboratory accommodation
- Facilities required for research, such as access to computers, the Internet and the library

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants from leading Chinese research universities are encouraged to apply. Applicants must:

- be citizens of the People’s Republic of China;
- not be working or studying in Australia at the time of application;
- hold a Doctorate, as set out in Condition 1 under ‘Scholarship Conditions’, below;
- satisfy the University of Sydney’s English-language proficiency requirements, as per Condition 2 under ‘Scholarship Conditions’, below, before submitting their application.

Assessment Criteria

Excellence shall be the primary criterion, in terms of both the project and the researcher. Equal weight shall be given to the quality of the project, the track record of the applicant relative to opportunity, and the research environment in the host Department or School.
How to Apply

Applicants should follow these steps, in order:

1. Contact the head of the proposed host Department or School at the University of Sydney, to confirm that your research proposal can be supported. Contact details for Faculties, Schools and Departments can be found on the University’s website:
   http://www.usyd.edu.au/about/faculties_schools.shtml

2. Obtain documentary evidence that the Head of Department/School at the University of Sydney supports your application (ie. a letter of support, on letterhead, signed by the Head of Department/School).

3. Complete the following forms:
   (a). China Scholarship Council Application Form
   (b). China Scholarship Council Employer Reference Form
   (c). USYD–CSC Early Career Research Scholars Scheme Application Form

   Forms (a) and (b) can be obtained from the China Scholarship Council (http://apply.csc.edu.cn/).
   Form (c) can be found at the end of these Guidelines, or can be downloaded from
   http://sydney.edu.au/future_students/international_postgraduate_research/costs_scholarships/scholarships/early_career.shtml

4. Submit the two China Scholarship Council forms, together with any necessary attachments, to the China Scholarship Council, in accordance with their instructions.

5. Submit the USYD–CSC Early Career Research Scholars Scheme Application Form, together with the necessary attachments (see Appendix 1), to:

   USYD–CSC Early Career Research Scholars Scheme
   International Development Officer (Scholarships and Grants)
   Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International)
   Room 204, Old Teachers’ College – A22
   The University of Sydney NSW 2006
   Australia

Further Information

For further information, please contact:

Mr David Boyd
International Development Officer (Scholarships and Grants)
Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International)
Room 204, Old Teachers’ College – A22
The University of Sydney NSW 2006
Australia
david.boyd@sydney.edu.au

Ms CHEN Chen
Project Officer (Oceania)
China Scholarship Council
Level 13, Building A3, Five Buildings
No. 9, Chegongzhuang Avenue
Beijing 100044
People’s Republic of China
cchen@csc.edu.au
The University of Sydney–China Scholarship Council Early Career Research Scholarships shall be awarded under the following conditions:

1. **Award of Doctorate**
   Applicants must have a PhD awarded within 3–5 years of the closing date for applying for the Research Scholarship, and must provide original or certified copies of academic transcripts and degree certificates as documentary evidence that all the requirements for the PhD award, including examination, have been completed.

2. **English Language Proficiency**
   Applicants must have acceptable proficiency in English, as demonstrated by any one of the following:
   (a). Completion of an IELTS test of academic English and obtaining an overall result of 6.5 or above, with a minimum score of 6.0 in each component. Scores more than two years old at the date of commencement will not be accepted.
   (b). Evidence of satisfactory achievement in tertiary studies in which the exclusive language of the institution and the exclusive language of instruction, examination and assessment, was English.
   (c). A statement from the Head of the proposed Department or School at the University of Sydney that the applicant’s English language skills are at a level that would allow them to effectively pursue their research project and fully participate in departmental activities.
   (d). Completion of an English language diagnostic test administered by the University of Sydney’s Centre for English Teaching.

3. **Age of Applicant**
   Applicants must be aged less than 40 years on the closing date for applications.

4. **Engagement in Research**
   Applicants should preferably be engaged in an established research programme at their home university, and should present evidence of such engagement.

5. **Priority Areas of Research**
   Preference will be given to applicants working in areas of study that meet Chinese and Australian national research priorities. Research shall be carried out at fundamental and strategic levels.
   Examples include:
   (a). Communication and Information Technology
   (b). Agriculture and Food
   (c). Life Sciences and Public Health, including Biotechnology
   (d). Material Sciences and New Materials
   (e). Energy and the Environment
   (f). Engineering and Architecture, including Urban Planning
   (g). Applied Social Science, including Government, Law and WTO–related areas
   (h). Economics and Business
   (i). Fundamental Studies in Science and Technology, Health Sciences, the Humanities and the Arts

6. **Duration of Scholarship**
   The duration of the Early Career Research Scholarship shall be for a maximum period of one year.

7. **Commencement of Scholarship**
   Appointments must commence on the date set out in the formal letter of offer, unless the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) approves otherwise.
8. **Living Expenses and Health Insurance**  
The home institution of the Early Career Research Scholar shall provide living expenses and the cost of appropriate health insurance for the duration of the programme.

9. **Airfare and Visa Costs**  
The China Scholarship Council shall provide a minimum cost international airfare direct from China to Sydney, and return at the end of the Early Career Research Scholarship. The China Scholarship Council shall also meet the costs of visa applications. Fares for dependants and removal expenses will not be provided.

10. **Facilities Provided by the University of Sydney**  
The University of Sydney shall provide office accommodation, laboratory and other research requirements such as access to computer facilities, the Internet and the library.

11. **Final Report**  
Early Career Research Scholars are required to provide a final report covering all aspects of the work undertaken (including conference presentations and publications) and details of any new knowledge gained in the field of study. This report must be forwarded to the Research Office at the completion of the period of the Scholarship. The report should be accompanied by an evaluative commentary by the Head of Department/School.

12. **Unsatisfactory Progress**  
Any Early Career Research Scholar considered not to be making satisfactory progress will have the Scholarship reviewed by a committee appointed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International), which, at its absolute discretion, may terminate the Scholarship.

13. **Intellectual Property**  
The University of Sydney asserts certain ownership rights of intellectual property created in the course of the Scholarship, subject to the University's Intellectual Property Rule: [http://sydney.edu.au/policy/](http://sydney.edu.au/policy/).
When completing this form, you must refer to the accompanying Application Guidelines. This application form must be completed in full – do not refer to curriculum vitae.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM IN ENGLISH.

A. Personal Details (as shown on passport)

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B. Contact Details

| Residential address | | | |
| Town/City | Province | | |
| Country | People's Republic of China | Postcode (ZIP code) | |
| Correspondence address (if different from above) | | | |
| Town/City | Province | | |
| Country | People's Republic of China | Postcode (ZIP code) | |
| Home telephone | | Mobile telephone | |
| Email | | | |

C. University of Sydney Host School/Department Details

| Faculty | | | |
| School/Department | | | |
| Proposed supervisor | | | |

D. References  Please provide names and addresses of two referees who may be contacted.

| Referee 1: Name | | | |
| Affiliation (eg. PhD or postdoctoral supervisor, collaborator, etc.) | | | |
| Address | | | |
| Telephone | Email | | |
| Referee 2: Name | | | |
| Affiliation (eg. PhD or postdoctoral supervisor, collaborator, etc.) | | | |
| Address | | Email | |
E. Other Applications  Please provide details for all other applications for fellowship support in 2010.

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F. Privacy Notice  Please read below.

The information supplied by you on this application form is required by the University of Sydney in order to assess candidates for the University of Sydney – China Scholarship Council Early Career Research Scholars Scheme. A University Committee will consider the information. The University will publicise the names, areas of research and other relevant details of successful applicants. Questions regarding access to, and correction of, any information should be addressed in the first instance to the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International).

G. Declaration  Please read this declaration carefully. By signing this form, you declare that you have read, understood and agree to these terms.

I declare that the information submitted in this application is complete and correct. I agree that the University of Sydney may obtain official records from any university or other institution previously attended by me for the purpose of assessing my application for a Scholarship. I undertake to advise the Host Department or School and the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) at the University of Sydney immediately of any change to the information submitted in this application.

Signature of applicant:  Date (DD/MM/YYYY)

USYD Host Department/School to complete

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<th>Proposed supervisor:</th>
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IMPORTANT:
Please ensure that you have attached all necessary documents, in accordance with Appendix 1 of these Application Guidelines.

Submit this application form and attachments to:

USYD–CSC Early Career Research Scholars Scheme
International Development Officer (Scholarships and Grants)
Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International)
Room 204, Old Teachers’ College – A22
The University of Sydney  NSW  2006
Australia

Applications may be submitted at any time.
The following attachments must be submitted to the University of Sydney, together with the USYD–CSC Early Career Research Scholars Scheme Application Form.

Attachments should be clearly typed on single-sided A4 pages, using 12 point font size with at least a 2 cm margin on each side.

1. **Proposed Research Project**
   Proposed research project, including:
   - (a) Title of the project
   - (b) Aims and significance of the project
   - (c) Research plan, methods and techniques

   Applicants who demonstrate novel and innovative variations on their prior research activity will be favourably regarded. This section should be no more than four pages, including bibliographic references. Additional pages will not be considered by the selection committee.

2. **Proof of Doctorate**
   Proof that all requirements for the award of a Doctorate have been met (eg. copies of transcripts). See also Condition 1 under ‘Conditions of Award’ in these Guidelines.

3. **Proof of English Language Proficiency**
   Proof that the University of Sydney’s English language proficiency requirements have been met. See also Condition 2 under ‘Conditions of Award’ in these Guidelines.

4. **Curriculum Vitae and Academic Transcripts**
   Curriculum Vitae, including details of engagement in an established research programme at your home institution, publications and details of academic record at undergraduate and postgraduate level, prizes and awards. Please attach certified copies of transcripts.

5. **Referees**
   Full contact details for two referees.