Rapid Assessment of Ancient Soil Pollution Scholarship
Terms and Conditions

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for consideration, applicants must:

- Have a First or Second (Division 1) Class Honours or Masters level qualification in a relevant field.
- Be an Australian or New Zealand citizen or have Australian Permanent Residency.
- Not be receiving an equivalent award, or scholarship to undertake the HDR.
- Have the capacity to undertake a substantial research project under the direction of the leadership team
- Excellent communication and organizational skills with the ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Have a letter of offer for a place in a UNE Research Degree (PhD), or have applied for a place at UNE.
- Have demonstrable knowledge of one or more of the following: environmental chemistry of metalloids or trace elements, analytical techniques for inorganic contaminants, statistical methods for ecotoxicology analysis.

Duration of Scholarship

The period of tenure of the scholarship shall be a maximum of three years for a Doctoral degree. Any period of study already undertaken towards the degree (including advanced standing), either prior to the commencement of the scholarship or during an approved Leave of Absence from studies, will be deducted from the maximum period of tenure. There is no possibility of extension.

Payment to students

- The successful applicant will be paid the full value of the PhD Scholarship annually for three years, taking into account approved suspensions and leave entitlements
- UNE will pay the stipend to the successful applicant in fortnightly payments, through the University's payroll system to an Australian bank account in the student's name.

Value of Scholarships

The PhD Scholarship will commence in 2017, and will be paid at a fixed, annual rate of AUD $26,682 per year for three years.

Extensions

UNE will not normally extend the duration of a PhD Scholarship. Circumstances which may result in extending the expiry date of the scholarship are specifically limited to the following:

- Due to an approved leave of absence.

Suspensions of the PhD Scholarship

Successful applicants may apply for a suspension of their PhD Scholarship in accordance UNE's rules regarding sick leave, maternity leave, and other leaves of absence. The approval of all leave and suspensions will be at the discretion Principal Investigator.

Leave Entitlements

Successful applicants will receive the following leave entitlements:

- 20 working days' paid recreation leave; and

- 10 working days' paid sick leave for each year of the scholarship; which may be accrued over the life of the scholarship, but will be forfeited when the scholarship is terminated or completed.
- Sick leave entitlements may also be used to cover leave for students with carer's responsibilities, subject to the usual practice of UNE.

Work

Successful applicants will be expected to work on their research full time and therefore would be discouraged from undertaking paid work not related to the research project. Any outside work undertaken must be disclosed to and approved by the principal supervisor.

Termination of the PhD Scholarship

The Principal Investigator may terminate the PhD Scholarship when:

- The student ceases to be eligible for the scholarship
- The student ceases to be a full-time student without the appropriate approvals
- Upon completion of the degree for which they were granted the PhD Scholarship.
- Where UNE determines that:
    - The course of study is not being carried out with competence or diligence, or in accordance with the University rules and guidelines.
    - The student has not maintained satisfactory academic progress
    - The student has committed serious misconduct, including research misconduct.
    - Where the above occur, a student may be asked to show cause as to why their enrolment should be continued.
- Once a PhD Scholarship is terminated, it cannot be re-activated unless the termination occurred in error.

Supervision and Facilities

An academic unit accepting a student on a PhD Scholarship will:

- Ensure that adequate facilities and appropriate supervision are available for the student undertaking a research degree; and ensure adequate pastoral and academic support available.
- Establish and/or make publicly available, and abide by, a code of supervisory practice for students.

Specific Student Obligations

Scholarship holders shall:

- Diligently and to the best of their ability apply themselves to the successful completion of their degree.
- Abide by the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research
- Abide by the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research and
- Abide by the Australian code of practice for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes.
- Conform to the regulations, including disciplinary provisions, of UNE, as described in UNE's policies and rules.