The University of Sydney – China Scholarship Council Postgraduate Research Studentship Scheme 2009

The University of Sydney – China Scholarship Council Postgraduate Research Studentship Scheme is to permit qualified postgraduate research students from partner universities and other nominated universities in China to carry out full degree PhD studies at the University of Sydney.

Up to 11 Postgraduate Research Studentships will be offered under this Scheme in 2009, with 5 in the Faculty of Economics and Business.

Priority Areas of Research

Preference will be given to applicants working in areas of study that meet Chinese and Australian National research priorities. Research will 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.

Approximately one third of all projects will be in fundamental research.

Eligibility

Applicants

- will be citizens of the People’s Republic of China and not be currently working or studying in Australia at the time of application;
- will be from the University of Sydney’s partner universities or other nominated universities in China (Attachment A);
- should have completed a masters program; one year of PhD study in China; or an equivalent pathway; and be eligible to enter PhD studies without further preparatory study;
- must meet the University’s English language requirements by taking an IELTS test in English proficiency. (Details of IELTS requirements can be found at http://www.usyd.edu.au/fstudent/postgrad/apply/immi/english.shtml; IELTS results must be from a test completed no more than two years prior to lodging an application for a student visa. For IELTS test centre locations and test dates please see the British Council web site at http://www.britishcouncil.org/learning-ielts.htm and
- must also satisfy the Australian Government's English language requirements for a student visa. Information can be found at www.immi.gov.au/students/students/573-4/eligibility-student.htm
- Should satisfy the selection criteria set out by the China Scholarship Council by completing the CSC Application form and CSC Employer Reference Form at http://apply.csc.edu.cn/.

Assessment Criteria

Excellence will be the primary criterion, both in terms of the project and the researcher. Equal weight will 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/School.

Award Details

1. Benefits

The China Scholarship Council Postgraduate Research Studentship provides award holders with the following benefits:

- a living allowance as prescribed from time to time by the Chinese Government;
- a Faculty Tuition Scholarship to cover tuition fees (course fees and student activities fees);
- a minimum cost international airfare direct from China to Sydney, and return on expiry of the Studentship;
- the cost of the visa application fee to permit study at the University of Sydney; and
- the cost of Overseas Student Health Cover while a recipient of the Studentship.

The Faculty Tuition Scholarship is provided by the University of Sydney; all other benefits are provided by the China Scholarship Council.

2. Conditions of Award

The Studentship is awarded under the following conditions:

- A Studentship may be held for up to three years. This period may be extended to four years in individual cases subject to the approval of the China Scholarship Council and the University of Sydney, however, the funding support usually does not exceed a period of three years.
- The Studentship must commence on the date specified in the formal letter of offer, unless the University’s Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) approves otherwise.
- Each award is renewed annually on the recommendation of the University’s Head of School’s/Department and is conditional on satisfactory progress being made by the award holder.
- Award holders may conduct up to 12 months (18 months for students of anthropology and other special cases) of their research in China. The request must be approved by the Faculty concerned and the award holder must remain enrolled at the University of Sydney.
- Award holders may apply to suspend their Studentship in exceptional circumstances. All applications will be jointly considered by the China Scholarship Council and the University of Sydney.
- Award holders may engage in a limited amount of paid employment that must comply with the award holders visa requirements and not interfere with the student’s study and progress. For further information please visit the Department of Immigration and Citizenship website at www.immi.gov.au
- At the end of the Studentship, award holders must return to China.
- The University asserts certain ownership rights of intellectual property created in the course of the Studentship subject to the University’s Intellectual Property Rule, as amended from time to time, and available at http://www.usyd.edu.au/policy/.

How to Apply

Scholarship applications can only be lodged with the International Office of the applicant’s home university. Applicants must have the support of their home university to apply for a University of Sydney – China Scholarship Council Postgraduate Studentship. Applicants must complete three (3) separate application forms in order to be considered for a Studentship. These forms include:

1. University of Sydney Postgraduate Research Application Form

The University of Sydney Postgraduate Research Application Form is available from the University’s web site at http://www.usyd.edu.au/student/international/postgrad/apply/pg_inter_application-research.pdf Applicants should read the “How to Apply” information on the application form carefully and follow the instructions given.

In completing the University’s application form, applicants should note the following:

- Applicants for this Scholarship are not required to pay the Application Processing Fee.
- It is essential to follow the instructions set out “Applying for a research degree” on page 2 of the application form. Prior to lodging an application, applicants must make initial contact with a member of academic staff in the discipline area of interest to confirm that the University has appropriate strengths in the proposed area of study.
- For general information on research at the University and details of some of the current research being conducted please see www.usyd.edu.au/about/research. If an applicant already has a personal
academic contact, or has researched the University’s departments and schools on the University’s website and found an appropriate match for their interests, they may contact that person, school or department directly. In the first instance applicants are encouraged to identify a supervisor through the Research Supervisor Connect Facility at http://www.usyd.edu.au/research/opportunities. Otherwise please direct enquiries to the general faculty contacts given on page 8 of the Application Form.

- Applicants must satisfy the University's English language requirements by meeting the prescribed IELTS levels. Applicants must have a satisfactory IELTS score before submitting their applications to the China Scholarship Council.

Applicants should only lodge a completed and signed Application Form with the University once they have had their research proposal assessed as appropriate by the University department or school in which they wish to study. **Applications for a scholarship must be submitted through the applicants home University.**

**2. University of Sydney-China Scholarship Council Supplementary Application Form**

Applicants must attach a completed University of Sydney – China Scholarship Council Supplementary Application Form when submitting a research application to the University of Sydney. This supplementary documentation will identify that a PhD applicant wishes to be considered for a Studentship.


Full scholarship application documentation should be lodged with the International Office of the applicant’s home university. The deadline for applications to the University of Sydney is Friday, 19 December 2008. Applicants should check with their home university for additional deadlines.

**3. China Scholarship Council Application Form**

The China Scholarship Council Application and Employer Reference forms are available from the China Scholarship Council website: http://apply.csc.edu.cn/

The China Scholarship Council Application Form and China Scholarship Council Employer Reference Form, and a copy of the full application to the University of Sydney, should be sent to:

Mr WANG Renfeng
Project Officer
Division of Cooperation and Consultancy
China Scholarship Council
Level 13, Building A3, Five Buildings
No. 9 Chegongzhuang Avenue
Beijing  100044
P.R. CHINA

by 20 March 2008.

**Time Lines**

- **Late 2008**  Applicants must lodge a University of Sydney Postgraduate Research Application form and a China Scholarship Council Application Form with the International Office of their home university.

- **19 December 2008**  Partner universities will forward selected candidates to the University of Sydney.

- **20 March 2009**  The University of Sydney will provide the China Scholarship Council and partner universities with a ranked list of suitable candidates (names and subject areas) to be considered for the scholarship program, and a copy of the admissions offer letters for each candidate.

- **End April 2009**  The China Scholarship Council will evaluate the listed candidates according to CSC requirements and priorities, and provide the University of Sydney with a shortlist of potential scholarship recipients.
Beginning May 2009 The University of Sydney and the China Scholarship Council will announce the final list of scholarship recipients.

27 July 2009 Successful applicants will commence PhD studies at the University of Sydney.

For further information please contact

**China Scholarship Council**
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Attachment A: Partner Universities and Other Nominated Universities

Applications for the University of Sydney – China Scholarship Council Postgraduate Research Studentship will only be accepted from the University of Sydney’s partner universities in China, or other nominated universities, as listed below.

1. Partner Universities

Central Academy of Fine Arts
China Education Association for International Exchange
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
Communication University of China
Dalian University of Technology
Fudan University
Guangdong University of Technology
Guizhou University
Harbin Engineering University
Harbin Institute of Technology
Heilongjiang Academy of Sciences
Huazhong University of Science and Technology
Nanjing University
National School of Administration
Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University
Northwestern Polytechnical University
Peking University
Shandong University
Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences
Shanghai Conservatory of Music
Shanghai Jiao Tong University
Shanghai Normal University
Southeast University
Sun Yat-Sen University
Tongji University
Tsinghua University
Xiamen University
Zhejiang University

2. Other Nominated Universities

Beijing International Studies University
Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
Tianjin University of Sport
East China University of Political Science and Law
Xi'an International Studies University