NATIONAL DRUG RESEARCH INSTITUTE
RESEARCH BURSARIES FOR HONOURS & MASTERS STUDENTS
2015 Round

As part of NDRI's role in developing national capacity in research into the prevention of drug-related harm, the Institute offers co-supervision for honours and masters level students who wish to conduct research in the alcohol and other drug field.

As part of this endeavour, applications are invited for research bursaries from students currently enrolled in a health or relevant social science course at honours or masters level intending to conduct a research project in the alcohol or other drug field.

Applicants should have a good undergraduate record and will be required to have a departmental research supervisor in their own school, with co-supervision being offered by an NDRI staff member. At the completion of their project recipients of these honours and masters research bursaries will be expected to submit a paper based on their research for publication in a refereed journal.

THE BURSARIES
Two NDRI honours and masters research bursaries will be offered in 2015. Each of the two bursaries will be valued at up to $2500. They may be used to support any bona fide research activity connected with the recipient's honours or masters project. For example, this could include contributions towards subject recruitment (e.g. advertising), reimbursement of subjects, data analysis, report writing or travel and registration for presentation of the findings to a relevant national or international conference.

NDRI will administer all bursary funds.

THE NATIONAL DRUG RESEARCH INSTITUTE
The National Drug Research Institute (NDRI) at Curtin University is a vital part of the national strategy to address the harm arising from alcohol and other drug use in Australia. The Institute was established in 1986 under the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse (now the National Drug Strategy).

NDRI's mission is 'to conduct and disseminate high quality research that contributes to the primary prevention of harmful drug use and reduction of drug related harm'. The purpose of the Institute is to contribute to the overall National Drug Strategy. It does so by undertaking research designed to establish the preventive potential of a number of interventions: legislative, fiscal, regulatory and educational.

NDRI's research complements the work of its sister organisations: the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC), which focuses primarily on treatment research; and the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction (NCETA) which focuses on workforce development.

NDRI employs about 30 research staff, making it one of the largest centres of drug research expertise in Australia. Recognising that problems associated with drug use are complex in their origins, a multidisciplinary approach to research is pursued. This is reflected in the experience of the Institute's staff, who are drawn from a range of disciplines including psychology, epidemiology, public health, medicine, sociology and anthropology.

NDRI has 9 research priority areas:
1. Alcohol policy
2. Indigenous Australians
3. Offender health
4. Primary prevention and early intervention
5. Social contexts of drug use
6. People who continue to use alcohol and other drugs
7. Tobacco
8. New technologies
9. Social studies of addiction concepts
In conducting its research, NDRI follows the philosophy of harm minimisation that has underpinned Australia's National Drug Strategy since 1985. Harm minimisation recognises that drug use, both legal and illegal, is a fact of modern society, and while use may be reduced to a degree, there will always be a need to protect people from the harmful consequences of drug use.

Because harm minimisation focuses on the harms caused by drug use, it provides a framework in which a range of strategies can be legitimately used to achieve the overall goal. These strategies can be broadly classified into three areas:

• supply control - controlling the amount of drug available
• demand reduction - encouraging people not to use, to delay use, or to use less of a drug
• harm reduction - helping those who continue to use drugs to do so in ways that are less harmful.

More information about NDRI can be found at http://ndri.curtin.edu.au

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential
1. Good undergraduate grades in a health or relevant social science course.
2. The capacity to undertake a successful honours or masters level project.
3. Enrolment in a current honours or masters program in another department at an Australian university.
4. A supervisor in enrolling department who is willing to supervise a drug-related project with a co-supervisor from NDRI.
5. Availability of a potential co-supervisor at NDRI.

Desirable
1. Previous study or experience in the alcohol and other drugs area.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact Professor Simon Lenton, Tel: (08) 9266 1603, E-mail: S.Lenton@curtin.edu.au.

APPLICATIONS

Applications should include:
• a curriculum vitae (including academic record)
• a statement addressing the selection criteria
• a sample of writing (eg. an essay or, for masters students, an honours thesis)
• a referee report from an academic familiar with the applicant’s academic work
• An outline, in approximately 500 words, of the proposed research.

The closing date for applications is 5pm January 30, 2015.

Applications should be sent to:
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Curtin University of Technology
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More information about NDRI can be found at http://ndri.curtin.edu.au.

NDRI
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Curtin University