

# INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH GROUP PHD SCHOLARSHIPS

3 PhD Scholarships in Environmental Science and 1 in Environmental Law

**The Science and Environment Research Group is a new partnership between the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA) and the University of Queensland.**

The Institute of Public Affairs (IPA) is an independent, non-profit public policy think tank. The IPA has a Food and Environment Unit that undertakes independent research on the impact of state and federal government environmental and agricultural policies on the Australian environment.

Funding is available for 4 PhD scholarships to undertake evidence-based research into environmental issues with the aim of providing improved information and frameworks for prioritising environmental need, quantifying the costs and benefits of conservation initiatives, developing agricultural policies and appropriate legal frameworks. Successful applicants will become research fellows at the IPA and PhD students at the University of Queensland. The recipient of the scholarship in environmental law will become, in addition, a Research Scholar of the Centre for Public, International and Comparative Law (CPICL) in the T.C. Beirne School of Law.

## AREAS OF RESEARCH

The PhD research topics will be determined by the successful candidate through discussion with their advisor(s) and the IPA. Environmental Science projects will involve students using an evidence-based approach to quantify the costs and benefits to the environment from government policies in areas such as, but not limited to:

- agricultural practices and chemicals
- genetically modified organisms
- water use, conservation and environmental flow management.

The Environmental Law candidate will survey and evaluate the legal and administrative frameworks for environmental management in Australia to determine their fairness and efficiency for achieving environmental goals. The environmental law research topic will be in these broad areas:

- use of evidence to develop environmental protection policy and law
- the suitability and efficiency of current laws and administrative processes for determining environmental goals, impacts, options, costs and benefits and the development of regulatory models that allow the application of sound science and appropriate economic instruments in meeting the challenges of environmental management.

## THE PERSON

First class honours or Masters graduates from a relevant discipline such as but not limited to biological or environmental sciences or law. Potential candidates must have a desire to contribute to the environmental policy debate and pursue a career in research and public policy, communicating science to the public or advising government and industry on environmental issues. The research fellows will be selected on demonstrated academic achievement and their allied interest in the goals of the Science and Environment Research Group. The personal skills and attributes should also include:

- Ability to access, analyse and evaluate data in topical and controversial areas
- Developed oral and written communication skills
- The ability to participate in the public debate on environment issues
- Understanding of evidence based non-partisan assessments.

## REMUNERATION

These are full-time scholarships for a fixed-term of 3 to 3.5 years at \$25,000 per annum with a generous allowance for operating and travel.

## CONTACT

For more information about the projects and to obtain application information including a position description and selection criteria contact Dr Jennifer Marohasy from the IPA at [jmarohasy@ipa.org.au](mailto:jmarohasy@ipa.org.au) or online at [www.ipa.org.au](http://www.ipa.org.au).

For general University of Queensland scholarship information contact Marijke Schmidt Research Scholarships Officer, Office of Research and Postgraduate Studies, The University of Queensland. Phone:(07)3365 2033 email [m.schmidt@research.uq.edu.au](mailto:m.schmidt@research.uq.edu.au).

**Closing Date for Applications: Monday, 29th January 2007.**

