

# INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH GROUP PHD SCHOLARSHIPS POSITION DESCRIPTION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

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.

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.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

1. First class honours or Masters graduates from a relevant discipline such as but not limited to biological or environmental sciences, economics or law.
2. Ability to access, analyse and evaluate data in topical and controversial areas.
3. Developed oral and written communication skills.
4. The ability to participate in the public debate on environment issues.
5. Understanding of evidence based and non-partisan assessments.

## RENUMERATION

These are full-time scholarships for a fixed-term of 3 to 3.5 years at A\$30,000 per annum, with a generous allowance for operating and travel. They may be awarded in addition to an Australian Postgraduate Award or Endeavour IPRS (International Postgraduate Research Scholarship).

## CONTACT

Email your application to Dr Jennifer Marohasy at [jmarohasy@ipa.org.au](mailto:jmarohasy@ipa.org.au), or telephone 0418 873 222.