



National  
**Science**  
Challenges

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa  
– Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa

## Call for Scholarship applications

3-year Doctoral Scholarship

Funded by Resilience to Nature's Challenges

Hosted by the Centre for Sustainability, University of Otago

Dunedin, New Zealand

**Resilience to Nature's Challenges, Rural programme**

### **Tourism, emergency management and rural disaster resilience**

This doctoral research project will investigate tourism resilience, and collective preparedness and emergency management in the rural South Island of New Zealand. Of particular focus is the role of tourism stakeholders in emergency management, and the challenges and opportunities presented by enhancing collaboration and communication in this space. We seek an **applied, interdisciplinary research candidate** with exceptional communication skills, and prior research knowledge and practical experience of the tourism sector to join our dynamic research team in New Zealand.

The successful candidate will work closely within the Rural research programme, a workstream within Resilience to Nature's Challenges. Resilience to Nature's Challenges is a National Science Challenge focused on developing transformative societal resilience to natural hazards in New Zealand. For more information visit <https://resiliencechallenge.nz>

This three-year project will focus on tourism and disaster risk and resilience, and will involve a co-creation approach to working with tourism businesses, regional tourism organisations and emergency managers. The theoretical framing for the research is social and community resilience and disaster risk reduction, with the focus of work investigating the challenges and opportunities for growing the resilience and response capability of rural New Zealand through utilising tourism resources and capacities.

**The successful candidate will be funded by Resilience to Nature's Challenges for three years (2020-2023).**

The student will be based at the University of Otago, and will have supervisory and advisory support from within Rural team as required. They will join a supportive, engaged and

dynamic cross-disciplinary team of scientists and practitioners, including a team of other doctoral students working in related fields.

**It is anticipated that this research will begin as soon as an appropriate candidate has been identified, no later than 1 March 2020.**

#### **Value and tenure**

- If successful, the RNC scholarship includes a \$27,000 stipend (tax free) plus a tuition fee waiver of up to NZ\$8,800 per annum for three years.
- This project will span 2020-2023 (inclusive).
- The recipient will be supervised by Dr. Caroline Orchiston at the Centre for Sustainability, University of Otago (Dunedin, New Zealand), and co-supervised by other appropriate individuals once the topic has been confirmed.
- The Centre for Sustainability has a reputation for providing excellent pastoral care and support for their graduate students. Visit <http://www.otago.ac.nz/centre-sustainability/index.html>

#### **Applicant eligibility**

This PhD scholarship is open to domestic and international candidates. Note international students are eligible to pay domestic fees if they are living in New Zealand with the appropriate student visa (for more information, <http://www.otago.ac.nz/international/otago002190.html#phdfees>). For all students, please note you will need to have an excellent GPA and English writing and communication skills to apply.

It is a prerequisite that applicants have a Masters qualification in a relevant discipline with a *research thesis* component which totals ~30% of their overall Masters grade. **Inter-disciplinary skills are encouraged**, including: tourism, geography, planning, social science, or sociology.

#### **How to apply**

Applicants should submit an email to Dr. Caroline Orchiston that includes:

- A full curriculum vitae;
- Academic transcript;
- Contact details and supporting letters of two academics referees;
- An example of your best written work (e.g. a chapter of Masters thesis, or a published journal article);
- One A4 page cover letter outlining your interest in the topic, and why you would like to be considered for this scholarship.

The closing date for applications is October 1st 2019. Short-listed applicants will be invited to an interview either in person or online to discuss their application.

Please email your application to Dr. Caroline Orchiston ([caroline.orchiston@otago.ac.nz](mailto:caroline.orchiston@otago.ac.nz)). Contact Dr. Orchiston via email or phone (+64 3 4799244) with any questions or queries about the research.