

Funded PhD Scholarships - Social Dimensions of Invasive Species

Department of Tourism/ Te Tari Tapoi

Otago Business School / Te Kura Pakihi
University of Otago / Te Whare Wananga o Otago

Dunedin / Ōtepoti
Aotearoa New Zealand

Kia Ora, tēnā koutou katoa,

Two funded PhD Scholarships are available to support research into the social dimensions of invasive species are available at the Department of Tourism, University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand. The scholarships start in April 2020 or as soon as possible thereafter for a period of three years and include all tuition fees and an annual tax-free stipend (NZ \$27,500).

BACKGROUND

The successful applicants will each work on a separate aspect of the project based within the Department of Tourism, University of Otago Business School, investigating the social dimensions of non-native invasive species. Applicants with knowledge of te reo Māori me ngā tikanga Māori and Pasifika contexts are encouraged to apply as the research will engage with community members and visitors to Aotearoa New Zealand. The PhD scholarships are supported by the Royal Society of New Zealand as part of the Marsden-funded research project "Bad nature": The social dimensions of invasive alien species and their management in New Zealand." The project is led by Professor Brent Lovelock <https://www.otago.ac.nz/tourism/staff/otago062441.html> and Associate Professor Anna Carr <https://www.otago.ac.nz/tourism/staff/otago062443.html> who will both provide PhD supervision for the successful applicants.

The successful PhD applicants will apply qualitative social science methodologies, in a multiple case-study design to explore peoples' values associated with a number of contentious invasive species in different regions of New Zealand. The study will help us understand how attitudes to invasive species are formed, and consequently how to generate support for their current and future management.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants should have a qualifying degree (e.g., a Masters or first-class honours) in the social sciences, environmental sciences, tourism/leisure studies, geography, Māori studies, recreation ecology or other relevant discipline, and a demonstrated ability to carry out independent research. Applicants with knowledge of te reo Māori me ngā tikanga Māori are especially encouraged for one of the PhD scholarships. The successful applicant will ideally be based in Dunedin for at least part of the three years of full-time study normally required for the PhD, though this residency requirement is negotiable. Extensive periods of field research in communities away from Dunedin will be required.

Requirements for the Doctoral programme include having completed the required academic qualifications for direct entry and meeting the requirements for English language proficiency. Minimum English language requirement for international applicants apply – <https://www.otago.ac.nz/study/entrance/language-requirements.html#minp>

Note: The award of these scholarships is conditional on acceptance into the University of Otago doctoral programme. For further details please visit <https://www.otago.ac.nz/graduate-research/study/phddoctoral/programme/otago401201.html>

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applications (by email) must include the following:

- A curriculum vitae (2 pages maximum).
- A brief outline (2 pages maximum) describing your research skills and experience
- A summary (1 page only) of your motivations for and goals in undertaking a PhD.
- Academic transcripts and certificates for any previous tertiary study.
- The contact details of two academic referees.

CONTACT

Inquiries, expressions of interest, and applications should be directed to: Professor Brent Lovelock (brent.lovelock@otago.ac.nz) Ph +64 3 479-8520

CLOSING DATE: Applications will close on Friday, 15th February 2020.
If an appropriate candidate is not identified the scholarships may be reopened.