



HDR 2021 MPhil Scholarship – Reconnecting to Rivers: Urban Water & Water Sensitive Urban Design

Status: **Draft**

Applications open: 11/10/2021

Applications accepted at any time

About this scholarship

Description/Applicant information

“Reconnecting to Rivers” is a multidisciplinary research project that explores how waterways have been utilized, managed and valued over time, both by Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members, and how their knowledge can help to improve the long-term prospects for our river systems. This project helps to integrate best practice in historic urban river landscape planning and management using knowledge and skills required to grasp the whole urban water cycle and the linkages between its different aspects; rivers, wetlands, biodiversity and ecological conservation, landscape, culture and heritage.

The project uses Blackadder Creek, a tributary of Swan River as the main study area. Water resources of the Blackadder Woodbridge Catchment have been greatly affected by urban developments and are facing further pressure from climate change and human impacts. The scope of this research will be to explore the changing urban water profile in Blackadder Woodbridge Catchment, using measurable indicators, both water quality and water flow, and quantitative assessments of hydrological and sustainable aspects of urban water management. Priorities identified through a consultation process with Nyungar Traditional Owners will also guide the study focus and recommendations. The study will focus on addressing sustainable and culturally appropriate management of the catchment using Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) concepts, and traditional indigenous hydrology.

The MPhil-candidate will become a part of the “Reconnecting to Rivers” team in conducting the pilot project, which aims to contribute to long-term culturally appropriate water management prospects, with other Indigenous-led projects across the State relating Healthy Country and Caring for Country to the management of water and river systems, documenting the value of waterways to wellbeing, while providing the knowledge and tools to better protect these waterways for future generations.

Student type

- Future Students

Faculty

- Faculty of Humanities
- Faculty of Science & Engineering
 - Science courses
 - Engineering courses

Course type

- Higher Degree by Research

Citizenship

- Australian Citizen
- Australian Permanent Resident
- New Zealand Citizen
- Permanent Humanitarian Visa

Scholarship base

- Merit Based

Value

This MPhil Stipend is valued at \$28,597 p.a. for up to a maximum of 2 years.

Scholarship Details

Maximum number awarded

1



Eligible courses

All applicable HDR courses

Eligibility criteria

The 'Reconnecting to Rivers' team is inviting applications for a Masters candidate;

- Australian domestic applicants (Permanent Residents and Citizens) having an undergraduate (Bachelor's degree) in Engineering or Built Environment or Science/ Chemistry field with First-Class Honours or 2nd upper Honours or equivalent.
- Experience in urban water / WSUD is an advantage.

Enrolment requirements

Recipients must complete their milestone 1 within 3 month of enrolment and remain enrolled on a full time basis for the duration of the scholarship

How to apply

Application process

To enquire about this scholarship opportunity, please contact the supervisor (listed below).

Name: Dr Ranjan Sarukkalige

Email: P.Sarukkalige@curtin.edu.au

Contact Number: 08 9266 3530

Need more information?

Enquiries

Name: Dr Ranjan Sarukkalige

Email: P.Sarukkalige@curtin.edu.au

Contact Number: 08 9266 3530

Further information

While this scholarship is open to any Australian residents and citizens, we encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. The research team includes a number of Aboriginal researchers who can provide guidance and support.