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Welcome

Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Board

On behalf of the Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Board, I am delighted to welcome you to the Scholarship Program.

This program is one of the most prestigious scholarship programs in the country and you have joined an incredibly talented cohort of scholars.

We encourage you to take on this unique opportunity to develop your academic skills while remaining connected to your Department and engaging in meaningful policy discourse.

Along with the academic opportunities, the scholarship program offers a range of additional activities that we hope will enrich your experience at the ANU.

By 2020 we will have had over 35 SRW scholars through the program who will have returned to the APS with a highly developed understanding of research and who will be part of an influential alumni network.

We look forward to watching your academic skills develop and your research project progressing over the next three years.

Dr Ken Henry, AC

(Chair, SRW Foundation Board)
Getting Started

Enrolment process
The SRW Office will manage your enrolment process.

Starting at ANU
On your commencement date (that you specify in your enrolment) you will be emailed a pack from the University which will include your Student ID number and your password for the student system. Once this has been issued, you may collect your Student Card at Student Central (Building X-005, 121 Marcus Clarke Street).

Workspace and emails
Your Student Registrar of your research centre will arrange for a workspace and a computer for you. Generally PhD students share an office space with up to 3 other students.

Once you have received your Student ID number, your email address will be automatically created in the format of IDnumber@uds.anu.edu.au. You can log onto your email using your ID number and the password sent to you in your welcome email.

Course work
Depending on your PhD program, you may be required to complete coursework (usually in the first year of your program). Some programs do not formally require coursework units to be completed; however you may choose to complete a selection of courses to complement your research project. You may also have the option to ‘audit’ a course (that is, attend the lectures but not be formally enrolled and required to complete the assessment tasks). Another option is to enrol in a Massive Open Online Course. Please discuss these options with your supervisor to determine the best plan for you.
Mentoring

All SRW Scholars have a senior public servant as their Mentor agreed by their Agencies. Please work in consultation with the SRW Office and your agency to determine a suitable mentor. Mentors should be at least at the SES Band 2 level.

Mentors can play a significant role in a number of ways during your candidature, including:

- ensuring that your academic work will contribute to your home Department and the wider APS;
- securing a return on the Commonwealth’s investment in you by helping to keep you connected to your home Department;
- facilitate any appropriate advancement opportunities throughout and at the conclusion of your candidature.

To do this, your mentor is expected to act as your ‘champion’ in your Department, and is expected to:

- maintain regular contact with the candidate, including meetings; helping you to coordinate presentations of your work to the appropriate audience at your Department;
- invite you to important events on your home Department calendar;
- assist you to obtain access to relevant data and or people if appropriate
- attend bi-annual Mentor meetings hosted by the SRW Foundation
- ensure you have appropriate performance and development plans;
- ensure you have access to career advice, particularly during the last year of your candidature, and
- facilitate your reintegration with your home Department.

Academic Supervisor and panel

Your supervisory panel will play an important role in shaping your PhD project.

Your panel will consist of the Chair (your primary supervisor) and at least two others (with a maximum of five). Generally, these two other positions are academics at the ANU, often from other areas of the University, or from another institution if appropriate.

Your supervisor will guide your panel composition, and it is suggested that rather getting panel members who are experts in precisely what you’re looking at, you try to find academics who you can communicate with, who meet with you regularly, who provide useful feedback, and who you trust and feel comfortable with.

Please see the ANU website for more details on the Supervisory Panel.
Events and calendar

In addition to your commitments in your academic area, the Foundation hosts a number of events which Scholars are expected to attend. These events may include student networking events, Foundation Board Meetings, SRW sponsored events, events with the Public Service Commissioner, and internal Foundation social events.

The Foundation office will invite you to these events using Microsoft Outlook Calendar, so please make sure that you check your ANU email regularly (and sync the calendar to the appropriate platform if you primarily use something else).

Opportunities

Academic life

As well as working on your PhD research, you will be invited to participate in a number of academic activities in your research centre. You may choose to attend reading groups, PhD writing groups, lunchtime seminars, contribute to online forums or any other activities that you find of interest.

ANU Student life

There are also many opportunities for you to engage with student life at the ANU. Many events and activities are organised on campus through the ANU Postgraduate Student Association, the ANU Student Association and ANU Sport. Keep up to date with these organisations by regularly checking their websites or on social media.

Leadership

During your candidature you will be encouraged to seek out leadership opportunities at the ANU. You bring with you a wealth of experience and you will be encouraged to find ways to share your experience with your PhD colleagues in your research area.

For example, in the past SRW Scholars have undertaken the following activities:

- Organising a reading group with other PhDs in your topic area;
- Tutoring;
- Facilitating policy relevant seminars (either at the ANU or in your home department);
- Joining the Crawford PhD conference organising committee;

Travel

Each scholar is allocated at travel budget of $45000. This stipend is available to you for the period that your scholarship is supported by the SRW Foundation, and it is expected
that you will travel overseas at least once in that period of time. Your program of travel is
developed in consultation with your academic supervisor and the Foundation office.
The stipend is used to pay for airfares and other travel, accommodation, conference and
course costs and any other related costs such as visas. You are also provided with a travel
advance based on the ATO per diem rates for international travel.

A travel program may be developed for the purpose of:

- Data collection through fieldwork
- Visiting academics/research centres of interest to your project
- Attending methodological courses (i.e. statistics summer courses)
- Attending international conferences

A successful short travel program will usually combine more than one purpose to make the
most of the time spent overseas.

For example, a scholar may choose to attend conference in Paris, participate in a 3-day
workshop after the conference in London, and then visit a research centres in Oxford for
one week.

Longer travel programs can be developed where scholars may choose for example, to
base themselves in London for three months in order to conduct as series of interviews
around Europe. Alternatively, a scholar may be invited to an international University as a
visiting scholar and will stay there for a significant period of time.

All travel must comply with the ANU Travel Policy, and the SRW Wilson Travel Procedure.

**Scholars Retreat**

Each year the Foundation hosts a two day retreat. This retreat include activities such as
workshops, student networking and an opportunity for you to discuss your research with
the Foundation Board members and other invited guests in an informal setting.

**Australian Public Service (APS) Commission activities**

Twice a year, Scholars and their Departmental Head (or delegate) are invited to a
reception hosted by the Australian Public Service Commissioner. Attendance at this event
is expected and will give you the opportunity to informally update your Departmental head
on your progress so far.

**Visiting Academics**

The Foundation hosts internationally recognised academics as part of the Sir Roland
Wilson Foundation Public Lecture Program. In the past the Foundation has played a role in
developing a program for these visiting academics to engage with the relevant APS
departments, research centres at the ANU and the SRW Scholars.
During the course of your PhD you will be encouraged to help identify and engage with suitable academics who may be interested in coming to Australia to present their work.

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