

Call for Applicants

Earthquake-Recovery PhD Scholarship

The Contribution of Community-Based Learning to Post-Disaster Recovery in Christchurch

The city of Christchurch (population 400,000) experienced three significant earthquakes in September 2010 (7.1 magnitude), February 2011 (6.3 magnitude), and June 2011 (magnitude 6.3) that have resulted in 180 deaths, \$20 billion in lost property and wages, and a city needing to be rebuilt. While University of Canterbury staff and students have already played an important role in immediate recovery efforts, the institution's contribution to the long-term rebuilding work is under development.

As part of the University's earthquake recovery plan and contribution to the rebuild, a three year PhD scholarship worth \$60,000 has been created for a project entitled *The Contribution of Community-Based Learning to Post-Disaster Recovery in Christchurch*.

The purpose of this PhD project is to assess the ways in which long-term recovery following disasters, such as earthquakes, can be facilitated by targeted educational efforts by universities, and to trace how communities, students, and institutions can benefit from this. It is envisaged that this will include:

- a review of the range and extent of community-based learning university/ community partnerships that have emerged in places throughout the world after disasters
- the development of a model for use as a tool to evaluate (and potentially shape) what happens through the first few years of the post-disaster recovery phase in Christchurch.

This scholarship is an amazing opportunity for a PhD candidate interested in community engagement, disaster recovery, and student engagement. It will maximize the potential for positive outcomes for the candidate, the University, its students, and the Christchurch community, so that community engagement, student learning experiences, and the institution's reputation will all be enhanced.

Application Details

- The Supervisors for this project are Professor Eric Pawson (eric.pawson@canterbury.ac.nz), Department of Geography, and Dr Billy O'Steen (billy.osteen@canterbury.ac.nz), School of Educational Studies and Human Development. Both have vast theoretical and practical experience with community-based learning and research supervision.
- **Please indicate your interest in this project to the Supervisors by 14 October. The successful applicant must then submit an application to the UC Scholarships Office by 21 October.**
- Applicants will be considered by the Supervisors with regard to alignment of research interests and the project. Candidates should provide relevant materials (CV, writing sample, and research interests).
- The current emolument of this scholarship is \$20,000 (NZD) per year of enrolment. The scholarship also covers tuition fees for the dissertation enrolment at the NZ domestic rate for the term of the scholarship.
- For further details about PhD study at UC, please visit:
<http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/postgrad/phd/index.shtml>