



**UNSW**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
SYDNEY • AUSTRALIA



## **PhD SCHOLARSHIPS – Up to 10 positions**

### **FACULTY OF MEDICINE**

#### **Australian Institute of Health Innovation**

[The Australian Institute of Health Innovation](#) (AIHI) brings together three successful research centres working in clinical governance, health services research and health informatics. The Director of AIHI, [Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite](#) and his co-investigators Professors Johanna Westbrook, Enrico Coiera, William Runciman and Richard Day have been awarded an \$8.4 million NHMRC Program Grant over five years. The Chief Investigators have appointments representing the universities of New South Wales, Sydney and South Australia. There are several opportunities for career defining post graduate research degrees. Depending on area of interest the candidates may choose enrolment with one of the investigators as PhD supervisor.

Improving quality and safety in healthcare has proved intractable despite large investments indicating a new approach is warranted. [The NH&MRC Patient Safety Program](#) will provide new research evidence to inform the design of better and safer systems of care. Four linked research programs will elucidate: 1: Which plans are being used to treat Australian patients, and why are they chosen? 2: What system problems perpetuate flawed plans and failures of their execution? 3: Which information technology interventions are most likely to enhance the selection of the right plan, and its effective execution? 4: Can a theoretical synthesis of this knowledge build a safety model that predicts the dynamic and complex interactions of health services?

Candidates are invited from a variety of academic backgrounds such as but not limited to: sociology, psychology, medicine, informatics, science, public health, computing or pharmacy. Examples of research topics include:

- Delivering recommended care to patients
- Population based studies of care
- Modelling and simulation
- Human factors in health care delivery
- Optimizing Medication delivery with electronic prescribing and other DSS
- Variation in health care delivery e.g. access after hours, care for chronically ill patients.

The scholarship provides an annual tax-exempt stipend of \$26,669 for three years full time with the possibility of a six months extension and will be awarded on a competitive basis. The scholarships will commence in 2010 or 2011

#### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Prior to the award of a scholarship a candidate should be successfully enrolled in the PhD program at one of the collaborating universities.

For more details please visit the following websites:

- 1) UNSW requirements

<http://www.grs.unsw.edu.au/futurestudents/admission.html>

2) Entry Requirements provided by the Faculty of Medicine, Higher Degree Committee  
<http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/Entry+Requirements>

3) How to apply - please see submission deadlines  
<http://www.grs.unsw.edu.au/futurestudents/apply.html>

## SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Undergraduate degree, preferably with honours
2. Excellent organisational skills and demonstrated capacity to meet milestones.
3. Demonstrable excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
4. Advanced computer skills in spreadsheets, database applications, email protocols and internet interfaces.
5. Ability to understand and comply with the statutory privacy and ethical requirements for research.
6. Knowledge of OHS responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant OHS training.
7. Knowledge of equal opportunity principles.
8. Prior research experience leading to publications in peer reviewed journals.

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Applications must include the following:

- Curriculum vitae with your qualifications, research experience and publications
- A certified copy of academic transcripts
- A summary of your research interests
- Proof of citizenship or permanent residency
- The names and contact details of at least two referees
- Proposed starting date if offered a place

Applications may be sent by:

**e-mail** to the Postgraduate Coordinator [tatjana@cse.unsw.edu.au](mailto:tatjana@cse.unsw.edu.au)

or

**posted to:**

Australian Institute of Health Innovation  
Level 1 AGSM building  
University of New South Wales  
Sydney, NSW, 2052  
Australia

## NEXT STEPS

After we have received the required information the Postgraduate Coordinator will make contact and assist you through the enrolment process.