



Do you want a research scholarship over summer?

***Are you planning on coming back to university next year?
Would you like to carry out an interesting 10-week research project over the holidays?***

Scholarships are available for the following projects, to be based at the Centre for Sustainability – Kā Rakahau o Te Ao Tūroa – University of Otago, Dunedin.

1. Urban earthquakes and CBD cordoning: decisions and implications

The February 2011 Christchurch earthquake resulted in a cordon around the central city that was in place for more than two years. With our capital city likely to face a major earthquake in future, Wellington will also have to deal with similar consequences. How will this effect the ability of the city and its communities to recover in a post-quake setting? This project aims to:

- Investigate the published literature on cordoning both in NZ and overseas
- Develop a series of case studies of cordons from past events
- Understand the reasons for cordoning and the challenges and opportunities it poses to business owners, residents, and other key stakeholders.

Background and expertise: A 3rd to 4th year student with skills in social science research, and an interest in earthquakes, disasters and decision-making. Supervisor: Dr. Caroline Orchiston

2. Role of iwi and community organisations in climate change adaptation

This project will assist with a wider research programme on climate change adaptation, and communities exposed to sea level rise and other climate outcomes. This project addresses the questions: what roles are being adopted by iwi and community organisations in exposed location, why are they undertaking them, and how are they engaging with local authorities?

The successful student will be required to:

- Explore the literature on roles that NGOs, iwi and community groups have taken in relation to adaptive responses to climate change in NZ;
- Identifying council areas exposed to sea level rise;
- Identify climate adaptation champions in communities around NZ in a series of short case studies;
- Contribute to the development and administration of a survey of Local Authorities to assess the extent to which they engage with vulnerable communities, and their approaches to mitigating climate related impacts.

Background and expertise: A 3rd to 4th year student with good research and communication skills, ideally with a background in planning or another social science. Supervisor: Dr. Caroline Orchiston, Dr. Sophie Bond and Dr. Janet Stephenson

ELIGIBILITY

- The Summer Research Scholarships are open only to students who are returning to study at a New Zealand or Australian University in the following year.
- Students must not be receiving alternative scholarship support for the same project or any other project over the same time-frame. Students may hold only one Summer Research Scholarship for the period.
- Students who currently hold a University of Otago Doctoral or Master's Scholarship are not eligible for a Summer Research Scholarship.

TENURE

The Summer Research Scholarships take place over the November to February period, and are for 10 weeks each. Time off for holidays during this time can be negotiated.

SCHOLARSHIP VALUE

\$5,000 to be paid in 3 instalments with the final \$500 paid after the project report has been submitted.

INTERESTED IN APPLYING?

Please send your CV and academic record, together with a cover letter explaining your suitability for the project, to Nicki Topliss, Administrator, Centre for Sustainability nicki.topliss@otago.ac.nz

Closing date for applications: Friday 6th October 2017

Start date if successful: November 2017 (exact date to be negotiated)