



Welcome from the Dean of Graduate Studies

Welcome everyone to the new academic year and an especially warm welcome to those postgraduate research students who are joining us for the first time. I hope that your time here at the University of Adelaide will be productive and rewarding. I also trust that

you take very seriously the quality assurance measures we have in place and that you participate in a timely manner in completing the various reports and submissions associated with your candidature.

The year has already got off to an excellent start with 5 scholars from the University winning outgoing Endeavour Cheung Kong Awards. Five out of a national total of thirteen is an impressive outcome and further highlights our position as a Research Intensive University. Of course having set such a high standard we must now maintain it and we shall again use this newsletter and our web-page to highlight the possibilities as they arise during the year.

The start of semester 1 will see the release of the first edition of our "Research Student Handbook" which will replace our old "Code of Practice". In writing the new handbook the AGC deputy manager, Donna Frost, has tried to produce a user-friendly document that follows the major steps associated with candidature. The reviewers' comments were all very favourable and I feel certain that this new publication will strengthen even further the student focussed approach for which the AGC has become known. The next step we confront is to upgrade all our policies which underpin the Handbook and to get our website as up to date as possible.

2006 also looks like the launch time for our venture into PhDs by Cotutelle de Thèse agreements. This program essentially enables students to split their PhDs between the University of Adelaide and a recognised French university. The French Embassy has recently published some background documents on these programs and these may be found http://www.ambafrance-au.org/article.php?id_article=1369. However it is important that you also read our own rules and regulations and if you and your supervisor are interested in a Cotutelle I would suggest you contact me in the first instance.

The Integrated Bridging Program (R) has also extended its boundaries for 2006 and will now make its offerings

available to permanent residents for whom English is an additional language. Letters of invitation will be sent to eligible candidates in this category and I would urge you to take the opportunity to at least discuss your need with the Coordinator of the program, Ms Kate Cadman. The issue of English language proficiency is presently being reviewed by the University and there will be consultation with the Faculties concerning the level of written and spoken English required by research students in the different disciplines.

In closing, I would like to add a few words about our Annual Review Process. This has now developed into a crucial aspect of quality assurance for our research training here at the University of Adelaide. All QA processes require that the loop be closed and I shall shortly be reporting to the REDC and URC on the outcomes for 2005. Based on my extensive list of interviews I am pleased to say that in general the annual review process is working well. Whilst it hasn't been possible to resolve all the issues raised by the minority of students with complaints, a very significant proportion have been brought to some sense of closure. Regrettably however there is still a small percentage of students who don't submit an annual review and this seriously detracts from the efforts of all those students and supervisors who, despite heavy workloads, do manage to meet the submission deadline. I shall be recommending to REDC that in future, students who are more than two months late in submitting key documents and who have not been granted an extension should have their candidature suspended and that this suspension should be recorded on their academic transcript.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at our upcoming induction, which will provide you with the opportunity to raise any questions that you may have, either of myself, or the AGC staff.

Professor Richard Russell
Dean of Graduate Studies

Postgraduate Research Induction: Friday 24th February

Each year, an Induction Program is organised by the Adelaide Graduate Centre for commencing Higher Degree by Research students, it is usually held on a Friday morning in late February and repeated in late July each year. The Induction provides a valuable orientation to life as a research student at the University of Adelaide and is intended to complement your local (School or Discipline) induction.

In 2006, the Adelaide Graduate Centre's Semester 1 Induction Program will be held on the morning of Friday, 24 February 2006, concluding with light refreshments for all involved. For further information and to confirm your attendance for the Induction, please register online, by 17 February 2006 at: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/induction/index.html>

Note that all commencing Higher Degree by Research students are required to attend the first Induction Program following their enrolment.

Can you help?

I am seeking two senior research students from each Faculty to participate in panel discussion sessions at the upcoming Post-graduate Research Induction of Friday, 24 February 2006 (11:15am to 1:00pm – with light refreshments to follow). Panels will be Faculty based, with each comprising a senior and experienced supervisor, a staff member from the Adelaide Graduate Centre, a subject librarian and two research students from the relevant Faculty. It is expected that each panel member will talk for about 10 minutes on their area of expertise with a general discussion and question and answer session to follow.

The student talks always receive very positive feedback from Induction participants and are considered one of the most valuable parts of the Induction Program. This is a great opportunity for you to provide your fellow students with a few tips and tricks to navigate their way through their research degree.

If you think you might be interested in participating in a panel and would like further information about what's involved, please contact Donna Frost on 8303 6132 or by email to donna.frost@adelaide.edu.au by 4 February 2005.

Many thanks

Donna

An invitation to participate in *Erasmus Mundus*

Dear Colleague,

We are proud to announce that, for the next academic year (2006-2007), there are about 70 scholarships (21.000 EUR per student per year) available for students coming from third countries[1] to follow Erasmus Mundus master courses, coordinated by our university and within the framework of the European Commission's Erasmus Mundus programme[2].

We welcome students of your university to apply.

Erasmus Mundus masters are very specific top programmes, organized by a consortium of European universities and selected by the European Commission. These programmes are taught in English. Apart from benefiting from the top academic quality, students can get acquainted with European culture in at least two countries as they have to take up courses at least two of the partner universities. Moreover, students are free to follow additional language courses. In all universities selected, academic and student services are excellent. Successful students receive a double or joint Erasmus Mundus master degree.

The Erasmus Mundus programs for which the scholarships are granted are:

- NEW!! Master of Bioethics (one year programme) from next academic year 2006-2007: Consortium: K.U.Leuven (coordinator) Belgium, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen (The Netherlands), Università degli Studi di Padova (Italy) Further details and admission criteria: <http://www.masterbioethics.org/>
- Erasmus Mundus Master in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (two year programme) since academic year 2005-2006: Consortium: K.U.Leuven, coordinator (Belgium), Chalmers University of Technology (Sweden), Universiteit Leiden (the Netherlands), Technische Universiteit Delft (the Netherlands), Technische Universität Dresden (Germany). Further details and admission criteria: <http://www.emm-nano.org/>
- Erasmus Mundus Master in Adapted Physical Activity (one year programme) since academic year 2005-2006: Consortium: K.U.Leuven, coordinator (Belgium), Norges Idrettshogskole (Norway), Universita Palecheho v Olomouci (Czech Republic), University of Limerick (Ireland). Further details and admission criteria: <http://www.erasmusmundus.be/>

To apply for these scholarships, please look at the programmes websites, where reference is made to all application instructions as well as the online application form (<http://www.kuleuven.be/applicationform/>).

Deadline for applications: February 1st 2006 !!

We would be very glad if you could forward this message to all relevant groups/staff in your university. We believe that Erasmus Mundus programmes will strengthen the ties between our institutions.

Yours sincerely,
Prof. Marc Vervenne,
Rector K.U.Leuven

[1] Nationals coming from all countries other than the 25 EU Member States, the EEA-EFTA states (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) and the candidate countries for accession to the EU (presently Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Turkey), who are not residents of any of the above countries, and who have not carried out their main activities (studies, work, etc.) for more than a total of 12 months over the last five years in any of the above countries.

[2] (http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/mundus/index_en.html)