

The University of Manchester and The University of Melbourne
Call for jointly awarded/ dual PhD Projects to commence in 2021/22
Deadline: Monday 26th October 2020 (08:00am UK / 19:00pm AUS)

PURPOSE OF THE SCHEME

The University of Melbourne (Melbourne) and the University of Manchester (Manchester) seek to support research collaboration and the development of globally-engaged researchers by establishing an international research training group for jointly awarded/ dual PhDs. Jointly awarded/ dual PhD¹ programmes provide candidates with access to complementary facilities, expertise and field environments, a global perspective and an international fluency that will enable future developments in their field and provide a pool of talented employees for global academia and industry.

In its inaugural call, Melbourne and Manchester funded and recruited 20 jointly awarded/ dual PhD candidates across twenty separate pairs of Primary Investigators (PIs) – forming the first cohort of candidates of the [International Research Training Group](#).

Project proposals to establish **pairs** of jointly awarded/ dual PhD research projects are now being called for. Each successful PI collaborating team will receive funding for **two** jointly awarded/ dual PhD candidates, one based in Manchester and one based in Melbourne. Funding for each studentship will include tuition fees, a full living stipend allowance, research training support, health insurance and travel allowance.

The jointly awarded/ dual PhD candidates, subsequently recruited to the successful projects, will form the second cohort of the Melbourne-Manchester international research training group.

FUNDING

Up to a total of twelve (12) PhD scholarships will be awarded. Melbourne is funding up to 6 PhD scholarships and Manchester is funding up to 6 PhD scholarships in 2021-2022. Scholarship duration is 42 months.

University of Melbourne	University of Manchester
Tax-free scholarship (stipend) for Melbourne-based jointly awarded/ dual PhD candidate Graduate Research Scholarship	Manchester stipend for Manchester-based jointly awarded/ dual PhD candidate (equivalent to UKRI standard)
Tuition-fee waivers for both jointly awarded/ dual PhD candidates	Tuition-fee waivers for both jointly awarded/ dual PhD candidates
Support to each Melbourne PI for relevant activities, including mobility support for the Melbourne-based candidate to travel to Manchester: \$10,000 AUD lump sum	Research Training Support Grant (RTSG) - £5,000 per year plus student Travel allowance of £1500 over the 3.5 year programme
Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) Single Membership for international students who require a student visa to study in Australia, when in Australia, and Travel insurance while on Study Away	Health Insurance in Australia while on Study Away

¹ University of Melbourne refer to this programme as 'jointly awarded' and University of Manchester refer to this programme as 'dual-award'.

THE JOINTLY AWARDED DUAL PHD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

Graduate Researchers (GRs)/ Postgraduate Researchers (PGRs) participating in the jointly awarded/ dual PhD programme will be enrolled/registered at both institutions from the start of their programme. The research work will be performed under joint supervision, with at least one primary supervisor appointed from each of the two institutions. The work will be judged according to academic standards at both institutions.

The periods spent abroad by the GR/PGR candidate will be decided by supervisors from both sides, with at least 12 months spent at each institution.

At the end of the successful completion of the program, each GR/PGR will be eligible to receive a PhD, recognized by two testamurs, one from Melbourne and one from Manchester, stating the joint nature of the award and name of the partner institution.

All candidates must meet the eligibility requirements at both Melbourne and Manchester to successfully enrol at both universities on the Jointly awarded/ dual PhD programme.

PROJECT PROPOSAL CALL

- Projects must be led by one primary supervisor from each institution and each PI must meet the eligibility criteria of their home institution.
- Each pair of PIs should submit two projects (one for a Melbourne scholarship and one for a Manchester scholarship).
- There should not be any interdependence between these two projects.
- Duration of projects is 42 months.
- At least 12 months of the project should be spent at either institution (i.e. at least 12 months at Melbourne and 12 months at Manchester)

Project proposals are open to all research areas, however priority will be given to the following areas identified as fields of mutual Manchester/Melbourne research strength:

- Quantum Science & Nano Technology
- Biomaterials & Bioelectronics
- Creative Economy
- Urbanism & Cities
- Immunology and Inflammation
- Cancer

Release project proposal call	Monday 3 rd August 2020
Deadline for project proposal applications	Monday 26 th October 2020 - 7:00pm (AEDT)
Panel to discuss and approve project proposals	Nov 2020 (decision outcome early Dec)
Advertise successful projects for PhD recruitment	Dec 2020
Interview and recruitment due dates	May 2021 (Manchester) and Dec 2021 (Melbourne)
GR/PGR start date	Sep 2021 (Manchester) Jan-Mar 2022 (Melbourne)

PIs must successfully recruit both candidates by December 31st 2021. If the PIs do not meet this deadline, the scholarships and mobility funding will be recalled for use in a future call.

The Manchester Melbourne jointly award/ dual PhD programme will advertise the top six paired projects as agreed by both institutions. Successful projects will be published on the Melbourne and Manchester websites during the application rounds so that prospective candidates can apply for specific projects.

ELIGIBILITY

This call for project proposals is open to a supervisory team of at least two principal investigators (PI) with capacity to supervise two PhD candidates. One PI must be employed by The University of Manchester and the other must be employed by The University of Melbourne. Each PI must meet the supervisor eligibility criteria set by their own institution and each PI is responsible for checking their own eligibility.

The Supervisory team must meet Manchester's criteria as set out in the [University's Policy on Supervision for Postgraduate Research Degrees](#).

Melbourne academics must be registered to supervise as per the [Supervisor Eligibility and Registration Policy](#). For more information, including forms for supervisor registration, please consult the [information for supervisors section on the Graduate Research Hub](#). Honorary employees whose primary academic affiliation is the University of Melbourne are eligible to lead the application if:

- a) they are eligible to be a primary supervisor at the University of Melbourne; AND
- b) if their primary employer has entered into an agreement to fund the Melbourne seed fund component of the collaborative activity; or may participate at their own expense if they are otherwise unaffiliated (for example, they hold an emeritus position).

Additional colleagues (including other partners in Australia, the UK or internationally) that are not affiliated with Melbourne or Manchester are not eligible to apply as primary supervisors, although they can participate in co-supervision of joint PhDs.

Principal investigators must be able to demonstrate existing research relationships and must provide evidence of such collaborative relationships as part of the application.

Adherence to respective equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) policies are a core feature of this program to ensure that all participants can do their best work, thrive and succeed. Applicant teams should consider how they can take meaningful steps in their future collaborations to foster an environment that values, supports and respects a diverse range of views, knowledge and experiences. Applicants should consider EDI as it applies to gender, indigenous peoples, disabilities, career stages and sectors.

Applications that do not satisfy these criteria will **not be eligible**.

EVALUATION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS

Melbourne and Manchester will rank the paired projects in order of meeting the selection criteria and agree on up to six top-ranking research pairs (and twelve jointly awarded dual PhD projects).

SELECTION CRITERIA

- The history and extent of collaboration between the Melbourne and Manchester PIs
- How the projects combine mutual areas of interest and strength at Melbourne and Manchester
- How the projects articulate the need for, and benefit of, spending a minimum of 12 months at Melbourne and Manchester
- The capacity for future collaboration/funding: What is the extent to which future collaborations are possible as a result of the proposed exchange activities? What is the ability of the proposal to leverage future external funding?
- The capability of the project to seed the development of a larger network of researchers across the universities within this research area.

SUBMISSION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

A single, jointly prepared application must be submitted using the Smart PDF application form, in English, to Mark Gregory (mark.gregory@unimelb.edu.au).

All Melbourne projects must ensure Head of School/Department approval is attached to the application.

Application deadline: Monday 26th October 2020 (08:00am UK / 19:00pm AUS)

Please note no feedback will be given on any submissions until the joint evaluation has taken place.

Submission and Melbourne contact details:

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