2020 McCoy PhD Scholarship Scheme
EOI Guidelines

The McCoy Project is a joint initiative between the University of Melbourne and Museums Victoria, which fosters innovative and high impact research projects that leverage the strengths of the two partners.

The McCoy Project aims to:

- Create an environment where scholarship based on Museums Victoria’s collections can flourish.
- Develop and deliver quality collaborative projects that will have significant impact.
- Bring scholars from different disciplines to work together to develop innovative and inspiring projects.
- Develop the next generation of research communicators.

About the McCoy PhD Scholarship Scheme

The McCoy Project is currently offering two PhD Scholarships to commence in 2020 to be broadly allocated equally between the STEM and HASS disciplines. To award the scholarships, the McCoy Project is seeking expressions of interest from joint supervisors from the University of Melbourne and Museums Victoria with PhD research projects that align with the objectives of the McCoy Project and its research themes:

- Understanding the past, present and future through our collections
- Understanding and protecting the places and cultural heritage of our region
- Connecting diverse Peoples and perspectives to transform our understandings
- Placing First Peoples at the core of our practice, through inclusive and respectful engagement
- Communicating our Research: Innovative Teaching and Learning through Universities, Museums and Collections.

However, consideration will also be given to project proposals that fall outside these themes. Proposals that cross traditional discipline boundaries will be viewed favourably.

The McCoy PhD Scholarships are Research Training Program Stipends (RTPS). The McCoy PhD scholarships will be awarded under the same conditions and benefits as the RTPS and include a $5,000 annual top-up (for a period of three years). All overhead and resources costs for the student are to be borne by the School/Faculty.

Eligibility Criteria

For the research project to be eligible for consideration, it must:

- Be aligned with the McCoy Project Themes
- Be original research that preferably crosses traditional discipline boundaries
- Have a Principal Supervisor from the University of Melbourne and a co-supervisor from Museums Victoria (Please see the University of Melbourne’s Supervision page for supervisor definitions and eligibility criteria: https://gradresearch.unimelb.edu.au/staff/supervisors). For
the nominated Graduate research student to be eligible, they must:

- be an Australian citizen, New Zealand citizen or Australian permanent resident, or the recipient of an International Postgraduate Research Scholarship;
- not have previously held an RTPS or Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) for six months or more;
- have completed tertiary studies that are at least equivalent to a 4-year honours degree at an Australian university with a minimum result of first class Honours;
- not have already completed a research qualification at the same or higher level as the course for which a scholarship is sought.
- have applied for and meet the entry requirements for a Master by research or Doctoral (Research) degree at the University of Melbourne, or be currently enrolled in a research degree at the University of Melbourne and have at least 12 months (full-time equivalent) of candidature remaining

For full information regarding the conditions and benefits of the RTPS scheme, please refer to: https://www.education.gov.au/research-training-program

Note that the research project must have a student commence their enrolment in the PhD by November 2020 at the latest.

Recipients and/or current applicants for McCoy Seed Funding are eligible to apply.

**Assessment Process**
Applications will be short-listed by The McCoy Selection Committee, comprising a minimum of three researchers associated with Museums Victoria and the University of Melbourne. The short-list will then be assessed and successful applications will be determined from these, with final joint approval by the PVC (Research Collaborations and Partnerships), University of Melbourne and Director (Research and Collections) at Museums Victoria. The McCoy Seed Fund Selection Committee reserves the right both to discuss applications with the relevant Head of Department or Dean, or other senior colleagues of the joint-supervisors and to seek further information from an applicant prior to making a final decision.

**Application Submission Process**

**Sign-Off:**
Supervisors **must** consult with the appropriate supervisors and/or heads of departments at both the University and Museums Victoria, about their proposed RTPS project and ensure that they have the time and resources to undertake the project.

**Submission:**
- All applications must also be submitted by email using the Application Form with attachments. These are to be emailed as a single PDF file, named in this format: [SURNAME]-McCoyPhD-2020. Applications are to be submitted to: mccoy-project@unimelb.edu.au.
- No Themis workbench submission is required.

**Key Dates**
Applications OPEN: November 2019
Applications CLOSE: 6 February 2020
Notification of Outcomes: March 2020
Enquiries & Contact Details

General Enquiries:
Kim Turner, Internal Grants Officer, University of Melbourne
Email: mccoy-project@unimelb.edu.au

Tim Stranks, Manager, Research Programs, Museums Victoria
Email: tstranks@museum.vic.gov.au

Further information:
The McCoy Project PhD Website: https://research.unimelb.edu.au/support/funding/internal/mccoy-scholarship