



Expression of Interest: Maintain your Brain PhD Scholarships

The Departments of Psychiatry and General Practice, within the Melbourne Medical School, are both participating sites in a 5 year duration NH&MRC Dementia Research Team grant led by the University of New South Wales called “Maintain your Brain (MYB)”. As part of this collaboration both Departments offer one PhD Scholarship each to commence in 2017. It is expected that both successful applicants would for some components of their PhD projects collaborate with each other.

We are looking for two talented students to undertake a PhD each connected to the MYB study.

About the Scholarship

Project 1	Exploring the needs, attitudes, knowledge, barriers and enablers in the general population, in people at increased risk of dementia and in health care professionals (other than General Practitioners) to take up, adhere and promote dementia risk reduction behaviour (Psychiatry).
Project 2	Exploring the needs, attitudes, knowledge, barriers and enablers of General Practitioners to most effectively promote dementia risk reduction behaviour in their patients with an emphasis on digital health interventions (General Practice).
Scholarship	\$26,916 p.a. to support a PhD position Opportunity to apply for funds to support conference-related travel.
Lead Supervisor	Prof Nicola Lautenschlager (Psychiatry) Prof Jane Gunn (General Practice)
Project Duration	3 years full-time commencing by May 2017
Enquiries	Maria Potiriadis Mental Health Research Program Coordinator Department of General Practice Melbourne Medical School Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences m.potiriadis@unimelb.edu.au
Closing Date	Expressions of Interest close 5.00pm Wednesday 15th March 2017.



Who Can Apply

Project 1

- The position will suit an excellent student with a background in psychology, exercise physiology, physiotherapy, biomedicine or other health related disciplines. The student will be supported by an experienced multidisciplinary panel of supervisors and will become part of the Academic Unit for Psychiatry of Old Age (AUPOA) research team in the Department of Psychiatry.
- Applicants need to be Australian or New Zealand citizens or Australian permanent residents.
- Our preference is for a full-time student.
- It is essential that applicants meet the University of Melbourne's Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Science's requirements for Graduate Research candidature.

Project 2

- The position will suit an excellent student with a background in nursing, medicine, implementation science, psychology, biomedicine or other health related disciplines. The student will be supported by experienced multidisciplinary supervisors and will become part of the Maintain your Brain (MYB) research team in the Department of General Practice.
- Applicants need to be Australian or New Zealand citizens or Australian permanent residents.
- Our preference is for a full-time student.
- It is essential that applicants meet the University of Melbourne's Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Science's requirements for Graduate Research candidature.

Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences PhD course information:

<http://mdhs-study.unimelb.edu.au/degrees>



Project Details

The Maintain your Brain (MYB) study is a large NHMRC funded Dementia Research Team Grant which (2016-2020) led by Professor Henry Brodaty at the University of New South Wales. Professors Jane Gunn and Nicola Lautenschlager are members of the multi-institutional investigator team. MYB is a large internet-based multi-domain intervention study with dementia-free participants living in NSW scheduled to commence May 2017. The intervention lasts for 4 years and the aim is dementia risk reduction.

The two PhD fellowships are part of a Knowledge Transfer Hub (KTH) attached to MYB and based at the University of Melbourne. Other collaborating sites for the KTH are the Australian National University and the University of Western Australia. The aim of the KTH is to develop evidence on how current knowledge about dementia risk reduction strategies is best communicated to general practitioners, other health care providers, the general public and people at increased risk of developing cognitive decline and dementia. The focus for this aim is on Australia, but international evidence and knowledge transfer activities will be investigated. The results of the two PhD fellowships will be of crucial importance to MYB as they will provide the foundation on how to best disseminate the results from MYB once the trial is completed.

These two PhD fellowships offer a unique opportunity to work in a multidisciplinary environment as part of a large multi-institutional study and to contribute crucial new knowledge how to best transfer knowledge on dementia risk reduction strategies from research environments into the Australian community.

How to Apply

Please submit the **expression of interest form** (below) by **5:00pm Wednesday 15th March 2017**. Send a completed copy, along with your supporting documents as a single PDF document to Maria Potiriadis, m.potiriadis@unimelb.edu.au.

Outcomes

- Applicants will be advised of the eligibility check outcome by Friday 24th March 2017.
- The successful applicant will be invited to submit an online University of Melbourne Graduate Research Degree and Scholarship application form by Friday 7th April 2017. <http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/applications/research>
- Applicants should note that the offer of a PhD place must be taken up by Monday 1st May 2017 on a full-time basis.



Graduate Research Degree and Scholarship Expression of Interest Form

Applicant Information

Full name: <i>(including title)</i>	
Current institution/workplace:	
University of Melbourne student ID:	
Residential address:	
Telephone number:	
Email:	
Citizenship category: <i>(Please indicate)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Australian citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent resident <input type="checkbox"/> New Zealand citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____

Academic Qualifications (Current and Completed)

- List below all tertiary level studies you have undertaken including those in which you are currently enrolled (whether you have completed them or not) **beginning with the most recent.**
- † If you are currently completing a degree, please write **CU** for 'current' and include the date that you anticipate completion. If you began a degree and did not complete it, write **INC** for 'incomplete' and include the date when you ceased study. If you completed the degree please write **CO** for 'complete' and include the completion date.
- ‡ Program length is the usual duration of the program on a full-time basis.

Name of Degree (e.g. Bachelor of Science)	Name of Institution and Country	† Current (CU) Incomplete (INC) Complete (CO)	Date of completed, ceased or expected completion (mm/yy)	Program length‡ (e.g. 3 years)



Research Topic

I am interested in applying for (please tick):	
Project 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Exploring the needs, attitudes, knowledge, barriers and enablers in the general population, in people at increased risk of dementia and in health care professionals (other than General Practitioners) to take up, adhere and promote dementia risk reduction behaviour (Psychiatry).
Project 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Exploring the needs, attitudes, knowledge, barriers and enablers of General Practitioners to most effectively promote dementia risk reduction behaviour in their patients with an emphasis on digital health interventions (General Practice).
In your own words, please reflect on what you think might be the possible barriers and enablers around this topic: (up to 500 words)	



Referee 1 - Contact details

The referee will be contacted by the proposed supervisor with your permission.

Full name: <i>(including title)</i>	
Institution:	
Position:	
Relationship with the applicant:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Referee 2 - Contact details

The referee will be contacted by the proposed supervisor with your permission.

Full name: <i>(including title)</i>	
Institution:	
Position:	
Relationship with the applicant:	
Telephone:	
Email:	



Career Objectives/Vision

Please summarise how the Scholarship would advance your career objectives and outline your vision for the next 5 years (max 200 words).

Prior Professional/Research Experience

Provide evidence that you have the suitable skills from prior professional/research experience that will equip you to undertake a Graduate Research Degree in the proposed field of study (max 200 words).



Supporting Documents

- **Please attach your Curriculum Vitae (your CV should include the details of all research experience including positions held and publications produced; a sample of CV is attached in page 9).**
- **Please attach your academic transcripts and refer the requirements below.**

Please note the following documentation requirements:

- You must provide the full official transcript(s) on official university letterhead, indicating all subjects and results in all years of study for each qualification completed or attempted.
- If you have completed a degree but your transcript does not state this, you must provide a copy of the award certificate or an original or copy of a letter from your institution on university letterhead confirming you have completed all the requirements of the degree program and are eligible to graduate or have graduated.
- Please provide an official explanation of the relevant university's **grading system**, or official advice from the awarding institution detailing the numeric marks you achieved for your tertiary studies.
- Applicants with a Masters qualification that is graded as Pass/Fail only should provide examiners' reports (a report containing examiners' feedback/ detailed information about your thesis) if they are available.
- All applicants with a Masters qualification should provide an extract from the relevant university handbook (or website) that clearly states (i) the normal duration of the Masters course (e.g. two years full-time) and (ii) the structure of the course (e.g. minimum of 24 points, of which 18 points are a research project). You must provide information about the amount of research required for the qualification.
- If you are currently enrolled in a tertiary course, please provide a transcript that shows your results to date and provide final transcripts as soon as they become available.
- If you have received credit toward your degree at the third year level or higher, please include the transcript/s for the studies for which you have received credit.
- Documents in languages other than English must be accompanied by an English translation by an accredited translator.



Format for the Required CV - Sample Only

PERSONAL INFORMATION (REQUIRED)

Full name

Email address

PROPOSED THESIS TITLE/ TOPIC/ AREA

EDUCATION (CURRENT AND COMPLETED)

RESEARCH AND/OR RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Provide details of any voluntary and/or paid roles that are relevant to your project/degree program and for which you are able to provide academic or employer referee reports.

Provide the following information for each organisation:

- Organisation name
- Start and end dates
- Average hours per week
- A brief description of your role and the relevant research/professional experience gained

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS (IF APPLICABLE)

Relevant publications include refereed journal articles, book chapters or books that have been published or accepted for publication. Present publications in the format below, citing the Digital Object Identifier (for information on DOI see www.doi.org) or relevant URL.

- Do not include publications that have not been accepted or are under review.
- Begin with the most recent publication first.
 - **Journal References:** name(s) of author(s), year, title of paper, title of journal, date of online publication.
 - **Chapters in a book:** name(s) of author(s), names of editor(s), year, chapter title, title of book, edition, volume, page number(s), publisher, ISBN.
 - **Books:** name(s) of author(s), year, title of book, edition, publisher, ISBN.

GRADUATE AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS (IF APPLICABLE)

If you have received or currently hold a graduate award or scholarship provide details here (do not include details of HECS exemptions). Include:

- Name of award
- Institution by which the award was granted
- Award's annual monetary value
- Award's start and end dates (month, year)
- Briefly describe the research or study the award supported/is supporting