PHD SCHOLARSHIP

The School of Civil Engineering at The University of Queensland (Brisbane, Australia) is offering a PhD scholarship for a motivated student to contribute to research being undertaken within the Centre for Solid Waste Bioprocessing. Potential students with an interest in anaerobic biotechnologies are strongly encouraged to apply. The scholarship will be for three (3) years and valued at $26,288 per annum (2016 rate) tax-free with the possibility of a six month extension in approved circumstances. The selected candidate will receive a competitive stipend, full tuition, and benefits. Top-up scholarships and international student fee-waivers are also available to exceptional candidates.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Resource recovery from waste/wastewaters (energy, metals and byproducts)

The main theme of the research directive is the development of sustainable technologies to obtain valuable resources from wastes. Current projects focuses on:

- Sulphate reduction based bioprocesses for acid mine drainage treatment and metals recovery.
- Bioenergy production from anaerobic digestion of ligno-based agriculture residues.
- Understanding microbial metabolic pathways in anaerobic systems as a key to develop sustainable waste/wastewater treatment technologies and novel bioprocess technologies.

The above listed projects involve the development of innovative technologies that allow for practically and economic feasible recovery of valuable compounds from solid waste and wastewater. All projects are in close collaboration with other research groups at the University of Queensland as well as with industry and international research institutes.

The role

The student will conduct detailed laboratory scale investigations to fundamentally understand relevant processes and reveal mechanisms. The development and operation of bioreactors that enable the desired conversion is key in these projects. The candidate will be housed in an excellent research environment with excellent laboratory facilities and expertise.

QUALIFICATIONS

Both Australian and international applicants are welcome to apply. The ideal candidate should possess a MS degree in Environmental Engineering, Environmental Science, Biochemical Engineering, Chemical Engineering or a related field. Exceptional BS-level candidates may also be considered (Honours IIA - [https://graduate-school.uq.edu.au/uq-research-degrees](https://graduate-school.uq.edu.au/uq-research-degrees)). Excellent academic performance evidenced by a high Grade Point Average (GPA) is mandatory. The ideal candidate would have knowledge and/or experience in bioconversion/fermentation processes. Experience in bioreactor design/operation or research paper/proposal writing is desirable. Knowledge in mathematical modeling is a plus.

Applicants must be eligible to enroll in a PhD with the University of Queensland. For a complete list of the University of Queensland's minimum entry requirements please refer to: [https://graduate-school.uq.edu.au/uq-research-degrees](https://graduate-school.uq.edu.au/uq-research-degrees). Domestic applicants should be eligible for an Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) or equivalent (for more information, please visit: [https://graduate-school.uq.edu.au/scholarships](https://graduate-school.uq.edu.au/scholarships)). International applicants must meet the University of Queensland's English Language Proficiency (ELP) requirements detailed at [http://www.uq.edu.au/grad-school/english-language-proficiency-requirements](http://www.uq.edu.au/grad-school/english-language-proficiency-requirements).

HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates should submit their scholarship application on the Application for school-based PhD or MPhil scholarship form, together with your supporting documents on the [RHD online application system](https://graduate-school.uq.edu.au/uq-research-degrees).

Details on the application for admission and scholarship process can be found at [http://www.civil.uq.edu.au/RHD-application-apply](http://www.civil.uq.edu.au/RHD-application-apply).

For further details on the scholarship project, please contact Dr Denys Villa Gomez (Supervisor) at uqdvilla@uq.edu.au.

Submission due by 31/03/2016

[www.civil.uq.edu.au](http://www.civil.uq.edu.au)