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 Fire Safety Engineering Research Group. Potential students with a background in mechanical, fire safety, or structural engineering, and with an interest in wildland fire science and combustion are strongly encouraged to apply. The scholarship will be for three and a half (3.5) years and valued at $26,288AUD per year. Top-up scholarships and international student fee-waivers are also available to exceptional candidates.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Fire Performance of Structures at the Wildland-urban Interface

Wildland-urban Interface (WUI) fires burn millions of hectares per year and a serious threat to communities in Australia and worldwide. Nevertheless, a full understanding of the mechanisms that control the spread of fire has not been reached. Nowadays there are numerous models of WUI fire propagation used for prediction, firefighter training and risk assessment. Numerous assumptions, with high level of uncertainty are normally used for formulating heat transfer and fire propagation models; a comprehensive, yet practical, formulation is still needed.

The aim of this project is to generate the foundations for a formulation that considers flame propagation based explicitly considering heat by radiation, convection and firebrand spotting in the WUI. Experimental work within the project will be carried in the Fire Laboratory (http://www.civil.uq.edu.au/fire) at The University of Queensland. This could be used to better understand the conditions under which residential structures are exposed during a fire, allowing for a more precise WUI fire risk assessment.

QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates must hold a relevant undergraduate or Master’s degree in mechanical, fire safety, or structural engineering. Candidates with skills or interest in wildland fires and are strongly encouraged to apply.

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.

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

For further details on the scholarship project, please contact Dr Cristian Maluk at c.maluk@uq.edu.au.

Submission due by 31/05/2016.