

The Roland Stead Postgraduate Scholarship in Biology

Regulations

This scholarship supports Master's research students of biology with an interest in ecology, freshwater fisheries and the Canterbury region.

1. The scholarship is to provide financial assistance to a value specified in Note 1.
2. One scholarship will be available annually.
3. The scholarship will be available to full-time students in the School of Biological Sciences who are engaged in research in Part II of the Master of Science degree programme. It will be tenable for the period necessary for a recipient to complete 1.00 EFTS.²
4. The scholarship will be awarded by the Council of the University of Canterbury, on the recommendation of a Selection Committee.³ In recommending the award, financial need, as evidenced by a statement from the applicant, will be first considered. The following will also be taken into account:
 - a. Academic achievement, as evidenced by results in Part I of the Master of Science degree programme;
 - b. Character, as evidenced by a character reference;
 - c. Research potential, as evidenced by an outline of the applicant's research.
5. Applications for the scholarship must be made to the University of Canterbury Scholarships Office, on the approved form available from the Scholarships website,⁴ no later than 5.00 pm on 10 March, or, if this is not a business day, by 5.00 pm on the next business day.
6. If in any year there are no candidates of sufficient merit, no award will be made.
7. Unless otherwise specified in the offer letter, an offer of a scholarship will lapse if it is not accepted, in writing, within one calendar month of the offer being made.
8. The scholarship may be co-tenable with scholarships, bursaries or prizes of equal or lesser value.
9. The value of the scholarship will be paid by direct credit to the recipient's nominated New Zealand bank account, in monthly instalments, following confirmation of the recipient's enrolment in Part II of the Master of Science degree programme.
10. If it is necessary for their research, recipients, with the permission of the Dean of Science, may retain the scholarship while carrying out research for limited periods outside the University of Canterbury.
11. A condition of acceptance is that recipients permit publication and announcement of their acceptance of the award.

¹ The current value of the scholarship is \$5,000.

² EFTS means "Equivalent Full Time Student", and 1.00 EFTS is equal to one year of full-time study.

³ The current Selection Committee comprises (1) Professor Paula Jameson, (2) the Head or Postgraduate Coordinator of the School of Biological Sciences (or nominee), and (3) the Dean of Postgraduate Research (or nominee). The minimum number of Committee members will be three.

⁴ <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/scholarships/>

12. In the event of a recipient's withdrawal from Part II of the Master of Science degree programme, the scholarship will be withdrawn, and any paid funds may be recovered.
13. Continuation of the scholarship is conditional on satisfactory academic progress and adherence to the University's statutes and regulations.

History of the scholarship: The scholarship was established in 2013 by Mr Roland Stead. Roland Stead is the only son of Edgar and Mary Stead and lived at the Ilam Homestead from his birth in 1921 until his father's death in 1949. The Stead family have had a long association with the University of Canterbury and its predecessors, Canterbury College and Canterbury University College. His grandfather, George Gattonby Stead, was a highly successful Christchurch businessman who served on the Board of Governors of Canterbury College from 1892 to 1900. Edgar Stead (1881–1949) was a distinguished New Zealand ornithologist, horticulturalist and naturalist, and graduated in electrical engineering from Canterbury College. He introduced rhododendrons and azaleas to Ilam and successfully experimented with their propagation and hybridization, which earned the Ilam Gardens and its blooms an international reputation still enjoyed today. Ilam Homestead was bought by the Steads in 1914. The 21 hectare property was one of three Ilam properties acquired in 1949 to provide land for the University of Canterbury to be relocated from its central city site. Roland Stead served on the British battleship *Duke of York* during World War II on Arctic patrols and on his return to New Zealand developed a farm near Amberley where he lived until his retirement to Christchurch. He shares many of his father's interests, developing fine gardens on the property including a special collection of azaleas and rhododendrons. He is a keen naturalist and angler with a commitment to ecological values. He is a generous philanthropist, securing naming rights to the Edgar Stead Atrium in the School of Biological Sciences in honour of his father, establishing the Roland Stead Ilam Gardens Fund to supplement the University's commitment to the Gardens, as well as endowing the Roland Stead Postgraduate Scholarship in Biology.

Ref: Roland_Stead
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