

## Postgraduate Scholarships – Conditions of Award

### The Plant Accelerator<sup>®</sup>, Australian Plant Phenomics Facility

University of Adelaide, Waite Campus

#### Background

The Plant Accelerator<sup>®</sup> is a cutting edge plant phenotyping facility located at the University of Adelaide's Waite Campus. As a node of the Australian Plant Phenomics Facility, The Plant Accelerator<sup>®</sup> offers high-throughput automated imaging and computing technologies able to phenotype up to 2,400 plants at a time. The technology enables scientists to monitor the performance of plants under different environmental conditions (e.g. which genotype performs best under drought stress).

To accelerate research outputs, the high-throughput phenomics technology is supported by experts from a number of fields, i.e. agriculture, plant physiology, biotechnology, genetics, horticulture, image and data analysis, mechatronic engineering, computer science, software engineering, mathematics and statistics.

The Plant Accelerator<sup>®</sup> is enthusiastic about highly motivated and research focussed students joining its team. In order to attract the very best students, we provide Honours scholarships, PhD/MPhil top-up scholarships, international PhD/MPhil scholarships and opportunities for postgraduate internships.

#### Conditions of Award

Details for each scholarship and for internships are outlined in the pages that follow.

Selection will be by competition. Applications will be assessed by the management committee of The Plant Accelerator<sup>®</sup> on the basis of academic record, research experience and appropriateness of the proposed research topic. Interviews may be conducted.

The Plant Accelerator<sup>®</sup> reserves the right not to make an award.



## The Plant Accelerator® - Honours Year Scholarship

Duration:	12 months		
Time:	Two intakes: a) First semester intake (beginning to end of the year) b) second semester intake (mid-year to next mid-year)		
Award:	<p>\$4,000 (Two payments of \$2,000)</p> <p>Award payments are subject to the candidate remaining enrolled on a full-time basis for the Honours degree and abiding by an agreed project plan. In addition to the scholarship, an annual operating budget of up to \$5,000 to access high-throughput phenotyping infrastructure will be offered.</p>		
Project:	<p>The Plant Accelerator® has identified a number of priority research areas, each reflecting a global challenge and the role that advances in plant biology can play in a solution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tolerance to abiotic stress</li> <li>• Improving nutrient use efficiency in plants</li> <li>• Statistics and biometry</li> <li>• Application of mechatronic engineering to plant phenotyping</li> <li>• Application of image analysis techniques to understanding plant form and function.</li> </ul> <p>Students proposing other topics will also be considered.</p> <p>A project plan will be developed between the Honours student and the co-supervisors.</p>		
Eligibility:	We are looking for enthusiastic undergraduate students with a real interest in our research and technology, who are self-motivated and able to work under limited supervision. Current undergraduate students in the following areas are encouraged to apply:		
Applications open:	• Agriculture	• Biology	• Bioinformatics
	• Biotechnology	• Computer Science	• Genetics
	• Mathematics	• Plant Physiology	• Science
	• Software Engineering	• Statistics	
Deadline:	Please refer to the Faculty of Sciences website for information <a href="http://www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au/future-students/honours/">http://www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au/future-students/honours/</a>		
Applications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact <a href="#">Dr Bettina Berger</a> or <a href="#">Dr Trevor Garnett</a> from The Plant Accelerator® to discuss possible Honours projects and opportunities for co-supervision with other research groups.</li> <li>• Submit your expression of interest to the Faculty of Sciences</li> </ul>		
Submissions:	Expression of interest must be submitted via the Faculty of Sciences website <a href="http://www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au/future-students/honours/form/">http://www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au/future-students/honours/form/</a>		

## The Plant Accelerator® - PhD/MPhil Top-Up Scholarship

Duration:	The PhD/MPhil Top-Up Scholarship is awarded for 1 year in the first instance. The scholarship may be renewed annually* (for up to 2 years [MPhil] and up to 3 years [PhD]) subject to the scholarship recipient performing satisfactorily in their research and remaining enrolled.		
Time:	Please refer to the University of Adelaide website for details. a) <a href="http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/admission/how-to-apply/">http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/admission/how-to-apply/</a>		
Award:	Maximum payment of \$10,000 p.a. to top up your existing scholarship to a maximum of \$29,800 p.a. (indexed annually). Award payments are subject to research performance and to the candidate remaining enrolled on a full-time basis for the PhD/MPhil degree. In addition to the scholarship, an annual operating budget of up to \$5,000 to access high-throughput phenotyping infrastructure will be offered.		
Project:	<p>The Plant Accelerator® has identified a number of priority research areas, each reflecting a global challenge and the role that advances in plant biology can play in a solution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tolerance to abiotic stress</li> <li>• Improving nutrient use efficiency in plants</li> <li>• Statistics and biometry</li> <li>• Application of mechatronic engineering to plant phenotyping</li> <li>• Application of image analysis techniques to understanding plant form and function.</li> </ul> <p>Students proposing other topics will also be considered.</p>		
Eligibility:	<p>Candidates must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have completed an appropriate science degree with a minimum of upper second-class honours,</li> <li>• Have been awarded a competitive postgraduate PhD/MPhil scholarship by the Australian Government (e.g. APA), a Research and Development Council (e.g. the GRDC), the University of Adelaide or an international organisation.</li> <li>• Be enrolled or are eligible to enrol as full-time student in an approved post-bachelor course at the University of Adelaide,</li> <li>• Be co-supervised by a scientist from The Plant Accelerator team.</li> </ul>		
Applications open:	Enthusiastic postgraduate students with a real interest in our research and technology, who are self-motivated and able to work under limited supervision in the following areas are encouraged to apply:		
	• Agriculture	• Biology	• Bioinformatics
	• Biotechnology	• Computer Science	• Genetics
	• Mathematics	• Plant Physiology	• Science
	• Software Engineering	• Statistics	
Applications and deadline:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact <a href="#">Dr Bettina Berger</a> or <a href="#">Dr Trevor Garnett</a> from The Plant Accelerator® to discuss possible projects and opportunities for co-supervision with other research groups.</li> <li>• Refer to the University of Adelaide website for information on how to apply <a href="http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/admission/how-to-apply/">http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/admission/how-to-apply/</a></li> </ul>		
*Continuation of top-up payment:	<p>Continuation of a PhD/MPhil top-up scholarship is subject to satisfactory academic progress, determined by the student's supervisor and by the Director of The Plant Accelerator® in an annual review of progress at the end of each academic year. An award may be suspended, or terminated, where the following is deemed to have occurred:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• unsatisfactory academic progress;</li> <li>• the conditions of award have not been met;</li> <li>• the scholarship holder does not resume fulltime study at the conclusion of a period of suspension;</li> <li>• the student ceases to be enrolled fulltime and approval has not been obtained to suspend the award.</li> </ul>		

## The Plant Accelerator® - PhD/MPhil Scholarship for International Students

Duration:	The PhD Scholarship is awarded for 3 years, MPhil for 2 years		
Time:	Different application dates for domestic and international students apply. Please refer to the University of Adelaide website for details. <a href="http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/admission/how-to-apply/">http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/admission/how-to-apply/</a>		
Award:	The Plant Accelerator® PhD/MPhil scholarship is valued at \$29,800 p.a. (indexed annually). Award payments are subject to research performance and to the candidate remaining enrolled on a full-time basis for the PhD/MPhil degree. In addition to the scholarship, an annual operating budget of up to \$5,000 to access high-throughput phenotyping infrastructure will be offered. Remission of international student fees might be considered.		
Project:	<p>The Plant Accelerator® has identified a number of priority research areas, each reflecting a global challenge and the role that advances in plant biology can play in a solution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tolerance to abiotic stress</li> <li>• Improving nutrient use efficiency in plants</li> <li>• Statistics and biometry</li> <li>• Application of mechatronic engineering to plant phenotyping</li> <li>• Application of image analysis techniques to understanding plant form and function.</li> </ul> <p>Students proposing other topics will also be considered.</p>		
Eligibility:	<p>Candidates must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have completed an appropriate science degree with a minimum of upper second-class honours,</li> <li>• Be enrolled or are eligible to enrol as full-time student in an approved post-bachelor course at the University of Adelaide,</li> <li>• Be co-supervised by a scientist from The Plant Accelerator team.</li> </ul>		
Applications open:	Enthusiastic postgraduate students with a real interest in our research and technology, who are self-motivated and able to work under limited supervision in the following areas are encouraged to apply:		
	• Agriculture	• Biology	• Bioinformatics
	• Biotechnology	• Computer Science	• Genetics
	• Mathematics	• Plant Physiology	• Science
	• Software Engineering	• Statistics	
Applications and deadline:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact <a href="#">Dr Bettina Berger</a> or <a href="#">Dr Trevor Garnett</a> from The Plant Accelerator® to discuss possible projects and opportunities for co-supervision with other research groups.</li> <li>• Refer to the University of Adelaide website for information on how to apply <a href="http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/admission/how-to-apply/">http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/admission/how-to-apply/</a></li> </ul>		
*Continuation of top-up payment:	<p>Continuation of a PhD/MPhil scholarship is subject to satisfactory academic progress, determined by the student's supervisor and by the Director of The Plant Accelerator® in an annual review of progress at the end of each academic year. An award may be suspended, or terminated, where the following is deemed to have occurred:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• unsatisfactory academic progress;</li> <li>• the conditions of award have not been met;</li> <li>• the scholarship holder does not resume fulltime study at the conclusion of a period of suspension;</li> <li>• the student ceases to be enrolled fulltime and approval has not been obtained to suspend the award.</li> </ul>		

## The Plant Accelerator® - Postgraduate Internship

Domestic and international postgraduate students with a real interest in our research and technology, who are self-motivated and able to work under limited supervision, may be eligible for an internship at our facility.

Students are required to source their own funding to cover travel and living expenses in Adelaide, and international students are responsible for organising their Visa for Australia.

Internships vary in duration but are generally between 6 to 12 weeks.

For expressions of interest, please email [Dr Bettina Berger](#) or [Dr Trevor Garnett](#).