

Sophie Ducker Postgraduate Scholarship 2025

Form Preview

Sophie Ducker Postgraduate Scholarship

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About the Scholarship

The University of Melbourne Botany Foundation (established in 1994) supports excellence in education and research in the discipline of botany. The Foundation provides a number of student scholarships, awards and prizes annually to support students and researchers in Botany.

Established by friends and associates of Dr Sophie Charlotte Ducker AM BSc MSc DSc LLB (Hons). From an early age Dr Sophie Ducker was interested in plants, and hoped to become a botanist after studying at Geneva and Stuttgart universities. The Second World War forced Dr Ducker and her family to leave Germany. They settled in Australia, and in 1944 she was able to resume her botanical career when she became a research assistant to the pioneering mycologist, Ethel McLennan, at the University of Melbourne. Dr Ducker remained in the then school of Botany for 30 years, completing a BSc and MSc, while at the same time demonstrating, teaching, supervising students, and establishing courses in phycology. She nominally retired in 1974 as a reader, but continued to lecture, give papers at international conferences, and to undertake scientific research with colleagues. In 1978 she was awarded a doctor of Science (DSc) by the University, in recognition of her published work, and in 1993 the University awarded her an honorary doctor of Laws (LLD). In 1996 she was awarded the Mueller Medal by the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science (ANZAAS), which was named in honour of Ferdinand von Mueller, botanist and pioneer environmentalist. In 1997 Dr Ducker was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for service to recording the history of botany in Australia, to education and to science, particularly in the field of marine botany. Dr Ducker died on 20 May 2004 at the age of 95.

Eligibility

To be considered for this scholarship, students must:

- Be enrolled in the Doctor of Philosophy in the discipline of Botany within the School of BioSciences
- Undertaking research in the field of Australian flora
- Not have received the Sophie Ducker Postgraduate Scholarship for a second year.

Selection criteria

The scholarship is offered to the student(s) ranked highest by the selection panel based on their personal statement.

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Outcome

All scholarship outcomes will be sent via SmartyGrants.

Please see outcome timing below:

- **Round 1** (Jan-March applications): May-July
- **Round 2** (June-August applications): September-October

Please ensure that you check your email inbox as well as your SPAM/Junk mail as emails may sometimes be directed to these folders.

Applicant Details

Applicant *

Title	First Name	Last Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Student ID *

Must be a number.

Student Email *

Must be an email address.

Personal Email *

Must be an email address.

Course Information

I am enrolled in a PhD in botany in the School of BioSciences, undertaking research in Australian flora. *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Scholarship Application

** indicates a required field*

Research Summary

Research Project Title *

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Brief summary of your current research project relating to Australian flora *

Provide a short description (100-150 words recommended) of your project - what are you out to do?

Please list any papers you have published

Principal Supervisor Name *

Personal Statement

Personal statement addressing their reasons for applying for the scholarship and how the funding will benefit your research. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 400 words.

Submission Declaration

* indicates a required field

I declare that the information and content provided in this submission are true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information, misrepresentation, or failure to disclose relevant details may result in review and possible corrective actions. By submitting, I confirm my agreement to adhere to all policies, guidelines, and terms associated with this submission. *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Finding this Scholarship

How did you hear about this scholarship? *

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Online search (e.g., Google) | <input type="checkbox"/> Referral from an academic/supervisor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social media (e.g., Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn) | <input type="checkbox"/> Referral from colleague or friend |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty Newsletters | <input type="checkbox"/> University digital screens |

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- | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty of Science Scholarship page
(science.unimelb.edu.au/students/scholarships) | <input type="checkbox"/> Event, workshop, or webinar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email Campaigns | <input type="checkbox"/> Contact with Stop1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CANVAS/LMS | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> University of Melbourne Scholarship page
(scholarships.unimelb.edu.au) | |
- Please select all that applies.

Privacy

The information on this form is being collected by the University of Melbourne for the purpose of grant assessment, administration and evaluation. The information will be used by authorised staff for the purpose for which it was collected, and will be protected against unauthorised access and use.

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[View our privacy statement](#)

[Student Conduct Policy \(MPF1324\)](#).

Now that you have finished your application, please make sure you press the SUBMIT button below.

If you have any questions regarding your application, please contact: science-awards@unimelb.edu.au