

Dame Margaret Blackwood Soroptimist Scholarship 2025

Form Preview

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* indicates a required field

About the Scholarship

In 1988, the University of Melbourne and Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific ('SISWP') conducted an appeal to establish the Dame Margaret Blackwood Soroptimist Scholarship at the University. The scholarship commemorates Dame Margaret's contribution to the international soroptimist community and celebrates her academic achievements. Dame Margaret died in 1986. She was one of the earliest members of the Soroptimist Club of Melbourne, founded in 1948, and was president from 1957 to 1959. She was well known and widely respected throughout the international soroptimist world.

The Dame Margaret Blackwood Soroptimist Scholarship provides scholarship for a **female graduate research student undertaking research in the discipline of genetics - either plant, animal or viral - in the Faculty of Science at the University of Melbourne.**

Selection is made on the basis of:

- Academic excellence in undergraduate academic results
- Conference attendance
- Publications
- Contribution to humankind
- How the scholarship will assist the applicant's studies
- Extracurricular activities
- Equity grounds such as financial need

While expenditure of the funds is at the discretion of the recipient and is not restricted to research-related expenses.

The selection committee's assessment of candidates will include their program of research in the discipline of genetics, their overall academic record, and the potential impact of the scholarship. **The selection committee is particularly interested in applications from female graduate research students who are engaged in the world beyond academia.**

The value of the scholarship is determined annually by the selection committee.

Eligibility

To be considered for this scholarship, students must:

- Identify as a woman (cis-gender and transwomen)
- Be enrolled in the Doctor of Philosophy in the Faculty of Science
- Be completing a substantial research project that aligns to plant, animal or viral genetics

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Important:

Existing scholarship holders are welcome to re-apply as long as they remain eligible.

Please fill out a [student financial assessment \(SFA\)](#), which will convey to the selection committee your level of financial need.

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.

Gender *

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to disclose

Course Information

School *

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Type of Degree *

PhD

You must be enrolled in a PhD in the Faculty of Science to receive this scholarship

PhD Program *

PhD - Science

PhD - Agricultural Sciences

PhD - Veterinary Science

Confirmation Date

Must be a date.

Student Profile

* indicates a required field

Supervisor Details

Supervisor Name *

Please include a letter of endorsement from your supervisor. *

Attach a file:

Research Details

I am undertaking research in: *

plant genetics

animal genetics

viral genetics

Research Project Title *

Please provide a plain English summary of your research *

Must be no more than 200 words.

This should contain a project rationale and description, and if possible, the main knowledge gap that it addresses, its aims, significance and any expected outcomes

Potential benefit of the research to the University and broader community *

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Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

Please provide: a) a scientific description of the research you propose to undertake this year; b) a description of how your research aligns with the relevant discipline; c) if you are part of a research team, please describe as a percentage your role in the research.

Student Profile

If relevant, please describe any extra-curricular activities you are involved in that relate either to your studies or to your life beyond academia. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

Please note that Dame Margaret Blackwood was interested in helping students realise their personal and academic potential. The scholarship is awarded in this spirit and the selection committee will be particularly interested in your responses to this question.

If you are currently enrolled in postgraduate research, please provide brief details of the period spent in study or research at the University of Melbourne

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

This question is not mandatory

Scholarship Benefits

Have you submitted a Student Financial Assessment Form? *

Yes

Applicants need to apply for a Student Financial Assessment to be eligible for this scholarship <https://unimelb-scholarships.smartygrants.com.au/SFA>

Please describe the impact of the financial assistance on the research project *

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Word count:

Must be no more than 500 words.

This may include, for example, using funds to reduce your hours of part-time employment, alleviating financial need or disadvantage, travel to a conference etc

Awards and Publications

Details of awards, distinctions and publications and conference attendance.

The headings listed below are to be included. Please focus on the previous five years.

- 1.Full details on education including details of current postgraduate and past undergraduate training
- 2.Details of awards, prizes or scholarships received (Including \$ amounts for each)
- 3.Details of professional affiliations
- 4.Details of professional activities
- 5.Details of any teaching roles - e.g. demonstrating or tutoring
- 6.Details of presentation at scientific conferences and invited talks (Include abstract titles)
- 7.Details of any activities beyond academia, including dates, such as volunteering, mentoring, leadership activities
- 8.Published works organised in the following categories

(Applicants should indicate their contribution to the published work and the ranking of the publication within the discipline. Please do not list works submitted, under review or in preparation)

- *Original refereed publications*
- *Full published conference proceedings*
- *Reviews*
- *Chapters and monographs*
- *Other publication*

Details of awards, distinctions and publications and conference attendance

Curriculum Vitae

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CV

I have attached a copy of my CV including a list of my publications, where relevant.

Attach a file:

PDF required

Guidelines to Curriculum Vitae

- Where appropriate, all details should be provided in chronological order commencing with the most recent entry.
- The curriculum vitae should be no longer than three pages in length, excluding publications. (*Please use 12 point Times Roman font or equivalent, margins no less than 2 cm*):

The headings listed below are to be included. Please focus on the previous five years.

- 1.Full Name
- 2.Date of Birth
- 3.Full details on education including details of current postgraduate and past undergraduate training
- 4.Details of awards, prizes or scholarships received (Including \$ amounts for each)
- 5.Details of professional affiliations
- 6.Details of professional activities
- 7.Details of any teaching roles - e.g. demonstrating or tutoring
- 8.Details of presentation at scientific conferences and invited talks (Include abstract titles)
- 9.Details of any activities beyond academia, including dates, such as volunteering, mentoring, leadership activities
10. Published works organised in the following categories

(Applicants should indicate their contribution to the published work and the ranking of the publication within the discipline. Please do not list works submitted, under review or in preparation)

- *Original refereed publications*
- *Full published conference proceedings*
- *Reviews*
- *Chapters and monographs*
- *Other publication*

Submission Declaration

* indicates a required field

Declaration

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

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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

I agree to provide an annual progress report and be available to meet with the donor for stewardship purposes during my scholarship candidature. *

- 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 |
| <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.

The University of Melbourne is committed to protecting personal information provided by you in accordance with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic). All information collected by the University is governed by the University's Privacy Policy. For further information about how the University deals with personal information or to access your information, please refer to the University's Privacy Policy or contact the University's Privacy Officer at privacy-officer@unimelb.edu.au

[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

