Annual Research Scholarship Round

APPLICANT GUIDE 2020
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1. Introduction

QUT awards scholarships to students who provide clear evidence of exceptional research potential and who are undertaking, or applying to undertake, a higher degree by research. This document explains how to apply.

Our research scholarships provide funding to help you with general living costs while you focus on your research studies. We also have top-up scholarships to supplement living costs and sponsorships to cover tuition fees. Some of our research scholarships also have associated allowances for relocation and thesis expenses. The availability of scholarships is limited and QUT conducts one highly competitive scholarship round per year, called the Annual Research Scholarship Round.

This document guides current and new commencing HDR students who are considering applying for a scholarship in the 2020 annual round. Please, find more information on QUT's website.

You do the research, and we'll pay the bills

- New commencing students can apply now
- Current students can apply via the online form from 1 September 2019
- All applications close 30 September 2019
## 2. Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 September 2019</td>
<td>Open: the 2020 Annual Research Scholarship Round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 September 2019</td>
<td>Information session at Gardens Point Campus at 10-11am:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Z block, level 10, Gibson Room (GP-Z1064)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Attend via Zoom: Please email <a href="mailto:research.scholarships@qut.edu.au">research.scholarships@qut.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>no later than Friday 30 August 2019 to register and receive details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 September 2019</td>
<td>Close: the 2020 Annual Research Scholarship Round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Due 11.59pm (Brisbane: Australian Easter Standard Time)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• All additional supporting documentary evidence included</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• If required to apply via an Agent you must submit your application via a representative in your country (see p.4)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• You must meet QUT’s English Language requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 November 2019</td>
<td>Release: the 2020 Annual Research Scholarship Round outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 November 2019</td>
<td>Response: to scholarship offers from currently enrolled students</td>
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<td>are due to ensure a January commencement for payments</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 January 2020</td>
<td>Final Response: to scholarship offers are due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>or the scholarship offer may lapse</td>
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</table>

- Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered under any circumstances. To convert the closing time to your region’s time zone, use the Time Zone Converter.
- Indicate your interest in applying for a scholarship on your application for admission.
- If you have a current offer of admission or approved deferral you must formally register an Expression of Interest to be considered in the 2020 Annual Research Scholarship Round.
- Current students must apply through the online application form found on HiQ.
3. Requirements for consideration of a research scholarship

There are two (2) attendance modes at QUT:

**Internal Student:**
Instruction or supervision in all coursework and thesis units in which the student is enrolled is delivered by attendance at a place designated by the Registrar as a campus of the University.

**External Student:**
Instruction or supervision in one or more coursework and thesis units in which the student is enrolled is delivered other than by attendance at a campus of the University.

A scholarship recipient must normally be deemed an Internal Student.

**Predicted Criteria:**
If you do not currently meet the admission criteria into the Doctor of Philosophy (IF49) (Appendix 1) at the time that your application is assessed, but are predicted to meet one of the following criteria by 31 March 2020 (no extensions permitted), you may be considered in the scholarship round and if successful, receive a "conditional" scholarship offer.

This may apply if you are:

- a current Honours student completing your degree in Semester 2, 2019 and awaiting results which must be received on or before 31 March 2020
- a current Research Master student with your completion being awarded on or before 31 March 2020

**3.1. New commencing applicants**

You are considered for a scholarship if you:

- Apply for and are accepted for admission
  Refer to QUT’s minimum admission eligibility requirements. Admission eligibility for the PhD (Doctor of Philosophy) is determined by the Research Students Centre (Appendix 1: Admission Criteria into the Doctor of Philosophy (IF49)). MPhil (Master of Philosophy) and Prof Doc (Professional Doctorate) admission is determined by Faculty.

- Meet QUT’s English Language requirements - no exceptions
  (applies to both international and relevant domestic applicants)

- Provide all supporting documentary evidence

- Applicants must identify on the application for admission form if you wish to be considered in the 2020 Annual Research Scholarship Round for a QUT scholarship (applies to both international and domestic applicants)
International HDR applicants where applicable:

- International applicants who hold a current offer of admission or approved deferral must formally register an Expression of Interest to be considered in the 2020 Annual Research Scholarship Round together with an updated CV and other supporting documents via email: research.scholarships@qut.edu.au

- You will not be considered or eligible to apply for a scholarship if you are receiving an external sponsorship from your home country’s government or current employer, China Scholarship Council, VIED, SACM etc.

- Please check our guide online to find out if you need to use a QUT official representative to lodge your application.

- Submit an application for admission via an Agent ensuring to give enough time for QUT to receive your application from your Agent by the due date of 30 September 2019. If you would like help with your application, please find a QUT representative in your country using the online list.

**NOTE:**

- If the Agent can demonstrate that they received your application by 30 September 2019 however the Agent did not submit it to QUT by this date, an exception to the deadline may be considered (up until and no later than Wednesday 2 October 2019).

### 3.2. Currently enrolled HDR students

You will **NOT BE considered for a scholarship if you are:**

- A current doctoral (PhD/Prof Doc) student with a projected consumed EFTSL (Equivalent Full Time Standard Load) of equal to or more than 2.500 (2.5 yrs) as at 1 January 2020 (based on 3 year funding)

- A current Research Masters student with a projected consumed EFTSL of more than 1.00 (1 yr) of your course’s standard duration unless advice is received of an articulation to the PhD being planned prior to 30 September 2019 (based on 1.5 years funding)

  **Example:** MPhil (standard duration is 2.0 EFTSL) student with any more than 1.00 EFTSL consumed as at 1 January 2020 will not be considered in the round.

- A current QUT HDR student who is receiving a scholarship with a stipend rate equal to or greater than the 2019 RTP Stipend rate (AU$27,596 per annum) for the term of your funding (excluding specifically identified 'bridging' scholarships)

- In receipt of an internally funded scholarship (for example a Supervisor or Faculty living stipend) who have applied and been admitted to your course prior to the scholarship round unless your scholarship has been explicitly identified as being a 'bridging' scholarship
4. Faculty scholarship criteria

RTP Stipend, QUTPRA and IPRA applicants will be scored and ranked based on Faculty competitive scoring models approved by QUT’s Research Degrees Committee. Application ranking is necessary as there are fewer scholarships to offer than the number of scholarship applications received.

Faculties will review your application in line with all other applicants using their base criteria for scholarship assessment below. Please also contact your Faculty for more detailed information on their criteria for scholarship assessment.

The RSC is responsible for the assessment of eligibility for admission purposes into a PhD. Faculties are responsible for assessment of eligibility for admission purposes into a MPhil or Doctorate.

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<tr>
<th>Creative Industries</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Criteria 1</td>
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<td>Criteria 2</td>
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<td>Criteria 3</td>
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<td>Criteria 4</td>
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<tr>
<th>Faculty of Education</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Criteria 1</td>
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<td>Criteria 2</td>
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<td>Criteria 3</td>
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<td>Criteria 4</td>
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<td>Criteria 5</td>
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<th>Faculty of Health</th>
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<tr>
<td>Criteria 1</td>
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<td>Criteria 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Criteria 3</td>
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</table>
### Faculty of Law

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<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Academic excellence exceeding the minimum required for entry</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Research or professional experience reflecting outstanding research skills and/or high quality publications</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Quality of research proposal</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Strategic alignment with Faculty research strengths and priorities</td>
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### QUT Business School

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<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Academic record reflecting outstanding performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Demonstrated research aptitude and achievement - relative to opportunity</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Strategic alignment with Faculty research strengths and priorities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Professional experience relevant to the proposed project</td>
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### Science and Engineering Faculty

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<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>GPA of at least 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Publications and conference/journal patents</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Research, lab field and professional experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Strategic alignment with Faculty research strengths and priorities</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>English language proficiency level: Benchmarked and ranked against an overall score higher than the QUT’s minimum English Language requirements or a comparison for approved QUT English equivalence</td>
</tr>
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5. How to apply

In the application process it is your responsibility to ensure that you have provided all supporting documents by no later than Monday 30 September 2019 or your application cannot be considered.

How you apply for a scholarship will depend on whether you are a currently enrolled HDR student or whether you are applying to start your research as a new commencing HDR student with a proposed commencement of admission by no later than 31 July 2020.

New commencing domestic and international HDR applicants must submit a complete application for admission together with all supporting documents to QUT by no later than 11.59pm (Australian, Eastern Standard Time) on Monday 30 September 2019. You must indicate on your application for admission form the scholarships you are interested in being considered for. Please apply here.

Currently enrolled HDR students must submit the online scholarship application form on HiQ no later than 11.59pm (Australian Eastern Standard Time) on Monday 30 September 2019.

Expression of Interest (EOI) requirements:
Some Faculties have an EOI process to be followed prior to submitting a formal application for admission. Please, refer to Step 3: Supervision and topics to check if you are required to submit an EOI to your preferred Faculty. For some Faculties, please allow an additional 2-3 week period for the EOI process to finalise prior to submission of your application.

If you are required to apply via an Agent, the Agent must submit the full application to QUT from your no later than 30 September 2019 (see p.4).

If you experience issues with the online scholarship form, please advise the Research Scholarship Team immediately at research.scholarships@qut.edu.au
5. Available scholarships

See the list below for the available scholarships that have associated additional allowances such as Overseas Health Cover (Single), relocation or thesis expenses.

* living allowance: based on the current 2019 full time stipend rate: $27,596 per annum
** currently enrolled international students do not qualify for the single OSHC component

### Research Training Program Stipend (RTPS) - Domestic

- Pays a living allowance* to international research degree students only
- Research degree students include Doctoral; Professional Doctorate; Research Masters

**Condition:**
- Be a domestic student enrolled in an accredited HDR course of study
- Must not be receiving income from another source to support general living costs while undertaking your course of study if that income is greater than 75% of the RTP Stipend rate

### Research Training Program Stipend (RTPS) - International

- Pays a living allowance* to international research degree students only
- Research degree students include Doctoral; Professional Doctorates; Research Masters
- Includes a RTP Fees Offset (International)
- For new commencing students only includes single overseas health cover (OSHC)** for the duration of the student visa

**Condition:**
- Be an international student enrolled in an accredited HDR course of study
- Must not be receiving income from another source to support general living costs while undertaking your course of study if that income is greater than 75% of the RTP Stipend rate
- Must have met QUT’s English Language requirements by no later than 30 September 2019 (no exceptions approved)

### QUT Postgraduate Research Award (QUTPRA) - Domestic

- Pays a living allowance* to international research degree students only
- Research degree students include Doctoral and Professional Doctorates
- Not available for Research Master applicants

**Condition:**
- Be a domestic student enrolled in an accredited HDR doctoral course of study
- Must not be receiving income from another source to support general living costs while undertaking your course of study if that income is greater than 75% of the RTP Stipend rate
QUT Postgraduate Research Award (QUTPRA) - International

- Pays a living allowance* to international research doctoral students only
- Research degree students include Doctoral and Professional Doctorates
- Not available for Research Master applicants
- For new commencing students only
- Includes single overseas health cover (OSHC)** for the duration of the student visa

**Condition:**

- Be an international student enrolled in an accredited HDR doctoral course of study
- Must not be receiving income from another source to support general living costs while undertaking your course of study if that income is greater than 75% of the RTP Stipend rate
- Must have met QUT’s English Language requirements by no later than 30 September 2019 (no exceptions approved)

Women’s Re-Entry Scholarship (WRE)

- Pays a living allowance* to a domestic female research student who can demonstrate a significant interruption due to personal circumstances (i.e. not work related) to your academic career

**Condition:**

- Open to domestic female applicants who are able to demonstrate a significant interruption related to personal circumstances (i.e. not work related) to your academic career
- Applicants are required to submit a statement explaining your eligibility as a result of a period of significant interruption related to personal circumstances (i.e. not work related) to your academic career (Appendix 2)

Indigenous Postgraduate Research Award (IPRA)

- Pays a living allowance* to a domestic research student of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent

**Condition:**

- Applicants for the Indigenous Postgraduate Research Award (IPRA) are required to provide evidence of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent via a Confirmation of Aboriginality form (COA). A COA can be submitted with your application for admission or must at least be provided prior to your confirmation of commencement of an approved IPRA scholarship.
7. Admission and scholarship outcomes

Following assessment of your application for admission, you will receive the following advice:

- You are deemed eligible for admission and you are being considered in the Annual Research Scholarship Round. You will also receive an offer of admission at this point; or
- You are deemed eligible for admission however your application is not being considered for a scholarship. You will also receive an offer of admission at this point; or
  *We kindly ask at this point that if you wish to withdraw your application for admission in light of the advice that you have not been successful in your scholarship application, you reply to the email with this information.*
- You are deemed in ineligible for admission.

7.1. Release of outcomes

The outcomes will be released from mid November 2019. If your scholarship application has been successful you will be expected to accept your offer by no later than Friday 31 January 2020 or the offer may lapse. Please refer to the specific scholarship acceptance form attached to your official scholarship offer letter.

Accepting your scholarship offer does not automatically mean that you have also accepted your offer for admission. Please ensure you complete your Response to Scholarship offer form (attached to your scholarship offer letter) and an Admission Offer Acceptance form (attached to your official admission offer letter) if you have not already done so.

You will be expected to commence your scholarship by no later than 31 July of the year for which you are offered the scholarship or the scholarship offer will lapse.

7.2. Start dates

Your scholarship cannot start until you have commenced your course.

If you are a new HDR student, your first priority should be to ensure that all conditions of your offer of admission have been met, and you have been enrolled into your course.

If you are a current HDR student and you applied for a scholarship using the HiQ HDR scholarship application form, your scholarship can start as early as 1 January 2020, subject to any conditions that were listed in your scholarship offer letter being met.

The Research Students Centre Scholarship Team will work with you to ensure that your bank account details and tax file declaration forms have been received and entered into QUT’s payroll system in order to start your scholarship as quickly as possible. Despite this please note that depending on when you are enrolled you may experience a delay of up to four (4) weeks to receive your first payment.
7.3. Deferring a scholarship offer

Scholarship commencements cannot normally be deferred. In exceptional circumstances a scholarship commencement may be deferred to no later than 31 July of the year for which they are offered, with the option to apply in the scholarship round for the following year.

Deferrals of Faculty, school, institute or supervisor funded scholarships will be considered by the relevant funding area upon receipt of a request.

7.4. Conditional scholarship offers

If you are successful in being offered a scholarship on the basis of your inclusion in the scholarship round, your offer may be conditional on meeting one of:

- the predicted criteria, you must show evidence of meeting the criteria by no later than 31 March 2020 before you will be eligible to commence your scholarship
- changing your enrolment from part-time to full-time at time of commencement of scholarship
- changing your study mode from external to internal at time of commencement of scholarship

7.5. Appealing a scholarship outcome

You have the right to request a review of the outcome of your scholarship application where you believe there has been an error in process (e.g. a submitted document has not been correctly or fully considered). Appeals can only be heard against process issues and not against committee decisions or assessment ratings and comments.

The Research Degrees Committee has the authority to undertake reviews for applicants who consider that an application has been incorrectly assessed.

If you wish to appeal the outcome of your application, please submit your appeal via email within ten (10) business days of the date of your application outcome, to research.scholarships@qut.edu.au.

7.6. Alternative scholarship opportunities

We encourage you to continue searching for a scholarship for your research studies.

QUT occasionally lists scholarships for specific projects being undertaken by researchers who may have received a grant or other funding. These scholarships will be listed on our website under the Research Scholarships and Prizes section.

If your application for admission has been successful but your application for a scholarship has not, you may also consider speaking with your principal supervisor, as they may have ideas of where else you may be able to source funding from.

The following external websites may also have alternative scholarship opportunities, possibly at another Australian institution:

- Hobsons Coursefinder
- FindAPhD: The world’s largest database of PhD opportunities
8. Contacts

The Research Students Centre Scholarship Team offers support and guidance.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions:

Email:
research.scholarships@qut.edu.au

Tel:
+61 7 3138 4923
+61 7 3138 2932

Find contact details to your Faculty Research Office here.
The following table lists criteria approved for admission equivalence eligibility (consistent with Section 3. Entry Requirements of the PhD Course Regulations)

To gain admission into the PhD a potential candidate shall normally hold from a recognised institution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria 1</th>
<th>A completed Australian Bachelor first class or second class Division A honours degree1 or equivalent2; OR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criteria 2</td>
<td>A completed overseas qualification comparable to the educational level of an Australian Bachelor Degree1: with a duration of normally no less than 4 years AND an overall GPA comparable to 5.0 on a 7-point scale (where pass = 4) AND containing a significant and major thesis, dissertation, design project or creative work that has been examined by at least two examiners3 OR has a grade comparable to 5.0 on a 7-point scale (where pass = 4) OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criteria 3</td>
<td>A completed Australian Masters by Research Degree or overseas qualification comparable to the educational level of an Australian Masters Degree (by Research)4; OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Criteria 4</td>
<td>A completed Australian Masters by Coursework or Professional Doctorate or overseas qualification comparable to the educational level of an Australian Masters by Coursework or Professional Doctorate1: with greater than 25% research AND an overall GPA of at least 5.0 on a 7-point scale (where pass = 4)</td>
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1 For the purpose of its admission assessment process, QUT uses Australian Education International’s National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) and the National Recognition Information Centre for the United Kingdom (UK-NARIC) to assist in determining the comparability of an overseas qualification to an appropriate level of Australian qualification.

2 Consistent with Section 5.4.2 of the PhD Course Regulations - for example a timely Articulation from a Masters Degree (Research)

3 A copy of the research work and both examiners reports must be submitted. Examiners may not be part of the supervisory team. Where the examiners reports are written in a language other than English a complete, certified translation must be provided.

4 The Australian Qualification Framework’s definition of a research degree requires it to contain a minimum of 2/3 (66.7%) research, research training and independent study.
Appendix 2: Women's Re-entry (WRE) Selection Process

Applicants for the Women’s Re-Entry Scholarship (WRE) are selected accounting for merit and situation of the applicant and are available to domestic applicants only.

For this reason if you are applying for a WRE you must submit a statement explaining the basis for any period of significant interruption to your academic career.

Your statement and your academic and research backgrounds will be reviewed by the Research Degrees Committee.

**STATEMENT REQUIREMENTS:**

- Demonstrate a significant interruption to your academic career and/or studies, normally at least 3 years

- Describe personal (eg. carer-related) reasons for interruption to academic studies and/or academic career (children or family obligations; other carer responsibilities; medical or any other extenuating circumstances)

- Explain how access to a scholarship will assist you in realising your educational, career and/or research goals

The recipient will be selected by who best exemplifies courage and commitment and who is best able to return to study in pursuit of personal and career goals.