



Alan Mackay-Sim Spinal Cord Injury Travelling Fellowship 2020

up to \$30,000 for overseas travel from 4 weeks - 6 months

QUT is pleased to announce the 2020 Spinal Cord Injury Travelling Fellowship named in honour of 2017 Australian of the Year Alan Mackay-Sim who received his award in recognition of his work on olfactory ensheathing cells from nasal mucosa for treatment of spinal cord injuries (SCI).

OBJECTIVE - To achieve improved outcomes and quality of life for people with a spinal cord injury.

SCOPE - The Fellowship is available for overseas travel that is likely to improve clinical management, rehabilitation or social support for people with a spinal cord injury. Support for travel to benefit basic research on biological mechanisms, novel treatment strategies (e.g. clinical drug trials), etc. is specifically excluded.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE FELLOWSHIP

Applications open on the 31st of July 2019, close on the 30th of September 2019 and can be lodged by email at scitf@qut.edu.au. Applications are encouraged from a range of disciplines, such as nursing, physiotherapy, OT, psychology etc. but anyone with a project that can improve outcomes in SCI can apply. Full Guidelines are available at : http://www.realhealthmatters.org.au/portfolio/spinal_cord_fellowship/ Applicants are encouraged to read the Full Guidelines carefully.

Fellowships are offered to Australian Citizens or Permanent Residents over the age of 18 from any Australian State or Territory.

No specific qualifications are required.

THE PROJECT - The primary objective of the Fellowship is to improve outcomes for people with a SCI so projects should have an emphasis on clinical management, rehabilitation or social outcomes for SCI. Fellowships will be awarded for travel overseas to clearly identified centres of best-practice for SCI to pursue a project that is not readily achievable in Australia.

Applicants may be required to attend an interview either by telephone, electronically or in person at QUT in Brisbane.

The value of the Fellowship will differ each year depending on the proposed study program. The maximum value of the Fellowship is \$30,000. It is not anticipated that the Fellowship will necessarily cover all expenses incurred during the study program and applicants are encouraged to apply for supporting funds from external sources and from their own or the host institution(s). Salaries of applicants and some other costs should be funded by their home institution, e.g. via short or long professional development leave applications.

There is no formal Application Form. Applications will take the form of a free-form application addressing the Assessment Criteria and listing the details of the applicant, the proposed study tour itinerary, budget and names of referees and current curriculum vitae. The application must also include a detailed supporting statement outlining how the study tour will achieve the objectives of the Alan Mackay-Sim Spinal Cord Injury Travelling Fellowship, i.e. to achieve improved outcomes and quality of life for people with a spinal cord injury.

The purpose of the application is to enable The Selection Panel to assess the applicant and the outline of the proposed project in order to select a successful Fellow or identify applicants who may need to be interviewed.

Applications will be assessed based on both the quality of the applicant and the likelihood that the proposed study tour will have an impact on the clinical management or quality of life of people with a SCI. Assessment criteria may include:

- The need for this project in the management or rehabilitation of people with a SCI.
- The benefits of the project to people with a SCI and their families.
- The itinerary and places selected.
- The necessity to travel overseas.
- The achievability of the project.
- The ability of the applicant to disseminate and implement findings, i.e. their skills and current standing and experience in the field.
- The commitment of the applicant to make a difference after the trip, i.e. their ongoing involvement with SCI management, leadership qualities, networks.

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