

# Moreton Bay Research Station Scholarships

The University of Queensland's Moreton Bay Research Station (MBRS) at Dunwich, North Stradbroke Island has identified strong community support for research programs that address real issues in Moreton Bay and surrounds. To foster community involvement in research, the MBRS has developed the **MBRS Community Research Scholarship** to provide participating members of the community, students and academics with the equipment and access required for investigations of the diverse habitats, social and environmental concerns of Moreton Bay. In addition, the Research Station Advisory Committee has identified the value of scholarships that advance research programs that are not necessarily of direct benefit to local communities surrounding Moreton Bay by developing the **MBRS Research Scholarship**.

These merit-based scholarships promote research relevant to Moreton Bay, its terrestrial habitats, surrounding waters, social and cultural environments. The scholarships cover accommodation, laboratory and boating charges up to \$1000 in a 12 month period at MBRS for UQ Honours or Research Higher Degree students.

One scholarship of each type may be awarded each semester. The scholarships are open to Honours or Post-graduate students from all disciplines across The University of Queensland and can be used either to support current or new projects in diverse fields such as fresh water resources, social sciences, indigenous affairs, engineering and the arts, as well as marine ecosystem health and sustainable tourism.

## Selection Criteria

**MBRS Community Research Scholarship** - One scholarship each semester will be awarded by a committee consisting of MBRS representatives (Station Manager & Director CMS) and community representatives (nominees from the Minjerribah Moorgumpin (Elders in Council), Stradbroke Island Management Organisation, and Sibelco Pty Ltd.) Community Scholarship proposals will be judged on the:

1. Strength of the research team (20%)
  - a. Academic performance, evidence and capacity to undertake and manage the proposed research.
2. Relative significance to the local Moreton Bay community (20%)
  - a. Health of local habitats, organisms, processes, social or cultural systems.
3. Quality of the proposed project (60%)
  - a. Significance and Innovation;
  - b. Approach and Training;
  - c. Relevance to the MBRS (i.e. how will the research program benefit by having increased access to MBRS?);
  - d. The primary emphasis in the award of scholarships is the merit of the project, evidenced by a well-designed research program investigating a significant problem or major issue in the theory or practice of a discipline, or a research program aiming toward the development of new knowledge in the area, fundamental or applied. Innovative, risk-taking research is encouraged, provided the research design is rigorous and shows promise of being well executed.

**MBRS Research Scholarship** - An additional scholarship will be awarded each semester by UQ's Research Station Advisory Committee. The **MBRS Research Scholarship** proposals will be judged on:

1. Strength of the research team (20%)
  - a. Academic performance, evidence and capacity to undertake and manage the proposed research.
2. Relative significance to the regional scientific community (20%)
  - a. Health of local habitats, organisms, and processes.
3. Quality of the proposed project (60%)
  - a. Significance and Innovation;
  - b. Approach and Training;
  - c. Relevance to the MBRS (i.e. how will the research program benefit by having increased access to MBRS?);
  - d. The primary emphasis in the award of scholarships is the merit of the project, evidenced by a well-designed research program investigating a significant problem or major issue in the theory or practice of a discipline, or a research program aiming toward the development of new knowledge in the area, fundamental or applied. Innovative, risk-taking research is encouraged, provided the research design is rigorous and shows promise of being well executed.

#### **Successful Applicants Can Expect**

1. A waiver of accommodation charges for the applicant while engaged in research described in the original scholarship application and award.
2. Free access to a laboratory, including aquaria and general-use laboratory equipment, and use of available station boats.
3. The total value of waived charges for items 1 and 2 is \$1000 and is to be used within 12 months of the date of notification of the scholarship award.

#### **These Schemes Do Not Provide**

1. Catering (successful applicants must buy and prepare their own food or pay for catering)
2. Other Station services (applicants will be charged current rates for all other services and will be responsible for their own cleaning and laundry)
3. Transportation to and from the Station.
4. Fuel for use of Station boats

#### **Other Conditions and Eligibility**

Applicants must:

- Utilise the scholarship within 12 months of its offer.
- Be an Honours, Masters or PhD student at The University of Queensland when applying for and using the scholarship.
- Have their supervisor sign the application.
- Present their work at one of the MBRS free public research seminars before the completion of the scholarship period.
- Provide Moreton Bay Research Station with a short (<500 word) written synopsis of their work upon completion of the scholarship period. This summary will be published in the local newspaper "*Stradbroke Island News*", in the Island Research newsletter and on the MBRS website.
- Provide a Final Report on the form provided to the Research Station within 3 months of completion of the scholarship period.

- Acknowledge Moreton Bay Research Station and the scholarship in any publications, theses, media coverage or reports that may arise from this work.
- Supply to MBRS electronic copies of any publications, thesis or reports that may arise from this work for its library.
- Agree to abide by the policies and procedures of MBRS.

**Application**

The Application must be submitted by: 5pm on the Monday of the third teaching week in Semester I and 5pm on the Monday of the third teaching week in Semester II.

**Send applications to:**

Either: *MBRS Community Research Scholarship* or *MBRS Research Scholarship*

Research Facilities

Faculty of Science

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