

MEDIA RELEASE

APPLICATIONS FOR THE PETER CULLEN POST GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP NOW OPEN

1 August 2009

Applications for the Professor Peter Cullen Post Graduate Scholarship to support specialist research into water are now open, Minister for Water Phil Costa announced today.

Minister for Water, Phillip Costa today called on PhD students to apply for the scholarship in honour of renowned water-scientist, the late Professor Peter Cullen AO FTSE.

“Professor Cullen pioneered a new way of thinking about managing water resources in NSW and in Australia,” Mr Costa said.

“He filled the void between science and water policy, and brought to us a greater understanding our most vital natural resource.

“This scholarship provides research opportunities for budding water specialists in NSW, so they can build on his work and vision for water management.

“Ms Steinfeld, the recipient of last year’s scholarship is investigating water management in the Macquarie Marshes and Gwydir Wetlands that will deepen our understanding of NSW floodplains.

“It’s a challenge for most PhD students to manage a full-time job as well as undertake their studies, and this money will provide support the recipient to focus their energies on their research.

“The successful student will receive \$20,000 per year for the three-year duration of the scholarship.

“Professor Cullen is admired for his great ability to make aquatic science more accessible to government, water managers and the general public so that we can better understand our most valuable natural asset.

“He was well regarded by the scientific community both here and overseas – I have no doubt the recipient of the scholarship will go on to earn the respect and admiration of the research community.”

The aim of the scholarship is to:

- Improve our understanding of how rivers, groundwater, wetlands and estuaries function and respond to enhanced management
- Improve the linkages between water science and water management in NSW
- Provide research opportunities for water specialists in NSW.



Minister Phillip Costa MP

Minister for Water
Minister for Rural Affairs
Minister for Regional Development

To be eligible students must:

- Be a first year PhD research student enrolled at an Australian university
- Be an Australian citizen or have permanent residency
- Demonstrate expertise in a water related discipline
- Demonstrate academic excellence in their chosen field
- Provide written proof of their supervisor's support, indicating how a scholar may benefit from participation in the Peter Cullen Scholarship.

For more information on the Peter Cullen Post Graduate Scholarship or to download the application package, visit www.dwe.nsw.gov.au

Applications open Friday 1 August and close Friday 28 August, 2009.

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