

Detailed Information and Guidelines

Research Commercialisation Training for VU research students funded by the CTS scheme

The Commonwealth Government provides funds to support research commercialisation training for a limited number of domestic postgraduate research students. The objective of the Commercialisation Training Scheme (CTS) is to provide high quality research commercialisation training for the next generation of Australian researchers as a means of equipping them with the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to bring research-based ideas, inventions and innovations to market.

Under the scheme, research commercialisation training must result in the award of a Graduate Certificate in research commercialisation. VU has made an arrangement with the Melbourne Business School to enable selected VU students to undertake their studies towards the Graduate Certificate offered by the MBS, a program that is also offered to postgraduate researchers at the University of Melbourne.

CTS students receive training in three areas:

- Commercialisation Know-how (a strategic understanding of commercialisation processes);
- Technical Commercialisation Skills (eg Intellectual Property Management, Financial Management, Project Management and Market Research); and
- Organisational Behaviour Skills (eg Leadership, Teamwork and Presentation skills).

The Graduate Certificate offered by the Melbourne Business School has been designed to cover these areas with a range of unit options relevant to these training areas. Normally a student is required to complete 4 units for the Graduate Certificate with each unit comprising approximately 9 hours per week of in and out of class work across a semester. Melbourne Business School offers an intensive 3 semester per year program, with new semesters commencing in February, May and September each year. In addition, as part of the course a specialist double unit in commercial writing offered in the course by the University of Melbourne's Writing Centre for Scholars and Researchers

<http://www.gradresearch.unimelb.edu.au/writingcentre/950803.html>

Further information about the course can be found at:

<http://www.mbs.edu/go/degree-programs/phd-and-research-programs/graduate-certificate-in-commercialisation>

Information about course units for the current semester can be downloaded at:

<http://www.vu.edu.au/research/research-offices/office-for-postgraduate-research>

Further details about Semester 3 unit offerings will be provided as soon as they become available.

Student Eligibility

Only local research students, who are currently enrolled in a research higher degree or have recently submitted their theses for examination are eligible to apply under the Australian government funded scheme. This scheme pays tuition fees associated with the GCCRS for the selected students, and students in receipt of a scholarship may also be eligible for a living allowance stipend.

Under the Scheme, VU will support selected students by:

- Paying application student tuition fees for the Graduate Certificate
- Providing a stipend payment in some circumstances to students who currently receive a government stipend scholarship

VU international research students who meet eligibility requirements for the MBS Graduate Certificate course may be considered for admission to the program on a full fee basis, provided this is allowable under their visa conditions and is deemed to not impact adversely on their progress in their research studies. Please contact Professor Helen Borland, Director of Postgraduate Research (Helen.Borland@vu.edu.au) if you are an international student and wish to know more about this option.

Study Mode Options

There are a number of options for how you can combine Graduate Certificate in Commercialisation studies with your VU research degree program:

- 1) part-time (maximum of 2/4 units per semester), but preferably 1 unit per semester over 18 months (4 semesters) in conjunction with ongoing f/t research degree studies
- 2) part-time (maximum of 2/4 units per semester), completed over 12 months (3 semesters) in conjunction with ongoing p/t research degree studies
- 3) full-time over 1 semester (4 units) either by taking leave of absence from your research degree for that period or within 6 months of when your thesis has been submitted for examination

Depending on your current enrolment and scholarship status you may be eligible for 1 or more of these study mode options. In some cases students may also be eligible to receive scholarship stipend support in lieu or in addition to their current stipend entitlements. Part-time Graduate Certificate students who are eligible for stipend payment will receive this only on the successful completion of each Graduate Certificate unit

Entry and Application Requirements

You must be a local research doctorate (eg. PhD, professional doctorate) or research masters student at Victoria University, have had your candidature confirmed, and have been enrolled for a minimum of 12 months EFT in the research phase of a research degree. You must be eligible for the CTS (as per the specific eligibility criteria attached).

Application Format

Please complete and submit the following no later than:

- **by COB, 3 July** (for September commencement at MBS, including one unit commencing in July (on commercial writing);
 1. Completed VU Application Proforma
 2. Evidence of Australian citizenship or permanent residence status
 3. a 500 word written statement addressing the following two questions:
 - a. How are particular aspects of your research program relevant, or likely to be relevant to commercialisation?
 - b. How will the Graduate Certificate in Commercialisation for Research Students contribute to your current research program?
 4. Brief letter of support from the supervisor
 5. Current CV
 6. Copy of academic transcripts

Application Lodgement and Deadline

Applications for the September intake at MBS must be submitted to the VU Office for Postgraduate Research either electronically or in person **by 5pm on Friday 3 July, 2009**.

Only applications with all the required documentation will be considered by the VU/MBS selection panel.

For further information please contact:

Ms Lesley Birch/Ms Elizabeth Smith (OPR Admissions and Scholarships Coordinator) – PH: 9919 4659

Or via email Elizabeth.Smith@vu.edu.au

