

# RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS

## The MARCS Institute PhD Scholarship Music Cognition and Action

**The MARCS Institute** studies the scientific bases of human communication. Situated on four campuses, MARCS research on brain, behaviour and development encompasses such areas as how we learn language and handle foreign accents, how to program robots for human interaction, how we can enhance communication with infants, those with hearing impairments, and the elderly, and how music and dance communicate universally. We apply our work to advanced technology, biomedical engineering, and improving physical and mental health by designing electronics inspired by neural systems, building better biomedical devices, analysing heightened performance in the creative arts, and addressing impaired performance in developmental delay and sensory deficit.

**MARCS** invites applications from highly motivated graduates seeking to undertake a PhD to work with Associate Professor Peter Keller on his **Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellowship**. Entitled "*Psychological and neurophysiological mechanisms underlying human interaction in musical contexts*", the aim of the project is to investigate the behavioural and neural mechanisms that underpin an individual's ability to synchronize with others during musical activities such as ensemble performance. These mechanisms will be examined by studying relationships between performance on sensorimotor synchronization tasks, social variables (e.g. personality), and brain structure and function in naturalistic and laboratory settings.

Potential applicants should contact Associate Professor Peter Keller ([p.keller@uws.edu.au](mailto:p.keller@uws.edu.au)) to discuss their interests and to ensure their research proposal is relevant to the project.

### Essential Criteria

Applicants should hold an Australian First Class Bachelor Honours degree, OR equivalent qualifications and/or research experience (including research publications) in a field such as psychology, sensory neuroscience, cognitive neuroscience, cognitive science and technology, music, or human movement science.

International applicants must also demonstrate a high level of proficiency in the English language. Please refer to the University's website for information about [English Language Requirements](#).

### What does a Scholarship at MARCS provide?

All students receive:

- Support for conference attendance (domestic and international), fieldwork and additional costs as appropriate.
- Access to the extensive range of MARCS specialised equipment, laboratory space and facilities.
- A rich environment of support and academic expertise via supervisory panels, seminars, colloquia, international and industry collaborations.

### Domestic Students receive:

- Tax free stipend of up to \$25,392 per annum for up to 3 years, and a *funded place* in the doctoral program. Additional stipend of \$10,000 per annum may be awarded to outstanding students.

### International Students receive:

- Tax free stipend of up to \$25,392 per annum for up to 3 years. Additional stipend of \$10,000 per annum may be awarded to outstanding students.
- Outstanding students may be awarded a Tuition Fee Scholarship valued at approximately \$24,000 per annum for up to 3 years.
- Up to \$2,960 towards the cost of an Overseas Student Health Care Policy.

### The next step?

- Please visit the [MARCS website](#) and for more information.
- For information about the application process, contact MARCS Institute Manager Darlene Williams: [dk.williams@uws.edu.au](mailto:dk.williams@uws.edu.au), +61 2 9772 6726 or Office of Research Services to discuss enrolment and scholarships: [HDRscholarships@uws.edu.au](mailto:HDRscholarships@uws.edu.au); +61 2 4736 0966.

### How to apply

Applicants should submit the [application form](#) (PDF, 160Kb), a 500 word research proposal and a CV by the closing date.

Applications close 27 October 2014