POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPPORT SCHEME 2021

SYDNEY CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC
31 March 2021

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPPORT SCHEME FACULTY RANKING CRITERIA

Sydney Conservatorium of Music
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PRSS Applications are Assessed by the Conservatorium Research Education Committee

Eligibility:
Candidates must meet general PRSS Eligibility Requirements. Students who commenced from July 2020 onwards who have not yet passed probation by the time the round has closed will need to provide evidence that they have completed preliminary appraisal activities as outlined in Schedule 1 of the Progress Planning and Review of Higher Degree by Research Students Policy 2015. Specifically, we seek confirmation from the Lead Supervisor that all activities required in the preliminary appraisal have been completed in their letters of support for PRSS applications. Candidates should make this requirement clear to their supervisors.

For students that commenced from January 2021 onwards, the preliminary appraisal milestone may be completed in RECS. In this case a printout of this milestone completion (with approval from the Lead Supervisor) should be submitted in addition to the letter of support from the candidate’s Lead Supervisor.

Please note that requests for equipment or software available for use at the Conservatorium will not typically be funded.

Selection criteria:
Note to applicants: The term 'thesis' is used below. Remember that a thesis may include performance or composition or other creative work as relevant to each student’s degree project.

Justification statement (up to 250 words) (60%)
This statement may cover the following:

• What are you requesting support for?
• How will the activity or equipment requested contribute toward the completion of your degree?
• Why is this the appropriate point in your degree to request these funds?
• In what way will this funding enhance the quality of your thesis submission? (Quality could mean a lot of things: presentation, richer data, trialling of ideas at a conference... )

Questions to be used by the panel in ranking justification statements:
Will the funds help ensure timely completion?
Is the activity/equipment requested appropriate at this point in the student's candidature?
Will the activity/equipment enhance the overall quality of the submitted thesis?
Budget and budget justification (40%)

Provide a breakdown and justification of the budget

The panel needs to have a realistic projection of cost and will need to know that you have obtained pricing. If you seek refund for funds already spent, you will need to provide evidence of expenditure.

Questions to be used by the panel in ranking budget and budget justification:

Is the budget appropriate and has pricing been obtained, with appropriate evidence provided?

If funds have already been spent, is evidence of expenditure provided?

PRSS feedback plans:

1. Feedback to unsuccessful applicants, and to applicants whose applications are only partially successful, will provide brief information on why the application was not successful which can be taken into account by applicants in subsequent applications.

2. If the allocations to successful applicants are overall or mostly lower than the amounts requested, general feedback will be provided to the full cohort of eligible applicants explaining this necessity.