

# KAU-TILLIKO PHD SCHOLARSHIP

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

This is an Expression of Interest form for the Kau-tilliko PhD Scholarship  
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders may apply

To be considered for this scholarship please complete and submit this Expression of Interest form and provide the following required documentation no later than the application closing date:

- Copies of your Higher Education qualification transcripts and completion certificates.
- Confirmation of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status as outlined in the [Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander - Establishing Status within the University Policy](#).

Please ensure that you review the associated scholarship conditions prior to preparing your expression of interest. Submissions must be sent to [Betj.Georgievski@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Betj.Georgievski@newcastle.edu.au) no later than the application closing date. Applicants should wait to receive the outcome of the Scholarship application before formally applying for admission to the degree.

### SCHOLARSHIP INTENT

The Kau-tilliko PhD Scholarship is a donor funded scholarship established by Joss De luliis following the success of his own innovative land management techniques. The research will draw inspiration from an emerging network of people who see the need for regenerative agriculture and sustainable land management in Australia today, and believe that the knowledge and practices of Indigenous Australians will prove invaluable in that process. In the context of climate change, the engagement of Indigenous people and increasing the use of native species are both seen to be vital in the coming years.

Within that framework, the PhD will give specific focus to the potential for the products of pyrolysis, biochar and wood vinegar, to improve seed germination, plant health, soil quality (especially the carbon content) and crop yields. Opportunities will be explored to enhance microbial activity, build soil carbon, increase water and nutrient retention, improve pest resistance and generally build drought and climate resilience.

The PhD scholarship recipient will be supported by the Office of Indigenous Strategy and Leadership to enable connection to Indigenous students and communities with proper consideration and recognition for the sharing of Indigenous cultural knowledge.

### SOME SUGGESTED AREAS OF INQUIRY MAY INCLUDE:

- How do agricultural and land management practices in Australia need to change to avoid dangerous climate change, eco-system degradation, and food insecurity?
- What can we learn from the knowledge and land management practices of Indigenous people?
- What added value might be created through appropriate application of pyrolysis and its products?
- What research and field trials need to be done to develop innovative products and practices?
- How can this be turned into business opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people
- How do we manage knowledge and IP for mutual benefit and with mutual respect?

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible to apply for this scholarship, you will:

- Be an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander;
- Meet the [admissions criteria](#) for entry into a University of Newcastle PhD program;
- Not hold another University of Newcastle donor-funded or sponsored scholarship concurrently; and
- Submit a completed Expression of Interest form and required documentation no later than the application closing date.

## APPLICANT DETAILS

Family Name:

Given Name:

Student Number (if applicable):

Email:

Discipline or Program of interest:

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Brief summary of your proposed research project area (max. 500 words).

**How would your research project reflect the interests and enhance the legacy of the donor of this scholarship? (max. 250 words)**

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS**

Please list and provide colour copies of all of your academic qualifications (e.g. Bachelor/Honours, Masters Degrees, Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma, PhD, etc.) commenced or awarded. Colour copies of your transcripts and completion certificates are required.

<b>Degree</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Year</b>

## RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS / CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

If applicable, please provide links to your peer reviewed research publications or conference proceedings

Article Title	Journal / Book / Conference	Weblink

## RESEARCH TRAINING / RESEARCH WORK EXPERIENCE

If applicable, please provide details of your research training or research work experience over the last five years.

Job title and experience	Organisation	Dates	Full-time / PT / Casual

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Please provide details of your work experience not listed in the previous table. Include work undertaken over the last five years.

Job title and experience	Organisation	Dates	Full-time / PT / Casual

## APPLICANT'S DECLARATION

- *I declare that the information provided in this form is true and correct and recognise that if I provide false or misleading information, my application may not progress.*

**Applicant  
Signature:**

**Date:**

**Please do not formally apply for a HDR program until you have received feedback from the Selection Committee regarding this scholarship application.**