



## SINGAPORE ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

### CONDITIONS

#### 1.0 ESTABLISHMENT

- 1.1 The Singapore Alumni Scholarship was established in 2011 by a committee of Singapore Alumni, chaired by Dr Peter Tay. This Singapore Alumni Scholarship Committee initiated fund-raising from Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents who studied at the University of Newcastle. It is the intent that these scholarships be used to assist gifted and disadvantaged students with their studies at the University of Newcastle.

To be eligible for this scholarship, students must be academically gifted but also facing hardship from factors such as being from a low socio-economic background, coming from a rural or remote area, living with disabilities, and carer or parenting responsibilities.

Donations for this Singapore Alumni Scholarship have come from Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents who studied at the University of Newcastle, take great pride in the achievements of Singapore, and value their relationship with The University of Newcastle. It is hoped that the Singapore Alumni Scholarships will further strengthen the relationship between Singapore and Australia. The University of Newcastle expects beneficiaries of this Scholarship to respect the values and aspirations of those who have made this very generous donation.

The history of the Singapore Alumni Scholarships would not be complete without a special mention of UON alumnus and generous donor, Dr Peter Tay, who was instrumental in the establishment, governance and fundraising of the Singapore Alumni Scholarship Fund that supports these scholarships. Peter showed exceptional leadership with his peer-to-peer fundraising efforts and from 2011 until today, Peter has tirelessly rallied his fellow Singapore alumni from UON to donate towards the Fund. After three fund-raising campaigns, the Singapore Alumni Scholarship Fund needed A\$170,000 to reach its target. Peter spearheaded a Golden Jubilee campaign, as part of the 50th anniversary of the University in 2015. That goal was achieved and surpassed, and the fund has now reached over A\$500,000 and can support five students each year. Peter continues to consistently update his fellow Singapore Alumni on the Fund, showing them the impact that their donations is making to students in need

#### 2.0 DEFINITIONS

“Donor” means the Singapore Citizens and/or Permanent Residents who studied at the University of Newcastle and made a Donation to the Singapore Alumni Scholarship Fund;

“Faculty” means the Faculty for which the scholarships is relevant;

“Program” means the program of study in which the scholar is enrolled;

“Scholar” means a recipient of a scholarship;

“Scholarship” means Singapore Alumni Scholarship;

“UON” means the University of Newcastle.

#### 3.0 ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 To be eligible to apply for this scholarship an applicant must be enrolled at the University of Newcastle and meet the following criteria:

3.1.1 Be enrolled in any year of an undergraduate degree;

3.1.2 Be enrolled in any course/program in any Faculty;

3.1.3 Be enrolled full-time;

3.1.4 Demonstrate academic achievement or potential either by an ATAR of 75 or higher for commencing students, or GPA of 5.0 for continuing students;

3.1.5 Demonstrate that the ability to study is affected, or will be affected, by an area of educational

disadvantage such as exceptional financial hardship, regional or remote area disadvantage, long term medical condition/disability, refugee status, carer or sole parenting responsibilities;

- 3.1.6 Be willing submit an essay of approximately 400 words on Singapore and one or more aspects of its people, economy, geography, history, culture, political system etc. The essay shall focus on the student's field of study, demonstrate analysis or critical thinking and be of an acceptable standard. This essay does not form part of the application or selection process, however applicants may choose to supply the essay with either their scholarship application or wait until notified they have been successful in winning the scholarship and supply it then.
- 3.1.7 Not be the recipient of another UON donor funded or sponsored scholarship concurrently.

#### **4.0 REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION**

- 4.1 The following documentation must be submitted with the scholarship application:
- 4.1.1 A written statement demonstrating/outlining your academic achievement to date, experience with one or more of the above mentioned educational disadvantages, career aspirations in the relevant area of study or research and how this scholarship would assist you. Any documentary evidence supporting this should be included e.g. Centrelink income statement, registration with disability service or evidence of address in a remote area.

A written statement/essay is to be no more than 2 x A4 pages (unless stated otherwise) excluding documentary evidence.

- 4.2 Any applicant that does not submit the required documentation, including documentary evidence, will not be considered for selection.

#### **5.0 SELECTION**

- 5.1 Selection is a competitive process and will be based on assessment of the scholarship application and any required supporting documents. Applications will be ranked against the criteria outlined in clauses 3.0 and 4.0 and a recommendation schedule sent to the nominated University staff member from clause 5.2 (and any other person(s) nominated) for selection and sign off.
- 5.2 Selection will be made by the Shaping Futures Selection Committee with members being chosen by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).
- 5.3 A Donor(s) and/or representative of UON Office of Alumni and Philanthropy (UON Foundation) may be involved in the selection as approved and/or deemed necessary by the Director of Advancement, Office of Alumni and Philanthropy.
- 5.4 Where there are no eligible applicants after a maximum of two rounds per year then the scholarship will not be offered for that year.

#### **6.0 CONDITIONS OF AWARD**

- 6.1 The scholarship is tenable for one (1) year. The scholarship must be taken up in the year for which it was awarded, unless otherwise specified.
- 6.2 The scholar shall continue to meet all eligibility criteria specified in clause 3.0 of these conditions and any other specified requirements for the duration of the scholarship unless varied in accordance with clause 11.1.
- 6.3 The successful recipient/s will provide a copy of the essay (refer clause 3.1.6) within three (3) weeks of notification of scholarship offer in a MS Word document sent to [scholarships@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:scholarships@newcastle.edu.au).
- 6.4 Where a scholar has withdrawn from studies after payment of the scholarship in any semester (and no period of approved leave has been granted as outlined in clause 8.0), the scholar may be required to return

the benefit they received for the semester within which it was paid.

6.5 The scholar shall not be required by the donor or the University to undertake employment as a condition of award of the scholarship.

6.6 The scholar will make themselves available for an official presentation ceremony and meeting with the scholarship donor in Scholars week.

## **7.0 BENEFIT**

7.1 The scholarship provides a benefit of \$4000 to be paid as a lump sum following Semester 1 census date.

7.2 The scholarship benefit and number of scholarships awarded may vary and will be determined by the funding available in each academic year.

## **8.0 PERIODS OF LEAVE**

8.1 A scholar may apply in writing to reserve or defer of the scholarship benefit because of illness, injury or other extenuating circumstances. An application must be supported by appropriate documentary evidence. Periods of approved leave or deferral must not exceed two consecutive semesters of study and shall not reduce the tenure of the scholarship. All applications for periods of leave must be submitted to the Scholarships Office within the affected semester of study.

## **9.0 TERMINATION**

9.1 A scholarship shall terminate before its due date of conclusion when:

9.1.1 the scholar ceases to meet the eligibility criteria in clause 3.0;

9.1.2 the scholar ceases to be a student of the University;

9.1.3 the University determines that the scholar has committed serious misconduct; or

9.1.4 the scholar failed to maintain satisfactory academic progress.

## **10.0 SPECIAL CONSIDERATION**

10.1 Where a scholar cannot meet the conditions of the scholarship due to illness, injury or other extenuating circumstances, they may apply in writing to the scholarships office. Applications must be supported by appropriate documentary evidence and a decision will be made in consultation with the Office of Alumni & Philanthropy.

## **11.0 PRIVACY**

11.1 By applying for this scholarship the student understands that this is a donor-funded scholarship and as such an external donor (or representative) may view their application and supporting documents evidencing their eligibility and ongoing academic progression.

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