

Australia Award Scholarships News

Cairns
Singapore
Townsville

JCU Australia Award Scholarships Newsletter May 2014



Happy New Year and welcome to JCU

This year we welcomed 67 new Australia Award Scholarship (AAS) students to JCU - the largest intake of AAS students in a single semester in JCU's history.

JCU's first students from Guyana, Panama, El Salvador and Honduras were in this year's intake, including the first AAS student to undertake a Bachelor of Veterinary Sciences at JCU.

The courses range from Bachelor degrees, such as Bachelor of Business, to Masters degrees, such as Public Health, Business Administration and Science, to Higher Degree Research programs such as Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy.

Twelve scholarship recipients from Papua New Guinea are part of a pilot program partnership with Divine Word University in Madang, PNG.

The JCU International team wishes all our commencing and continuing AAS students all the best in their studies at JCU.

JCU Team

Divine Word University Twinning Program



Australia Awards Scholarships is driving change to Papua New Guinea by initiating a pilot program that partners James Cook University and Divine Word University. The Pilot Twinning Program shares in the goal of Australia Awards Scholarships; to develop skills and knowledge of individuals to drive change and contribute to the development outcomes of their own country.

Divine Word University (DWU) is a national University and leading tertiary institution in Papua New Guinea. Students began their studies at DWU with subjects delivered by JCU academic staff. After their first year of study 12 students who met the academic and English language entry requirements travelled to JCU to complete their studies. They are all enrolled in a Bachelor of Business with a double major in

Health Management and Management.

According to the Australian Doctor's International statistics, Papua New Guinea has a critical shortage of health workers, just 0.58 per 1000 people, compared to one per 302 people in Australia. John Bangan Yana was selected as one of the students to pioneer this Pilot Twinning Program between DWU in PNG and JCU.

"I come from a very remote area in PNG. Thus studying abroad at JCU gives me the opportunity to return home with the knowledge and skills and improve the delivery of health services to my people, my province, and PNG as a whole," John said.

At the completion of their studies in 2015 the students will travel back to Papua New Guinea.

Student Profile



Lee Marava (Papua New Guinea) *Master of Development Practice*

Lee Junior Marava comes from the Eastern Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea. He arrived in Cairns in January 2014 to undertake the Master of Development Practice, having completed his undergraduate studies in 2010 and working for three years as a Scientific Research and Geographic Information System (GIS) officer with the PNG Institute of Medical Research. Lee chose JCU as his preferred place to study due to the unique Master of Development Practice program that JCU offers. He also cites Cairns' close proximity to PNG and the prestige in tropical research that JCU offers as other contributing factors to his choice of institution.

Lee's first impressions of Cairns have been very positive. "I found that the environment was a lot similar to the coastlands of PNG, the people were very friendly and helpful, and the whole experience of being introduced into the campus and school life was extraordinary. This really helped me settle in and establish myself. I have no regrets of being here. JCU Cairns is the right place for me." Although it is not too different from home in terms

of environment and climate, Lee has noticed the higher level of technology and human welfare services available in Cairns.

While his focus has been mostly to settle into his studies, Lee has been able to find time to make friends through his classes, playing sports and socialising at the "boathouse" (student common area) – an impressive feat given that he is taking five subjects in his first semester (students normally take four subjects each semester).

Lee hopes that his degree will give him the edge and a solid foundation to help his provincial and local level governments in PNG in proposing developmental programs in rural areas. Lee adds, "I also hope for the program to fine tune my research, critical thinking and analytical skills so that I can contribute to PNG in research on developmental issues"

When asked what he misses most from home, Lee ranks his family first, closely followed by PNG traditional cooking especially "mummu".

JCU Events

Student life at JCU is never boring thanks to the efforts of departments such as James Cook International, Student Life, Multifaith Chaplaincy, Student Association and Student Equity and Engagement.

Throughout the semester, JCU students on both Cairns and Townsville campuses are treated to regular social events starting from Orientation Week with magic shows, barbecues, bus trips and more. The first infamous Free Lunch Friday was held in early March during which 400+ students enjoyed kangaroo and beef sausages, vege burgers and an opportunity to experience Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture with an Aboriginal dance performance and palm frond weaving workshop. Two more Free Lunch Friday events are scheduled for the semester plus a beach trip and the major event of the semester, the Completion Gathering for International Student's scheduled in late May.

The regular Café International and Rendezvous Tuesday concerts are ongoing every week and special events such as the Harmony Day Celebrations, Careers Fair and Global Village fair are guaranteed to keep the campuses alive with music and activities for all students.



Student Profile



Antin Y. N. Widi (Indonesia) *Master of Tropical Veterinary Science*

Antin Widi is so happy, and sad. Happy because she is in the final stages of her Master of Tropical Veterinary Science degree and soon she will be returning home to Indonesia, will be reunited with her family and will be returning to her job as a lecturer. Antin is also feeling sad at the thought of leaving Australia and leaving behind her friends and many people who have influenced her life here.

Originally from Ampel in Central Java, Antin moved to Kupang Indonesia in 2010 where she worked as a veterinarian and a veterinary pathology lecturer with the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Nusa Cendana University. Her move to Australia, an English speaking country and undertaking studies in English, have presented challenges which she addressed by persevering with her English language skills and being open to receiving support from her friends and lecturers.

While Antin has gained a deeper understanding and new knowledge from her Master of Tropical Veterinary Science program, Antin has also learned how to be critical; an

idea that is new to her, and one that she is hoping to pass on to her students back home. Critical thinking is one challenge that Antin has had to overcome and adopt in her approach to her studies.

One thing that Antin remembers from the Introductory Academic Program is the saying "Study Hard and Play Hard". She maintained a fine balance between her studies and her personal life pursuing her hobby of singing and joining the JCU Staff and Students Choir. Antin had the opportunity to perform with the choir at University events in 2013.

Antin has thoroughly enjoyed her time in Townsville and has made the most of all the public facilities and those provided at the University. When asked what she loves the most about living in Townsville, Antin said

"I love the natural life in Townsville. I still can find some species of birds that I used to find in my place, living freely. I hear them sing in every morning, and this creates a peaceful life for me here."

Recruitment activities and travel plans

Scheduled AAS events for 2014 include PNG, Vietnam and Indonesia and so it will be a busy year ahead. The information sessions remain a vital component in ensuring students are able to obtain detailed information about their prospective university and course options. If there are any JCU alumni students in these countries who are interested in helping out at events please get in touch with Brook.Bindley@jcu.edu.au.

2014 saw the largest group of AAS students to JCU with 67 new students commencing. For the first time in JCU history we have students from Guyana, Panama, El Salvador and Honduras studying with us on Australia Awards Scholarships.

The Master of Science is the most popular course of study closely followed by the Bachelor of Business and JCU's unique Masters of Development Practice. Courses that are increasing in popularity include the combined Masters of Business Administration/Master of Public Health and the research programs at Master and Doctorate levels.

We encourage interested students to keep an eye out for James Cook University recruitment staff at their nearest AAS event and make sure to say "hi" to the team.

Staff Profile



Brook Bindley *International Relations and Recruitment Manager*

Brook commenced with James Cook International in January this year, and is responsible for recruitment activities in South America, India, Nepal, Vietnam and Papua New Guinea. Brook enjoys engaging with potential international applicants from around the world and advising them all about JCU's unique tropical campuses and programs.

"I am based at the JCU Cairns campus and as a scuba diver take full advantage of the close proximity to the Great Barrier Reef. As a graduate of James Cook University, having studied on both Townsville and Cairns campuses, I have personally experienced the warm welcome and support JCU provides to students. I enjoy travelling and spent several years living and working in both Europe and North America".

Course Profile

Master of Business Administration / Master of Conflict Management and Resolution

This dual Master program develops advanced business acumen, leadership and diplomacy skills and is ideal for students who intend to broaden their knowledge in business administration and management while becoming qualified in the areas of conflict management and resolution.

JCU's modernized Master of Business Administration uses core knowledge from the academic disciplines of business, law, psychology, technology, social science and humanities to explore key areas confronting modern managers, organisations and professionals. Students develop the knowledge and skills to analyse, manage and resolve conflict in a wide variety of contexts. Graduates are prepared to work in professions that deal directly with conflict as well as in other professions that require conflict management skills.



Key features

- Broaden your existing knowledge and skills in governance and ethics, change management, small to medium enterprise management, corporate social responsibility, analysis of complex conflicts and conflict management systems, constructive conflict management, cross-cultural conflict and effective communication.
- Dual degree allows student to gain two qualifications in the same amount of time as one.
- Professional accreditation as a Mediator, Conflict Coach or Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner
- Gain practical experience through the clinical program, the Student Conflict Support Service or an internship with a local or international organisation.

DURATION

2 years full time (Advanced Standing options may shorten your study time)

PRE-REQUISITES

Undergraduate degree or equivalent plus English IELTS score of 6.0

MID-YEAR ENTRY

Available

CAMPUS

Townsville and Cairns

For more information about the AAS program at JCU, please visit our website: www.jcu.edu.au/international/aas