MPhil Scholarships

City Futures Research Centre/City Planning Program, Faculty of Built Environment, UNSW Sydney

Value Australia - Sharpening our land and property decisions with Artificial Intelligence

City Futures Research Centre at UNSW is offering four MPhil scholarships to work on the Value Australia Project (https://frontiersi.com.au/value-australia/). The project investigators are Prof Chris Pettit, Prof Bill Randolph, A/Prof Hoon Han, A/Prof Chyi Lin Lee and Dr Simone Z Leao, UNSW Sydney.

This 3-year CRC project aims to develop data driven analytics, models and tools for understanding housing and property dynamics across cities. The project aims to develop world class automated valuation models using advanced spatial and statistical methods along with machine learning and artificial intelligence techniques. Through the development of these automated valuation models the project is also interested in how these models can be applied to support government, industry and communities in making better city decisions and policies in relation to taxes, property acquisition, infrastructure development, affordable housing scheme and other land and property related decisions.

The MPhil scholars will be expected to develop and carry out a piece of research that supports the wider aims of the Value Australia project, but is encouraged to focus in depth on a particular aspect of project. This might include (but is not limited to) one of the following areas:

- Automate Valuation modelling
- Urban feasibility modelling
- Housing feasibility modelling
- Land acquisition
- Infrastructure sequencing
- Infrastructure Value uplift
- City Dashboards (Property and Planning)
- Value sharing policy development

The MPhil will be supervised by a combination of the Chief Investigators as listed above. The MPhil student will benefit from being part of the Higher Degree Research (HDR) community within the Faculty as well as enjoy support and opportunities provided through City Futures – one of Australia’s leading urban research centres.

Scholarship Value

The successful candidate will receive a stipend of $28,092 (2020 rate) per year which will be indexed annually for the duration of the award. The duration of the award shall be for a maximum of two years.

Entry Requirements

- Eligible students will have completed a Bachelor Degree in geography, urban planning, urban studies, economics, real estate and property, computer science, geomatics or a related discipline.

- The applicant must be eligible to study for an MPhil in the Faculty of Built Environment, UNSW. For more information on eligibility and how to apply, please visit our website.

- The scholarship is available to new applicants only.
• Students will be able to commence their degree in Term 3 2020 (September).

**Nationality**

Both domestic and international students are encouraged to apply. For international applicants, a fee waiver may be available but is not guaranteed. Please note that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is not yet clear whether international students will be able to begin a higher degree research program at UNSW in 2020, unless already in the country.

**Application process**

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to get in touch with Professor Chris Pettit by email (c.pettit@unsw.edu.au) in the first instance, for more information and to discuss how their specific research interests can align with the wider Value Australia Project.

Following this initial expression of interest, candidates will be required to submit:

• a letter of application outlining your potential research topic in relation to the project and interest in undertaking an MPhil (no more than 2 pages)

• a CV

• proof of meeting English language requirements

• relevant academic transcripts

• contact details for two academic referees

Your application will be considered by the Value Australia Project team, and the successful candidate will then be advised to formally apply for Higher Degree Research enrolment through UNSW Apply Online.

**Applications to be received by 19th of June 2020**

Send to Professor Chris Pettit

c.pettit@unsw.edu.au