

PHD SCHOLARSHIP – ROLE OF FEMALE LEADERSHIP IN BUILDING HEALTHY & SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITIES

National Centre for Farmer Health (NCFH), School of Medicine

A PhD scholarship is available in Deakin University's School of Medicine. The PhD student, under the guidance of the Chief Investigator, will initiate and conduct research on the topic of '*Role of female leadership in building healthy & sustainable agricultural communities*' led by Associate Professor Susan Brumby.

The successful applicant will be based at the National Centre for Farmer Health, Hamilton, Victoria and may need to travel locally in Hamilton to collect data from the study participants.

The PhD student should have a full Victorian driving license.

Research Topic

Role of female leadership in building healthy & sustainable agricultural communities.

Aim of the Project

Women play a vital role in the global rural workforce, comprising nearly half of all agricultural workers, and are critical to healthy and sustainable agricultural communities. However, internationally and nationally women are not well recognized for their contributions to farming. They are also poorly represented in leadership positions in the agriculture sector. The face of Australian agriculture is predominantly that of the middle-aged white male. Women are under-represented in agricultural politics, senior positions in private and public sector bodies, and the decision-making processes of farm organizations. This project will follow-up all the 20 women selected to receive the "Victorian women in agriculture scholarship to Washington DC" in the late 1990's. The scholarship was awarded to women with leadership roles or leadership potential in the agriculture sector to assist them to build their skills and networks.

The project aims to investigate the pathways they have followed to their current positions and their roles as leaders in building healthy and sustainable agricultural communities. It will also assess the structural and cultural impediments which act to restrict women's access to leadership and the effectiveness or otherwise of initiatives such as these scholarships in supporting women to overcome these impediments and gain and sustain leadership roles in the agriculture sector.

Value and benefits

A stipend of \$26,288 per annum tax exempt for 3 years.

Eligibility criteria

- Applicants must meet Deakin's PhD entry requirements, be enrolling full-time and hold an Honours degree (First Class) or a Master's degree with a substantial research component in

a related field. Please refer to the [entry pathways](#) to higher degrees by research for further information.

- Applications are open to Australian/New Zealand citizens and Australian permanent residents.
- The PhD student should have a full Victorian driving license.
- The selected PhD student will be based at Hamilton and may need to travel locally in Hamilton to collect data from the study participants

How to apply

Please refer to the [Apply for a research degree](#) webpage for application information.

Further information

If you wish to discuss your research interests and project proposal before applying, please contact Clinical Associate Professor Susan Brumby via [email](#), phone at (03)5551 8533 or Dr. Muhammad Aziz Rahman via [email](#), phone at (03)5247 9532.