BACKGROUND

New Zealand-born Zena Daysh was the founder of the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC) and Foundation. It was in recognition of this fine work and many other accomplishments that the University of Waikato conferred an honorary doctorate on Zena Daysh in 2009, in London. Dr Daysh was a life-long advocate of the interdisciplinary approach to social, political, health, and environmental issues embodied in the field of sustainability; the term she used was human ecology. When Dr Zena Daysh passed away in 2011, a generous bequest was made from her estate to fund this Doctoral Fellowship.

1. Purpose

1.1. The Dr Zena Daysh Fellowship provides funds for a student with a research interest in a field relevant to sustainable development, to undertake a doctoral degree at the University of Waikato.

2. Eligibility

2.1. Candidates may come from a range of academic disciplines, provided their research aligns with Dr Zena Daysh’s mission to promote an holistic, integrative, and sustainable approach to development.

2.2. All candidates, domestic or international, must meet the University’s enrolment criteria for the doctoral programme. A Fellowship may only be taken up by a candidate who enrolls, or is enrolled, in an approved programme of full-time doctoral study.

2.3. Candidates employed on a permanent or full-time basis by the University of Waikato, will not normally be eligible for the Fellowship.

3. Value

3.1. For the 2017 application round, the value of the Fellowship shall be a living allowance of up to $22,000 per annum, payable in monthly instalments, and an amount equal to the annual domestic tuition fees payable during the up to three-year term of the Fellowship.

3.2. A thesis preparation allowance of up to $400 is also available, even after the term of the Fellowship, provided the thesis is submitted within four years of the commencement of doctoral enrolment.

4. Application

4.1. The Fellowship will normally be open for applications every three years. The next closing date will be 15 July 2017.
4.2. Along with the prescribed application form, each applicant must submit:

a) A personal statement (using the template provided), which includes the following subheadings:
   - Proposed research which emphasizes its relevance to sustainability
   - Timeline showing the start of doctoral enrolment, anticipated milestones, and the expected completion date
   - Previous studies and/or research of relevance to sustainability
   - Previous employment of relevance to sustainability
   - Past attendance/presentation at seminars, conferences, etc.
   - Future career plans

b) Two academic references

5. Selection Criteria

5.1. The Selection Panel will be looking for a research focus that is clearly relevant to Dr Daysh’s life-work and that has demonstrated applied value and impact.

5.2. An alignment with the aims and interests of the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC) www.checinternational.org will strengthen an application.

5.3. Academic merit will be another criterion of selection, with a minimum grade average of A– (in the previous two years of full-time study) expected for eligibility.

5.4. The Selection Panel may also take financial need into consideration.

6. Selection Panel

6.1. The Selection Panel will comprise; the Chair of the Scholarships Committee (Chairperson), two representatives from the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council or Foundation, and an academic staff member with relevant expertise (or nominees). The academic staff member will be nominated by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee.

7. Awarding

7.1. The offer of a Fellowship must be accepted within a maximum of one month of the formal offer being made. If the candidate fails to accept the award within the one-month period, the offer will lapse.

8. Tenure

8.1. The tenure of each Fellowship shall commence on a date determined by the Scholarships Committee, in consultation with the Postgraduate Research Committee.

8.2. If the recipient has not already done so, he/she will be expected to enrol in an approved programme of doctoral study, allowing commencement of the Fellowship within six months of the accepting the offer of the Fellowship.

8.3. The total term of the Fellowship will not normally exceed three years of full-time doctoral enrolment.

8.4. Should a recipient submit his/her thesis for examination during the Fellowship period (and provided he/she remains enrolled), the Fellowship will end after its full term or upon the recipient’s final completion of doctoral study, whichever is the earlier date. Final completion
takes place when the Postgraduate Research Committee recommends the awarding of the degree.

8.5. The recipient may also hold lower-value awards, provided the combined value of all other awards does not exceed fifty per cent of the living allowance of his/her Fellowship in any one year. The Fellow must advise the Scholarships Committee (via Scholarships in the School of Graduate Research), in writing, of any other awards held.

8.6. Where the recipient is offered higher-value external funding which allows co-tenure, the recipient may apply to the Scholarships Committee for permission to hold the external funding while retaining up to fifty per cent of the current living allowance of this Fellowship. Applications would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

9. Reporting

9.1. In addition to the academic and research requirements of the doctoral programme at the University of Waikato, the holder of this Fellowship must:

9.1.1. On (or before) each anniversary of the commencement of the award, in consultation with his/her Chief Supervisor, submit a written report to the School of Graduate Research which will be made available to CHEC and the Human Ecology Foundation. Each report will provide an overview of the Fellow's research, achievements, and progress to date.

9.1.2. In the final year of the Fellowship, present findings from the doctoral research at a seminar to which University staff and the public are invited.

10. Other Conditions

10.1. The time the recipient devotes to his/her research is required to be commensurate with their full-time enrolment status. This should equate, on average, to a minimum of 30 hours per week over the tenure of the Fellowship.

10.2. If a recipient's circumstances change in a manner which may affect his/her continued eligibility for this award, the Fellow must inform the Scholarships Committee (via Scholarships in the School of Graduate Research) immediately. The Scholarships Committee will assess any change of circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

10.3. The Scholarships Committee may terminate a Fellowship at any time if it is not satisfied, after consultation with the Postgraduate Research Committee, that the recipient is following the approved programme of research, and/or making progress commensurate with timely completion of the degree, and/or otherwise complying with the conditions governing the Fellowship. The recipient shall have the right to appeal to the Research Committee against any decision to terminate the award.