The Evelyn Stokes Memorial Doctoral Scholarship was established in 2008 and is supported by funds held by the University of Waikato. The Scholarship is offered periodically when funds allow.

The Dame Evelyn Stokes was a Professor of Geography and the longest-serving member of the academic staff at the University of Waikato. Evelyn’s early interest in Māori and historical, educational, and gender perspectives in geographical inquiry helped develop geographical knowledge that was exceptional nationally and internationally.

This Scholarship commemorates Evelyn’s commitment to social justice and transformative politics expressed through indigenous, historical, social, and environmental perspectives in human geography.

1. **Eligibility**
   1.1. To be eligible, applicants must be currently enrolled in a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the Geography or Environmental Planning programmes, in the School of Social Sciences of the University of Waikato; and
   1.2. Applicants will be seeking to obtain their first doctoral qualification.
   1.3. Applicants employed by the University of Waikato will not be eligible for the Scholarship, except when permission is granted in accordance with Clause 1.3.1.
       1.3.1. Employment as a sessional assistant, or similar, may be permitted, provided the hours worked do not contravene Clause 7.

2. **Value and Tenure**
   2.1. The value of the Scholarship shall be $5,000 per 12 months of study for up to 36 months of full-time doctoral enrolment (i.e., a maximum of $15,000 over 36 months).
   2.2. Should a recipient be allowed part-time enrolment during the Scholarship tenure, the value of the Scholarship shall be pro-rata during that time.
   2.3. Should a recipient submit their thesis for examination during the Scholarship tenure (and provided the candidate remains enrolled), the Scholarship will end after its full term or upon the recipient’s completion of the doctoral qualification, whichever is the earlier date. Completion occurs when the Postgraduate Research Committee recommends awarding of the degree.
   2.4. The recipient must be enrolled in the appropriate programme of study to receive payments.
   2.5. The Scholarship will be paid in six-monthly instalments, starting as soon as practicable after acceptance of the Scholarship offer.

3. **Application**
   3.1. The closing date for applications is **1 November in the year prior to awarding**. However, in 2020 the closing date will be **1 February**.
   3.2. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
   3.3. As part of the online application process for the Scholarship, each applicant must:
3.3.1. Complete the online application, including the prescribed Personal Statement with the following subheadings:

- How this Scholarship will benefit my aspirations; and
- My tertiary-level academic achievements; and
- A brief outline of my doctoral research; and
- A brief timeline of my doctoral degree, including any progress to date; and
- My financial circumstances.

3.3.2. Seek submission of two academic references attesting to the applicant’s research and academic achievements.

4. Selection

4.1. The Selection Panel will comprise of the Scholarships Committee Representative for the Division of Arts, Law, Psychology and Social Sciences (as Chair), and two academic staff from the Geography and Environmental Planning programmes nominated by the Head of the School of Social Sciences.

4.2. Academic merit will be a primary criterion of selection, with a minimum grade average of A-(over the previous year of full-time study) expected for eligibility.

4.3. Other factors taken into consideration will include the candidate’s personal statement and referee reports. Financial circumstances may also be taken into consideration.

4.4. The Selection Panel may refrain from making a recommendation if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit.

4.5. All applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application.

5. Awarding

5.1. The offer of a Scholarship must be accepted by the date indicated in the offer or the offer shall lapse.

5.2. Ongoing eligibility requires the student to remain enrolled in a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the Geography or Environmental Planning programmes, in the School of Social Sciences of the University of Waikato during the tenure.

6. Employment

6.1. Scholarship recipients will not be permitted to undertake paid employment that exceeds an annual total of 500 hours. This applies to recipients enrolled full-time or part-time.

6.2. Permission to exceed an annual total of 500 hours paid employment must be sought from the Scholarships Executive (via scholarships@waikato.ac.nz) and will only be approved in exceptional circumstances.
7. **Other Conditions**

7.1. The Scholarship may be held with any other Scholarship or Award, provided the conditions of the other Award allow co-tenure.

7.2. In accepting the Scholarship offer, the recipient will be deemed to have read, understood, and accepted the regulations of the Scholarship, and the [Scholarships Policy](#). 

7.3. By accepting the Scholarship offer, the candidate agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.

7.4. If a recipient’s circumstances change in a manner which may affect their continued eligibility for this Scholarship, they must inform the Scholarships Executive immediately (via [scholarships@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:scholarships@waikato.ac.nz)). Any change of circumstances will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

7.5. Recipients are not eligible to receive Scholarship funds during periods of suspension of doctoral enrolment for any reason. In the cases of overpayment, the School of Graduate Research will work with the recipient to recoup the funds.

7.6. The Postgraduate Research Committee will provide advice and recommendations to the Scholarships Executive in regards to Progress Reports of Scholarship recipients that identify performance that is below expectations.

7.7. If a recipient is an international student, they must comply with the conditions of their Immigration New Zealand (INZ) student visa.

7.8. By accepting the offer of a Scholarship, the recipient agrees to participate in any publicity concerning the Scholarship arranged by the University of Waikato.

7.9. The Scholarships Executive may terminate this Scholarship at any time, and recoup any funds disbursed, if the recipient:

7.9.1. is not meeting expectations in their doctoral progress reports;

7.9.2. is not following the approved programme of study; or,

7.9.3. brings the University into disrepute¹, or otherwise does not comply with the regulations governing the Scholarship.

7.10. The Scholarship recipient will have the right to appeal against any decision to terminate a Scholarship by writing to [scholarships@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:scholarships@waikato.ac.nz), who will forward the appeal to the Research Committee.

7.11. The University of Waikato may, from time to time, vary these regulations.

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¹ See the [Student Code of Conduct](#).