PhD scholarships – Sustainable Materials Research

Āmiomio Aotearoa: A Circular Economy for the Wellbeing of New Zealand

Background: The current linear extract-produce-use-dispose material flow model of the modern economic system is unsustainable and needs to be addressed. We have multiple fully-funded PhD scholarships as part of the MBIE Endeavour project “Āmiomio Aotearoa: A Circular Economy for the Wellbeing of New Zealand” (funded $10.9M, 2020 – 2025). The project is a collaboration between the University of Waikato and other Universities (Canterbury, Massey, AUT, Otago), Scion and Landcare hosted by the School of Engineering at Waikato. It aims to pave the way through materials science, engineering, energy, economics, kaupapa Māori, business, law and regulation, social science and public policy for a more sustainable New Zealand.

As a PhD student in Engineering at the University of Waikato, you would be a part of this transitional programme, focused on materials but interacting with others researching across the spectrum of the circular economy. Priority areas include sustainable materials for building/construction packaging from sustainable and waste materials. Your ideal background:

• a relevant MSc, BE or BSc Hons qualification or soon to complete - e.g. materials and process /chemical/ mechanical engineering or chemistry
• passion for the application of sustainable materials
• a professional attitude, good writing and time management skills
• a willingness to learn, up-skill and work in multidisciplinary group

Value: up to $50,000 per year (3 years), including a stipend (typically $40,000 per year for domestic candidates), domestic tuition fees, and financial support for research materials and travel. In addition, you may earn up to an additional $5,000, employed as a teaching assistant.

Application documents required

● CV including contact details for 2-3 referees (including at least one academic reference)
● Academic transcript from previous study undertaken
● A personal statement (max 1 page) describing your motivation, interests and background related to the research project

Contact

For further information/confidential discussion or to apply contact Professor Kim Pickering at klp@waikato.ac.nz by November 8th, 2020