

Call for Scholarship applications

3-year Doctoral Scholarship
Joint Centre for Disaster Research
Massey University and GNS Science
New Zealand



PhD Research Scholarship in non-traditional sources of data (i.e. social media) for impact modelling and evaluation of disaster events.

The Joint Centre for Disaster Research (JCDR) is awarding a 3-year PhD Scholarship for late 2017 – 2020. The scholarship is available to the students of all nationalities. The starting date is any time from September to December 2017.

Closing Date for Applications: 11 August 2017

Subject Area: The successful candidate will focus on understanding the role and value of non-traditional sources of data (including social media, crowd sourcing) in recording the impacts of a range of hazardous events (such as high impact weather, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.). It will also focus on potential uses of impact data, such as for communicating and verifying impact-based warnings, impact modelling and responding to events. The PhD candidate will explore the social media data analysis methods, processes and tools that support monitoring, planning and decision-making before, during and after a disaster event. The subject area will be adjusted according to the student's qualifications and area of research interest. However, a level of technical experience with open source software will be required.

JCDR is a joint venture between Massey University and GNS Science, is located within the School of Psychology and is based at the Wellington Campus of Massey University in New Zealand. The Centre undertakes multi-disciplinary applied teaching and research aimed at understanding the impacts of disasters on communities, improving risk management and enhancing community preparedness, response and recovery from various hazard events.

The work will be connected to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) High Impact Weather (HIWeather) research program. For more information, please go to this [link](#).

Scholarship Award: The scholarship will pay an annual NZ\$25k (excl. GST) and include the cost of tuition fees for the first three years of research.

Eligibility: The scholarship is available for pursuing a PhD programme. The student is expected to have an Honours or Masters (with a research thesis component) qualification in a relevant discipline (interdisciplinarity is encouraged), such as: geography, social science, communications, earth science or sociology.

The successful candidate will be enrolled fulltime or part-time at Massey University and preferably reside in the Wellington region (negotiable), New Zealand, for the tenure of the project. Candidates must meet the PhD eligibility criteria for enrolling at Massey University (<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/research/higher-research-degrees/how-to-apply-for-the-phd/how-to-apply-for-the-phd.cfm>).

Enquiries and Applications:

Applicants should submit an email to the Joint Centre for Disaster Research (jcdr.enquiry@massey.ac.nz), with the subject heading of 'HIWeather PhD application'. Please include:

- A curriculum vitae (max. 2 pages)
- Academic transcript
- List of publications (if any)
- Contact details
- One A4 page cover letter outlining your interest in the topic, and why you would like to be considered for this scholarship.