School of Chemistry, Faculty of Science

PhD Scholarship in Deep Sea Natural Products Chemistry

The deep sea is one of the most biodiverse yet least studied habitats on the planet. Using the latest sophisticated underwater technology, we seek to explore Australia’s unique deep-sea life as a rich and untapped source of new drug leads. In conjunction with industry partners, the research involves collecting deep-sea organisms using remotely operated vehicles, followed by the extraction, HPLC purification, structural elucidation (NMR, MS) and biological evaluation of the deep-sea natural products (see www.serpentproject.com). The scholarship holder will undertake research at UOW with access to premier organic, analytical and structural chemistry facilities. This multidisciplinary project brings together a range of researchers from both university and industry, providing an excellent opportunity for the applicant to diversify their knowledge and skills base.

We are seeking highly motivated students with a strong organic chemistry background and excellent communication skills. Experience in natural products chemistry is desirable but not essential. An annual stipend of up to $22,500 p.a. (tax-free), or a top-up scholarship of up to $7,000 p.a. for existing APA/University scholarship holders, is available for a period of three years. For further information or to apply, contact Dr D. Skropeta (skropeta@uow.edu.au). In your application please include a full CV, your academic transcript, contact details of two academic referees, and a cover letter detailing your research experience and ambitions.

Applications close 25 June 2010.