Melbourne Neuroscience PhD Program

This innovative program will provide exceptional academic and specialist neuroscience-oriented research training.

Overview

The University of Melbourne is launching a new interdisciplinary Neuroscience PhD program in 2018. The program will bring together doctoral candidates from across the University of Melbourne.

The Melbourne Neuroscience PhD Program (MNPP) delivers an internationally competitive, integrated and interdisciplinary student experience beyond the core thesis project.

With close mentoring and a breadth of initiatives, this experience will provide candidates with the opportunity to become accomplished graduate researchers who are not only prepared scholastically, but are equipped to effectively engage with industry, and have cultivated communication and personal skills that will optimise their graduate career outcomes.

In order to bring students a truly interdisciplinary student experience beyond the core thesis, we have assembled a diverse array of educational programs from across several Faculties and many departments of the University of Melbourne to ensure students have access to the very best that postgraduate neuroscience education has to offer.

Program activities

A suite of focussed specialist and general programs will allow students to extend their knowledge in many areas.

Students will be supported to build relationships across the University and with relevant external organisations. The program will assist students in developing their future career path after graduation.

Program activities will comprise a mix of seminars, student presentations and skills workshops.

Unique opportunities offered within the enhanced neuroscience program include:

Formal coursework

The coursework program is specifically designed to support doctoral research in the neurosciences and related disciplines, and runs in March to April each year. Core neuroscience subjects are offered as well as subjects from a range of relevant faculties and departments to facilitate study aligned with a student’s particular research interests. Results from participation in formal coursework will be shown on your final PhD transcript.

Advanced Neuroscience Workshops

Advanced Neuroscience Workshops are offered annually. These workshops offer students the opportunity to develop skills in key areas that they, with the support of their supervisor, identify to be directly related to their research project. Each workshop has been designed to provide a comprehensive, small group experience. Workshop topics range from 'Magnetic Resonance Imaging' to 'Neural Computational Modelling'.

Neuroscience-related Seminars

At least two neuroscience-related seminars are held per week at the Melbourne Brain Centre, Kenneth Myer Building, Parkville. Notification will be given to MNPP students of neuroscience relevant seminars throughout the year.

Specialised Programs

The opportunity to be invited to undertake PhD studies within specialised programs such as the Yulgilbar Alzheimer’s Research Program (YARP) Clinicians Research Network, offering strong clinical research links.

For more information, visit http://research.unimelb.edu.au/study/phd-programs/home/neurosciencephd
Experience first class research training in your primary discipline, with the additional breadth of real-world experiences and multidisciplinary research opportunities.

International Scholar Exchange Program
The opportunity exists to participate in the Rebecca Hotchkiss International Exchange Program at the University of Calgary, Canada. This established program offers (via competitive application) a placement at the Hotchkiss Brain Institute (HBI), University of Calgary of between 4-8 weeks, for a high calibre PhD student to collaborate on a research project of shared interest, to gain new skills and real-world experience and to encourage international collaborations. The HBI covers the cost of airfares, accommodation and living expenses stipend up to CAD $9000 per annum.

Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship
The opportunity to apply for the Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship. Up to three RTP scholarships are generally available to high achieving students via competitive application, to support cross-disciplinary graduate research in the Neurosciences and related disciplines.

Melbourne Brain Symposium - Mendelssohn Award
The purpose of this prestigious award is to recognise and honour an outstanding University of Melbourne student, focussing on the Neuroscience-oriented research, and provide them with the platform to deliver a lecture to communicate the outcomes of their graduate research to the general Neuroscience community. This will be delivered alongside presentations by some of the most eminent scientists, internationally, and from within Australia at the annual Melbourne Brain Symposium.

Internships
The opportunity to apply for internships with key industry partners of the University of Melbourne managed through the Australian Postgraduate Research Intern program. Internships begin after the first year of the PhD. Generally, internships are for four days/week over a 3 – 5 month period. Internship projects will align with thesis topic.
www.aprintern.org.au

Mentoring
MNPP students will be offered the opportunity to participate in the MNPP mentoring program. The program will involve Neuroscience Early Career Researchers, peers, training and mentor matching opportunities.

Career training modules
In order to enable students to realise their full academic potential and achieve excellence, this program offers the opportunity to participate in extant career training modules/opportunities offered by the UoM, such as Student Success. Notification will be given to MNPP students as relevant events arise.

University of Melbourne Neuroscience Students’ Association
The University of Melbourne Neuroscience Students Association will provide a cohesive peer support system for students based on shared interest and challenges in neuroscience. The Association will encompass cross-faculty and interdepartmental engagement and advocacy for Neuroscience PhD students undertaking cross-disciplinary research.

Location
Strategic location in the Parkville strip with capacity to link across Faculties and to interact with key partner organisations such as the hospitals, research institutes and industry partners.

For further information about the program, please contact:
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