NSW Residency Awards for Expatriate Researchers

The University of Sydney announces a second round of NSW Residency Awards for Expatriate Researchers. The aims of these awards are to boost educational and research opportunities within NSW, and at the same time to allow expatriate Australian researchers to maintain their links with Australian-based institutions. This announcement expands on a pilot programme commenced in 2003; it is expected that the programme will continue to be expanded in subsequent years.

Each award provides funds for an expatriate researcher to return to Australia for a period of up to three months in mid-2004. We encourage those who are interested in pursuing collaborative activities beyond this three month period to apply for funding through the Australian Research Council's "Linkage International" programme.

Researchers are eligible to apply for a NSW Residency Award if they:

- 1. Are currently based outside Australia.
- 2. Hold Australian citizenship, or lost their Australian citizenship when becoming a citizen of another country.
- 3. Can demonstrate prior or current involvement in Australian research or educational activities
- 4. Were awarded a PhD before 1 Jan 2000

Potential applicants should submit a proposal describing research and educational programmes which they plan to carry out during their visit to Australia. Proposals will be assessed based on intellectual merit, relevance to existing Australian research programmes, and prospects for long-term benefit to Australian research and education.

For the purposes of their research programme, applicants should nominate as a host any of the Faculties or Schools at the University of Sydney. In subsequent years, it is anticipated that this programme will be expanded to include other universities and institutions.

For the educational component of the programme, the successful applicant is expected to spend approximately two weeks interacting with students and teachers within the NSW secondary school system. Examples of possible activities include providing advice on career paths to interested students, giving evening lectures to students and their families highlighting recent developments in a particular field, and developing creative content for classroom demonstrations or activities. It is anticipated that recipients will visit several schools during their tenure. It is not necessary for applicants to nominate specific schools to be visited; the NSW Department of Education and Training will coordinate such visits in collaboration with the successful applicants.

Award recipients will receive financial support during their time in Australia up to a maximum of AUD\$40,000. Up to AUD\$8000 per month of these funds may be awarded as either salary; living and or rent allowance; the remainder can be used for temporary relocation costs and health insurance for the recipient and their immediately family, research-related travel, equipment, and other appropriate expenses. The exact form of payment will be negotiated with successful applicants.

Applicants should submit the following materials:

- 1. A cover letter in which they: explain their existing or prior commitment to Australian research and education; nominate their most appropriate host location; and explain the relevance of their proposed research programme to their host's existing activities.
- 2. A CV and list of publications.
- 3. A proposal describing the time frame, planned research and educational activities of no more than three pages in length, and outlining an indicative budget.
- 4. The names and contact details of two referees familiar with the applicant's research accomplishments and educational activities.

Queries about the Residency Award for Expatriate Researchers should be directed to the following:

- 1. Mr Simon Malcolm; e-mail: S.Malcolm@cst.usyd.edu.au
- 2. Mr Jim Scott; e-mail: jim.scott@det.nsw.edu.au

Applications should be forwarded to Simon Malcolm, College of Sciences and Technology, Peter Nicol Russell Building J02, The University of Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia, or e-mail: S.Malcolm@cst.usyd.edu.au, by 21 November 2003. Applications from women and minorities are particularly encouraged. Offers will be made by the end of January 2004.

These awards are subject to the provisions of the NSW Child Protection legislation. Relevant criminal history, apprehended violence orders and prior employment checks, including relevant disciplinary proceedings, will be conducted on the preferred applicants.