

Representing Multicultural Australia in National and State Libraries: PhD Scholarships

We are seeking two prospective PhD candidates interested in being part of the ARC-funded project “Representing Multicultural Australia in National and State Libraries”. We offer three -year scholarships (of approximately \$27,000 p/a tax free), expert supervision, and the opportunity to be closely involved in an exciting and topical collaborative research project.

The project aims to investigate the representation of histories and cultures of migrants from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in the National Library and three Australian state library collections. We will analyse the relevant policy environments, policies and practices of four libraries, focusing on how libraries collect and make available material about migrants’ lives and their communities in the past and in the present. The project will develop strategies to enhance library collections, and implement and evaluate a pilot project to test these strategies. We expect the project to result in informed public debate about the contours of Australia’s history and heritage, and Australia’s identity as a multicultural nation.

As PhD students, the successful applicants will work on one of two self-contained studies that are part of the broader research project:

1. A study of the policies, programs and projects that have informed the collection of material related to the histories and cultures of Australians from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds at the State Library of New South Wales;
2. A comparison of the institutional models adopted by the State Library of Victoria and the State Library of South Australia in developing multicultural collection.

The first of these projects is co-funded by the State Library of New South Wales. The student would ideally be based in Sydney. The student working on the second project, which is funded by RMIT University, would ideally be based in either Melbourne or Adelaide. Both projects need to commence in 2018.

Both prospective candidates will need to meet academic requirements for entry to the RMIT PhD degree (information about this is available through the [RMIT School of Graduate Research](#)).

We are looking for candidates with a background in history, library studies, cultural studies, or related disciplines, and a High Distinction honours degree or equivalent. Your Bachelors or Masters degree must have a significant research component, such as an honours or minor thesis.

Expressions of interest ought to include a covering letter, a CV, an academic transcript, the names and contact details of two academic referees, and two unpublished writing samples.

Please direct all enquiries at Prof Klaus Neumann, Klaus.Neumann@deakin.edu.au; expressions of interest should be sent by email to that same address. Deadline: 27 April 2018

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