

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL INQUIRY



PhD Scholarship – Merchants and Museums. The Natural History Trade

The University of Wollongong's Faculty of Law, Humanities and the Arts is offering a PhD scholarship in connection with the Australian Research Council funded Linkage Project 'Reconstructing museum specimen data through the pathways of global commerce' (LP160101761). This interdisciplinary project involves researchers from the Universities of Wollongong, Sydney, Melbourne and the Australian Museum.

The PhD project will analyse the growth of the natural history trade in zoological specimens from the Linnean period (c.1758) to its demise in the early twentieth century. It will map the main trade routes, including the description of the geographic hubs, the main commodities, and some of the key players. Beyond this broad canvas, the focus will be a closer investigation of the key routes and exchange processes for the specimen types required by the overall project. Understanding the trade and preservation practices and the number and nature of transactions that a specimen typically passed through, with its atrophying effect on knowledge, will assist in recovering the stories of many currently moribund museum specimens.

One scholarship is available for commencement in either early or mid 2018 but further PhD opportunities are also available on the project.

RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT AND TOPICS

Successful candidates will be supervised by Professor Simon Ville (Wollongong), but with the support and encouragement of other members of the project team. Simon is a leading economic historian and supervises a group of graduate students. He is a member of the history discipline at Wollongong that scores very highly in research rankings and includes many holders of ARC grants and fellowships.



ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION DETAILS

Both domestic and international prospective students are encouraged to apply. The scholarship is for three years full-time with a stipend of \$AUD 27,082 per annum (tax free).

PhD scholarship applicants should have:

- a history, economics or anthropology 1st class honours or masters degree, preferably with some experiencing handling descriptive data and/or archival sources.
- additional relevant research experience and/or peer-reviewed research activity, awards and/or prizes will be regarded favourably

Applicants should submit:

- a cover letter detailing relevant experience, your CV, and academic transcripts to the Faculty Research Unit via lha-research@uow.edu.au.
- a full Higher Degree Research (HDR) admission application via <https://www.uow.edu.au/apply/index.html>.

For further enquiries about the project contact Simon Ville: sville@uow.edu.au



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Applications close: 5pm Friday 22nd December 2017

