

DACSA Scholarships

In March 2006, an advertisement was placed internationally for six DACSA scholarships. In the same month email messages were circulated to Pro Vice-Chancellors/Deputy Vice Chancellors of Research at Australian universities inviting expression of interest in participating in a scholarship program under which participating universities agreed to waive tuition fees.

The following ten universities indicated that they were willing to participate:

- 1) Murdoch University
- 2) Queensland University of Technology
- 3) University of New South Wales
- 4) James Cook University
- 5) The Australian National University
- 6) University of Wollongong
- 7) La Trobe University
- 8) Monash University
- 9) Charles Sturt University
- 10) Curtin University

At the 6 June 2006 Steering Committee meeting, it was agreed that eight scholarships would be offered instead of six. As the contracted amount was insufficient to support eight scholarships, AusAID agreed to cover the anticipated shortfall.

The eight selected applicants were placed with seven participating universities:

- 1) **Aishath Azza**, Maldives
Proposed thesis: Incorporation of disaster mitigation into long-term development plans and policies connected to the Population Development and Consolidation Policy of the Government of the Maldives.
University: Curtin University
Starting date of candidature: Proposed in April 2007
- 2) **Ajay Ranjan Singh**, India
Proposed thesis: Outcomes of economic, social and health of exclusion/inclusion with specific references to the scheduled castes.
University: Monash University
Starting date of candidature: 15 October 2006
- 3) **Deepa Dhital**, Nepal
Proposed thesis: Life skills related to HIV/AIDS in the formal education system in Nepal.
University: La Trobe University
Starting date of candidature: 26 February 2007
- 4) **Jay Ram Adhikari**, Nepal
Proposed thesis: Political conflicts, environment security and rural livelihood linkages in Nepal.
University: Murdoch University

Starting date of candidature: 25 November 2006

- 5) **Kamala Gurung** (single), Nepal
Proposed thesis: Gender, caste and ethnicity dimensions in sustainable livestock production and management system: A Case of Nepal.
University: James Cook University
Starting date of candidature: 26 February 2007
- 6) **Sunera Fernando** (married), Sri Lanka
Proposed thesis: Social exclusion and disadvantage in relation to mental illness.
University: University of Wollongong
Starting date of candidature: 23 October 2006
- 7) **Venkatachalam Thiruppugazh** (married), India
Proposed thesis: Natural disasters and their mitigation in South Asia.
University: The Australian National University
Starting date of candidature: 27 November 2006
- 8) **Zulfiqar Shah** (married), Pakistan
Proposed thesis: Sustainability of public sector water supply and sanitation in Sindh province.
University: The Australian National University
Starting date of candidature: 20 November 2006