

SCHOOL GRADUATE STORIES

Name: Benjamin Moroney

Degree: Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD)

PhD thesis: Advanced Numerical Modeling of NMR Diffusion Experiments

Research focus: Nuclear Magnetic Resonance characterisation and imaging techniques

Original degree: Bachelor of Science in Nanotechnology

Year of degree: 1st (2010), 5th year of study

Campus: Campbelltown

High School: Macarthur Anglican School

Completed Year 12 in: 2005

Scholarships held: Australian Postgraduate Award, UWS Top-Up Award

Is the degree or course structure what you expected?

Not entirely – I had no intention of joining the PhD program when I began my course.

How is university different from school?

University is vastly different from high school – it is more flexible, more interesting and allows you to study what you want while being treated as an adult.

How did high school help you in preparing for university?

My high school, especially during HSC, taught me to value my own learning and to perform academically for my own sake, not for the sake of others – a very important skill in the highly self-directed learning environment at university.

What is the most interesting thing you've done at university this year?

Every day doing a PhD brings its own set of triumphs and challenges. The best experiences for me are my first experiences as a scientist – giving talks and attending conferences.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?

I've placed on the Dean's List, been awarded the Dean's Medal for Undergraduates and the University Medal for Honours, along with achieving the Australian Postgraduate Award.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?

Absolutely. When I began my course my intention was to go into high school education. My supervisor convinced me to go on for my honours year.

What advice would you give to students at your high school about pursuing university study?

Do as well as you can in the HSC to leave your options open. The best possible thing for starting university is being able to pick and choose whatever course suits you at whatever university you wish.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?

Although I had the marks for Sydney or UNSW, I did not believe that a degree from UWS was worth any less and thus did not feel the travel and inconvenience would be worth it.

Any other comments or observations about university study?

Learn to seek academic achievement for its own reward – going above and beyond what is required at university can result in your life changing dramatically.



Course Information



Doctorate of Philosophy

How long is it?

3 years full time

General information:

The doctorate aims to produce graduates able to conduct research independently at the highest level of originality and quality. The PhD is recognition of successful research experience of international standard in the discipline. A PhD candidate should uncover new knowledge either by the discovery of new facts, the formulation of theories or the innovative re-interpretation of known data and established ideas.

How to apply:

Apply Online for Research Higher Degree Study at UWS (PhD, Masters Honours, Professional Doctorate) Australian Citizens, Permanent Residents and New Zealand Citizens. If successful, you may commence at any time.

<https://applyonline.uws.edu.au/con1calprod/webconnect>

Scholarships:

Applications for scholarships are normally due 30st October each year, however, there are some scholarships made available during the year – please visit the Higher Degree Research Scholarship Details page for information on available higher degree research scholarships.

Australian Postgraduate Awards are for full-time study towards higher degrees by research. Australian Postgraduate Awards are funded by the Department of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR). Competition for the APA scheme is intense; only applicants with a first-class Bachelor Honours degree or equivalent qualifications and experience will be offered an award. See

http://www.uws.edu.au/research/scholarships/australian_postgraduate_awards_apa

Endeavour International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (EIPRS) applicants must apply before 31st August in the year prior to commencement. For further information about these awards, please see [Research Scholarships at UWS](#).

Student Support:

UWS provides [candidate support and resources](#). There are internal scholarships, research seminars and workshops. Workshop topics include: presentation skills, interpretative and quantitative methodologies, architecture of the thesis, project management, argumentation, final stages of thesis preparation.

For more information:

visit the UWS Future Research Students site at http://www.uws.edu.au/research/future_research_students