



SPORTS PERFORMANCE
RESEARCH INSTITUTE NEW ZEALAND
AN INSTITUTE OF AUT UNIVERSITY



AUT Sports Performance Research Institute New Zealand (SPRINZ) New Zealand Netball

Masters in Sport and Exercise Scholarship

A unique and exciting opportunity has been created for an academically strong applicant, with a passion for notational analysis and sport science, with a desire to carry out applied research in netball.

The Masters of Sport and Exercise (MSp&Ex) scholar will be involved in a specific research project to determine the movement patterns, training intensity and time and motion analysis of elite netball umpires in competition and determine the appropriateness of their training programme. You will gain an understanding of the current international best practices pertaining to training design for international standard umpiring. This will involve gaining knowledge of umpire movement through notational analysis and exploring the best approach towards optimising preparation and performance for umpiring championship events.

The research topic will be based on the specific interest area of NZ netball in agreement with the supervisors, and in accordance with AUT regulations.

The research will be supervised by Dr Kirsten Spencer. The value of this scholarship is a full MSp&Ex tuition and compulsory student services fee. The scholarship does not include the Students' Association fee. AUT will provide up to \$750 for the duration of the MSp&Ex studies for research, equipment or conference expenses as outlined in the MSp&Ex candidates' AUT approved research proposal (this is completed with the supervisors once the candidate is confirmed for this scholarship). Contestable grants will be available for travel and research projects.

Applicants must demonstrate well-developed knowledge and a clear interest in notational analysis and its effective integration into coaching practice. Familiarity with a high performance sport environment, and/or competitive netball league is desirable.

Start date: Ideally February 2012, depending on completion of AUT University enrolment (no funding will be released until this is completed).

Location: AUT-Millennium Campus, Auckland (it is expected that the candidate will be based at the SPRINZ laboratory near Albany).

Inquiries: General enquiries to Dr Kirsten Spencer: kirsten.spencer@aut.ac.nz
AUT University specific enquiries to Ruth Wagenaar: ruth.wagenaar@aut.ac.nz

Closing date: 23 January 2012.

Decision date: Decisions will be made as soon as possible depending on the location of the candidate and the opportunity to coordinate a face-to-face meeting. Closing and decision dates will be extended if candidates do not satisfy the requirements.

Applications

Please address the “Scholarship Holder Requirements” listed below point by point. Please also supply a copy of your academic transcript, a brief CV containing contact details (maximum 2 pages), a cover letter, and a completed NZ Netball SPRINZ MSp&Ex Scholarship Application Form. Reports from two academic references are also required and must be sent directly and confidentially to the address below.

Email applications to: Ruth Wagenaar, ruth.wagenaar@aut.ac.nz by 23 January 2012.

EXPECTED RESPONSIBILITIES

- Add value to the understanding of the requirements of high performance umpiring with New Zealand Netball by designing and conducting sound research relevant to current issues in the area of umpire movement patterns and training intensity.
- Provide regular presentations (oral and written) of research findings to New Zealand Netball and SPRINZ as requested.
- Satisfy MSp&Ex supervisors and New Zealand Netball with their work ethic and with the rate of progress in the design and conduct of research.

SCHOLARSHIP HOLDER REQUIREMENTS

- A Postgraduate Diploma in Sport and exercise or equivalent and a Bachelors degree in Sport and Exercise Science or high performance sport management or a related discipline.
- Ability to conduct research and an understanding of how to apply the findings in practical settings.
- A clear interest in, and understanding of netball.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- An affinity for data and analyses.
- Excellent time management and organisational skills.
- Personal attributes as follows: enthusiasm, reliability, creativity and perseverance.
- Ability to function effectively as a member of a team and independently where necessary.
- Willingness to travel and to be flexible.
- Excellent work ethic and high level of professionalism.
- Minimum English language requirement – IELTS scores of 6.5 overall with 7 in writing and all other bands 6.0 or higher.
- Background in sport as an athlete, coach or as part of a support team is desirable.