

# Flagship Collaboration Fund – postgraduate scholarships 2008/09



The National Research Flagships program is an initiative of CSIRO, designed to bring together large multidisciplinary teams to focus on Australia's major challenges and opportunities. Six Flagships were established in 2003:

- Energy Transformed
- Food Futures
- Light Metals
- Preventative Health
- Water for a Healthy Country
- Wealth from Oceans

Additional government funding was provided in 2007 to support the establishment of three new Flagships:

- Climate Adaptation
- Minerals Down Under
- Niche Manufacturing

A portion of Flagship funding was set aside to be spent outside of CSIRO, to further enhance collaboration and to bring "the full weight of Australian scientific expertise to bear on major national challenges". This led to the creation of the Flagship Collaboration Fund.

Each year, the Fund supports postgraduate (PhD) scholarships for students co-supervised by researchers in an Australian university and CSIRO, and working on a project relevant to one of the Flagships. In 2008/09, the Fund will support up to 30 new scholarships.

Top-up scholarships are available to PhD students who have gained (or expect to gain) an Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) or equivalent scholarship. In certain circumstances, full scholarships are also available. International students are eligible to apply, but must be able to show evidence of admission to an Australian university.

Applications will open in mid-September and close 30 November. Each Flagship will list a number of priority areas of research in which it is particularly seeking applications. These priority areas, along with the Fund guidelines and links to the application forms, will be available on the web at [www.csiro.au/FlagshipScholarships](http://www.csiro.au/FlagshipScholarships).

The MicroNanophysics Research Laboratory was successful in obtaining a large flagship grant for 2009-2011 in support of sensors research, and PhD students interested in this opportunity are especially encouraged to apply.

Those interested can take a look at the website for the MNRL at [mnrl.monash.edu.au](http://mnrl.monash.edu.au) and contact either A/Prof James Friend at [james.friend@eng.monash.edu.au](mailto:james.friend@eng.monash.edu.au) or Dr Leslie Yeo at [leslie.yeo@eng.monash.edu.au](mailto:leslie.yeo@eng.monash.edu.au).