

DOING A PHD IN YOUR WORKPLACE

Making the PhD possible with industry engagement

Many PhD students gain employment in organisations beyond academia. Many practitioners, managers, and leaders in the social and community services sector are highly skilled but do not want to leave their positions to undertake a PhD.



Research communication, collaboration, stakeholder management, project management and an understanding of industry contexts are skills that are highly sought in industry. These skills are also critical for future success in an academic career.

There is huge opportunity for academia and industry to come together to develop collaborations and support thought leaders to create impact for practice and services in the sector and hence benefit society.

Partner with SWIRLS

The Social Work Innovation Research Living Space at Flinders University embraces the co-creation of research with industry. We make meaningful connections between research, social and community services and policy in the field and conduct our work in real-time in a rapidly changing world. Instead of academics driving research outcomes, we work with leaders, practitioners and policy experts to co design projects that will have an impact on their every working life, to ultimately benefit the individuals, families, groups, and communities they are serving.

Starting the conversation

The Federal Government is encouraging greater industry-PhD collaborations through internships. Internships focus on research industry problems and questions. The PhD Enterprise Scholarship has been released.

A PhD Enterprise Scholarship is approximately \$29,000 a year for 3.5 years (based on the Australian Government Research Training Program Scholarship).

Flinders is willing to co-fund, with an industry partner, scholarships to support such collaborations.

Flinders and an industry partner(s) will contribute approximately \$57,000 each to cover 3.5 years of stipend payments, plus any paid leave. Industry partners can also provide additional funding towards the scholarship to attract talented candidates in competitive markets. Or can provide additional resources to allow the candidate to work on the PhD in work-time. Flinders will also offer the candidate research and travel support, and access to the library, IT support, office space and academic supervision.

An eligible industry internship of 3-months minimum (60 days full-time equivalent), must be agreed in written form with a research end-user within 18 months of candidature. The agreed industry internship can then be undertaken by the student at any point during their course.



Doing a PhD in your workplace has many benefits



Benefits

- Co-create a research project that matters to you, your organisation, your industry
- Deliver fresh insights and accelerate innovation in your field
- Upskill your leadership
- Create two-way learning between the PhD student, your workforce, and Flinders University
- Tap into SWIRLS and Flinders research community and cutting-edge facilities

Intellectual property & confidentiality

PhD students usually own the IP in their research projects – but this is negotiable when a government, business or community organisation is involved. Confidentiality clauses can also be incorporated to protect commercially sensitive information.



FLINDERS.EDU.AU/SWIRLS

Interested...What Next?

The Director of SWIRLS, Professor Sarah Wendt, will work with you to:

- Develop a project
- Discuss details such as supporting staff to do their PhD as part of their work
- Arrange supervision requirements
- Understand the nature and timing of any industry placement
- Determine project deliverables, IP rights and your investment
- Answer any other questions



**Social Work
Innovation Research
Living Space**



Professor Sarah Wendt

For more information please contact:

Professor Sarah Wendt
Director of SWIRLS
Phone: 8201 3978
Mobile: 0402 124 074

Email: sarah.wendt@flinders.edu.au