

Collaborative Cohort PhDs at QUT

Joint and Split PhD Models



Contact Us

Prof Paul Burnett

Dean
Research & Research Training
Email: p.burnett@qut.edu.au

Dr Tony Sahama

Sri Lanka – QUT Joint PhD
Program Coordinator
Email: t.sahama@qut.edu.au

2 George Street GPO Box 2434
Brisbane Queensland 4001
Australia

Queensland University of Technology (QUT) an Australian Research university is affiliating with the University Grants Commission (UGC) Sri Lanka to support higher degree research (HDR) programs and research training of Sri Lankan early to mid-career academics. In this arrangement it is anticipated that joint research efforts including a collaborative cohort model of doctoral supervision, research training, and shared supervision with local academic supervisors of Sri Lankan Universities will take place.

Sri Lanka, through the UGC and the Ministry of Higher Education (MoEH), wish to enhance the research skills of its academic staff by offering PhD scholarships to increase the number of doctorate level academics. Joining with UGC, QUT wish to increase its global outreach through collaborative research partnerships with Asian countries. QUT is a leading technology University which has research strengths in Science, Technology, Engineering and Health Sciences. This joint PhD model will be initiated in partnership with the University of Colombo (UoC) and the University of Peradeniya (UoP).

Focusing on strategic and innovative research relevant to the Sri Lankan context a strength of the program is the opportunity for doctoral students to participate in research programmes featuring on national and international research agendas. The dominant focus of the research will involve data collection and/or field work experimentation in Sri Lanka. The research collaborations between all Universities involved are enhanced and candidates will receive collegial support from the cohort model.

QUT supports a cohort model of doctoral supervision and support whereby 10—12 candidates from different disciplines of Sri Lankan Universities undertake a minimum of 12 months of their doctoral studies on campus at QUT. This approach is taken to minimise administrative costs and to facilitate timely completion at both the Sri Lankan universities and QUT. It will enhance the quality of learning and research outcomes anticipated from joint and/or split PhD study models

Joint PhD candidates will be co-supervised by two QUT academics, one academic from either UoC or UoP and another academic from the candidate's home University if applicable. Alternatively, candidates who choose to be in a split PhD model will have two QUT academic supervisors and a local supervisor. Split PhD candidates should obtain written approval of their release from all academic and administrative duties for the duration of his/her PhD degree.

The UGC will provide financial support to Sri Lankan academics who meet eligibility requirements for up to one years to cover expenses while attending QUT in Brisbane, Australia. This support includes return economy airfare, accommodation costs, Overseas Student Health Covers (OSHC) and associated incidental costs as required and justified. It is anticipated that this financial support can reach up to AUD40,000 as a maximum amount.

QUT will waiver tuition fees and provide scholarships with an estimated value of AUD100,000 for the duration of the PhD candidature (e.g., up to three and half years, 40 months equivalent),.



Comparisons between Joint PhD and Split PhD Models

These PhD models will be implemented with UGC's funding support for at least one year (minimum) on travel to from Australia (Brisbane), living stipend during the stay in Brisbane, Health Insurance covers for the period of the study (e.g., OHSC), project overhead cost upon application (case by case basis) and cost for travel application (Visa and processing costs).

Requirements	Joint PhD Model		Split/External PhD Model	
	Parent University	Host University	Parent University	Host University
<i>The Institution</i>	QUT	UoC or UoP	QUT	Any Sri Lankan University upon completion of a MOU External Institutional Support Agreement [Form (a)]
<i>Admission</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A
<i>Language Requirements</i>	Required	Required	Required	N/A
<i>Duration of the PhD program</i>	3 yrs FT	3 yrs FT	3 yrs FT	N/A
<i>Residency</i>	1 yr minimum funded by UGC	2 yrs minimum	1 yr minimum funded by UGC	2 yrs minimum
<i>Enrolment</i>	Meet Entry Requirements	Meet Entry Requirements	Meet Entry Requirements	N/A
<i>Supervision</i>	Required (joint)	Required (joint)	Required (joint)	Required (joint) MOU External Supervisor Agreement to be completed
<i>Periodic evaluations</i>	Required	Required	Required	N/A
<i>Academic training</i>	Required	Required	Required	N/A
<i>Thesis</i>	One Thesis plus award (one testamur)	Same Thesis plus award (one testamur)	One Thesis degree awarded by QUT	N/A
<i>Examination requirements</i>	As required by QUT	As required by host	As required by QUT	N/A
<i>Composition of final evaluation committee</i>	Harmonisation	Harmonisation	As required by QUT	N/A
<i>Final Grading</i>	As required by QUT Single final grade (joint)	As required by host Single final grade (joint)	As required by QUT	N/A
<i>Award of the degree</i>	Single degree	Single degree	Single degree	N/A
<i>Research results protection</i>	As require by QUT	As required by host	As required by QUT	N/A
<i>Administrative matters</i>	Support/coordinator	Support/coordinator	Support/coordinator	N/A
<i>Tuition fees and other financial matters</i>	Tuition fee waiver only	Support for three years plus other research expenses (by UGC)	Tuition fee waiver only (other costs case by case basis by UGC)	See insert on item 6 (Other) in MoU between External Institutional Support Agreement.
<i>Health Insurance etc</i>	Student must support by UGC	Student must support by UGC	Student must support by UGC	N/A
<i>Disputes and disagreements</i>	Arbitration if required	Arbitration if required	Arbitration if required	N/A
<i>Infrastructure support</i>	QUTs Normal support	If required specific support (by UGC)	QUTs Normal support	N/A
<i>Liability</i>	Shared commitments	Shared commitments	Shared commitments	Shared commitments
<i>Research collaboration</i>	Collaborative commitments	Collaborative commitments	Collaborative commitments	Collaborative commitments
<i>Research Outputs</i>	Collaborative commitments	Collaborative commitments	Collaborative commitments	Collaborative commitments
<i>Intellectual Property</i>	QUT Policy	QUT and Host Policy	QUT Policy	QUT Policy




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