Bill McAra Scholarship in Politics and International Relations

**Description**

The Scholarship was established in 2005 and is financed by the Estate of Diana Miriam Wilsie.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to encourage postgraduate research on the study of Marxism-Leninism Scientific Socialism or research in areas concerning the history, philosophy and practice of socialism that relates to it.

**Selection process**

- Application is made to the Scholarships Office
- A Selection Committee assesses the applications
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee

**Regulations**

1. The Scholarship will be known as the Bill McAra Scholarship in Politics and International Relations.
2. One Scholarship will be awarded annually, for a period of up to one year, and will be of the value of up to $10,000.
3. The Scholarship may be awarded to a student undertaking a postgraduate degree in Politics and International Relations Studies at the University of Auckland where the research is related to the study of Marxism-Leninism Scientific Socialism or research in areas concerning the history, philosophy and practice of socialism.
4. The basis of selection will be academic merit as assessed by the grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) calculated over the most recent qualifying programme and the quality and nature of the research proposal. The availability of appropriate supervision by Politics and International Relations academic staff for the proposed research project will also be a consideration in selection. Successful candidates will have a minimum GPA/GPE of 7.00 (6.50 for Māori and Pacific candidates) in their most recent qualifying programme (see Note I).
5. The Scholarship is tenable by a student who is a citizen or permanent resident of New Zealand.
6. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Associate Dean (Postgraduate) of the Faculty of Arts (or nominee), the Discipline Convenor of Politics and International Relations (or nominee) and one academic member of staff from the disciplinary area of Politics and International Relations.
7. The Scholarship will be paid in two instalments; one in the first and one in the second semester.
8. The University of Auckland Council has power to terminate or suspend a Scholarship, if it receives a report of unsatisfactory progress of a Scholar from the Associate Dean (Postgraduate) of the Faculty of Arts.
9. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if in any year there is no candidate of sufficient merit.
10. The University of Auckland has power to amend or vary these Regulations, in consultation with the Donor, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
11. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 31 October in the year preceding the award.
12. Notes [I]-[III] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

I. The most recent qualifying programme is defined as the most recently completed programme of study that qualifies the applicant for entry to the postgraduate programme for which they are applying. Where the most recently completed programme is a conjoint programme the GPA/GPE will be calculated over the entirety of the conjoint programme. The maximum approved exchange or transfer credit that can be excluded from the GPA/GPE calculation is 60 points. Where the most recently completed programme is a Transitional Certificate, the qualifying programme is the Transitional Certificate and the most recently completed prior degree.

II. Payments under the terms of this Scholarship remain tax-free as long as they are used directly for the payment of costs associated with an awardee’s programme of study. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.

III. Recipients of a Bill McAra Scholarship in Politics and International Relations will be required to give undertakings that they will comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and will notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment or funding status. The University of Auckland may, in the event that it can be established that a recipient of a Bill McAra Scholarship in Politics and International Relations is not complying with these regulations, terminate the award and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.