Heather Leaity Memorial Award

**Description**

The Award was established in 2019 and is funded by Robin Duxfield and the Li Ka Shing Foundation in memory of Heather Leaity.

The main purpose of the Award is to recognise and encourage excellence in Marine Science research relating to sustainability and conservation.

**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 Award will be known as the Heather Leaity Memorial Award.
2. One Award will be made annually and will be of the value of $1,000.
3. The Award may be made to a student enrolled in the first year of a PhD in Marine Science at the University of Auckland, undertaking research relating to sustainability and conservation.
4. The Award may be used to support research expenses, which could include field research located in New Zealand or overseas, or attendance or participation at national or international conferences.
5. The basis of selection will be academic merit measured by the grade point average (GPA) or grade point equivalent (GPE) obtained in the candidate's qualifying programme for doctoral study, the quality and nature of the proposed research and its relevance to sustainability and conservation. Candidates must have a GPA/GPE of 6.00 or above (5.50 for Māori and Pacific candidates) in their qualifying programme to be eligible for award consideration (see Note 1).
6. The Award will be made by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Head of the Institute of Marine Science.
7. The Award will be paid in one lump sum upon award.
8. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if in any year there is no candidate of sufficient merit.

9. The Award may be held concurrently with any other scholarship, award or grant as long as a) the terms of that scholarship, award or grant permit and b) the University of Auckland Council is informed and approves.

10. The University of Auckland Council has the power to amend or vary these Regulations, provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Award.

11. Notes [I]-[III] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

I. Where the qualifying programme is an undergraduate honours degree (or equivalent undergraduate degree or integrated undergraduate and postgraduate degree), the GPA/GPE will be calculated over the final two years of full-time study (or equivalent) in the programme. In all other cases, the GPA/GPE will be calculated over the entirety of the qualifying programme.

II. Payments under the terms of this Award 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 Award.

III. Recipients of a Heather Leaity Memorial Award will be required to give undertakings that they will comply with the regulations for the Award and will notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment status. The University of Auckland may, in the event that it can be established that a recipient of a Heather Leaity Memorial Award is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Award and require repayment of the funds received.