Mercer Memorial Scholarship

This Scholarship arises from a fund subscribed in 1948 by the members of the Air Pilots’ Guild of New Zealand, friends and admirers of the late Captain J. C. Mercer, who was killed in 1944 while flying in a commercial aeroplane. Captain Mercer spent twenty-seven years’ active life as a pioneer in air transport.

From 1948 to 1964 the fund was administered by the University of New Zealand and the University Grants Committee, and one Scholarship was available. In 1965 the fund was divided to provide separate Scholarships at the University of Auckland and the University of Canterbury.

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 Mercer Memorial Scholarship.
2. The Scholarship will ordinarily be of the annual value of $3,500 but the University of Auckland Council will have power to vary the amount or number of Scholarships awarded in any year.
3. The Scholarship will be awarded to a candidate, who has paid the fees or arranged to pay the fees, for postgraduate research in a field related to Aeronautics.
4. The basis of selection will be academic merit, and quality and nature of the proposed research. Suitable subjects may have reference to the mathematical theories of aerodynamics, aircraft structures and thermodynamics; experimental aerodynamics, aircraft materials and equipment, aircraft structures, propulsion systems; and the performance testing of aircraft.
5. The Scholarship will be awarded annually or biennially by the University of Auckland Council upon the recommendation of the Selection Committee comprising the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering (or nominee) and two staff members of the Faculty of Engineering.
6. On completion of the tenure of the Scholarship, the Scholar shall submit to the Scholarships Office a report embodying the results of the work. The submission of a research dissertation, thesis or PhD annual report satisfies this requirement.

7. The emoluments of the Scholarship will be paid in equal amounts at the end of each semester, and the last payment must not be made until the Scholar has fulfilled the requirements of their degree, or submitted an approved report in the case of PhD students.

8. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 15 March in the year of the award.