



Media Release

1 July 2010

CHURCHILL FELLOWS PURSUE THEIR PASSION

101 Australians have been awarded 2010 Churchill Fellowships on projects ranging from regenerating heart cells and chronic disease prevention/treatment through to asylum seekers, Indigenous youth programs, orchestral conducting, sexual abuse, and the environment.

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, which was established after the death of Sir Winston Churchill in accordance with his final wishes, has now funded more than 3,400 Fellowships for Australians. With an average cost of \$25,000 per Fellowship, recipients have the opportunity to travel overseas to further their passion and return with benefits to Australia.

“This year’s Churchill Fellows, like their predecessors are hard working, inspiring Australians who will make a difference to our country over the coming decades. I congratulate them and look forward to supporting them on their immediate journey and beyond,” said Paul Tys, Chief Executive Officer of The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust.

The 2010 Fellowships this year are valued at more than \$2.3 million and cover the broadest range of topics as applicants design their own Fellowships in their field of expertise.

Key Statistics for 2010 Churchill Fellowships

NSW (and Norfolk Island) – 28 Fellowships – heart cell regeneration; school leadership; urban regeneration; unmanned aerial vehicles for bushfire intelligence; Autism Spectrum Disorder; improving student engagement in science; and improving community-based preventive dental practices in rural and remote Indigenous communities.

Victoria – 19 Fellowships – support for asylum seekers; the history of disability rights; regional crime; school students who have experienced emergencies and disasters; and cultural change on alcohol consumption.

Queensland – 19 Fellowships – private sector support for the Arts; transition from school for students with a disability; vocal tuition; and multidisciplinary wound care models.

Western Australia – 11 Fellowships – physiotherapy for people with cystic fibrosis; apprenticeships; Aboriginal health; intergenerational, child centred environment projects; and education delivery to remote communities.

South Australia – 9 Fellowships – helping people with mental illness quit tobacco; alternatives to full guardianship; supporting Australian cattle exports to cold climates; and entrepreneurial programs.

ACT – 6 Fellowships – supporting walking as a viable option for health, transport and recreation; decontamination of fire fighters protective clothing and equipment; cast glass in architecture and public art; and preventing child sexual abuse.

Tasmania – 5 Fellowships – eye banking retrieval systems for corneal transplants; eucalyptus genome sequence; and exploring the challenges facing temperate forests in World Heritage Areas.

Northern Territory – 4 Fellowships – chronic kidney disease; homelessness and housing support; mental illness; and language maintenance programming on international Indigenous media.

Applications for 2011 Fellowships open on 1 November 2010.

Media Contact: Julia Southgate on (02) 9234 3888 or 0414 276 990.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Dr Amber BEAVIS, COOK

The Australian Biological Resources Study Churchill Fellowship to undertake training in integrative taxonomy as it applies to the Araneae - USA

Mr William CADDEY, FISHER

To investigate how communities promote and support walking as a viable option for health, transport and recreation - Netherlands, Belgium, UK, Spain, Canada

Mr John HELGESEN, WARAMANGA

The David Balfour Churchill Fellowship to study methods used in the decontamination of fire fighters' protective clothing and equipment - Japan, USA, UK, Switzerland, Germany

Ms Elizabeth KELLY, MITCHELL

To investigate the design and manufacture of cast glass in architecture and public art - Netherlands, UK, USA, Mexico

Dr Kelly RICHARDS, CANBERRA

The A.C.T. Government Audrey Fagan Churchill Fellowship to investigate the potential of Circles of Support and Accountability to prevent child sexual abuse in Australia - Canada, USA, UK

Mrs Jane SHELLING, GARRAN

To assess methods for providing professional information to community based alcohol and other drug workers - UK, USA, Canada

EXTERNAL TERRITORIES

Mrs Pauline REYNOLDS-BARFF, NORFOLK ISLAND

To study material culture created by the Polynesian women who settled on Pitcairn Island in 1789 - New Zealand, USA, UK, Norway

NEW SOUTH WALES

Mr Peter ANDERSON, MORUYA

The Office for Rail Heritage (NSW) Churchill Fellowship to develop reference and guidance material to enable volunteer-run heritage rail operators to comply with the Rail Safety Act - New Zealand, USA, Canada, UK

Mr Timothy ANDERSON, BARDEN RIDGE

To study ways of improving bushfire intelligence through the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles - Israel, Germany, Italy, UK, USA

Dr Vicki BITSIKA, TWEED HEADS

To investigate specialised intervention technologies for children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder - USA, UK

Ms Claire BRAUND, SARATOGA

To assess the impact of the introduction of boardroom gender quotas - Norway, France, Spain

Ms Michelle BROWNING, PARRAMATTA

To investigate new models of guardianship and the emerging practice of supported decision making - Canada, UK

Mr Steven CALDWELL, NEWTOWN

To study programs that support young Australians to develop positive values in online communities - USA

Ms Janice CARROLL, PARRAMATTA

To study models of therapeutic residential care for children recovering from abuse and neglect - USA, UK

Professor Gerry CASSIS, FOREST LODGE

To study the systematics, natural history and biodiversity of true bugs (Heteroptera) of Australia - UK, USA

Dr Bibiana CHAN, WILLOUGHBY

To explore mental health peer-led recovery programs - Canada, USA

Ms Bernadette HALDANE, ALBURY

The Gilbert Spottiswood Churchill Fellowship to investigate sustainable theatre models for new work development and presentation - UK, Canada, USA

Ms Nicolette HILTON, ARMIDALE

The Northern Districts Education Centre (Sydney) Churchill Fellowship to study innovative practices that improve engagement of students in science and promote a positive learning culture - USA

Ms Judith HUNT, ROSEBERY

To investigate new treatment methods and service models in hand therapy management of hand trauma - Sweden, UK

Dr Sean LAL, SYDNEY

The Dr Dorothea Sandars Churchill Fellowship to study advanced cardiac regeneration procedures at Harvard University - USA

Ms Helen LOCHHEAD, PADDINGTON

The AV Jennings Churchill Fellowship to study recent models of urban regeneration that demonstrate a holistic approach to climate change and sustainability - UK, Denmark, Sweden, USA

Ms Louise MAJKUT, CANADA BAY

To study respite models which promote social inclusion for people with an intellectual disability - UK, USA, Canada

Ms Catherine MARDELL, PORT MACQUARIE

To review methods of fuel assessment and the tools used to measure and predict the accumulation of fuels in natural landscapes - USA, Canada

Ms Ann McINTYRE, CRONULLA

The Vincent Fairfax Ethics in Leadership Foundation Churchill Fellowship to study methods for strengthening teacher and school leadership capacity to improve student learning outcomes - UK, Finland, Canada

Dr Sandra MEIHUBERS, NEWPORT BEACH

To investigate the implementation of community based preventive dental practices in rural and remote Indigenous communities - Canada, Brazil

Mr Darren MITCHELL, SYDNEY

To investigate governance and management models for the ongoing care of war memorials - USA, Canada, UK, Belgium

Dr Brad PURCELL, RYDE

To investigate methods to collaborate with livestock producers to manage wild dogs using non-lethal techniques - USA, UK, Poland, Botswana

Ms Anna ROSE, SYDNEY

The Peter Mitchell Churchill Fellowship to research youth peer-to-peer climate change education projects - USA, China, UK

Ms Judy SABA, PARRAMATTA

To undertake a comparative study of diversity skills training and human rights integration in policing organisations - USA, Lebanon, United Arab Emirates, UK

Mr Oliver SMITH, KIRRIBILLI

To study the design and manufacture of cutlery - UK, Denmark, South Korea

Chaplain Robert, SUTHERLAND ST IVES

To study programs for recovering the spirit of combat veterans and those with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder - USA, Canada

Ms Clare THOMPSON, PETERSHAM

To investigate the provision of education and settlement services for primary school refugee children and their families - UK, Norway, Denmark, USA, Canada

Mr Grant WARGREN, BEROWRA WATERS

To investigate new initiatives in the implementation of online learning tools in education - UK, Singapore, USA

Ms Elizabeth WATTS, CLOVELLY

To explore innovative production, distribution practices and content creation within independent American cinema - Canada, USA

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Ms Elizabeth AMEGA, COCONUT GROVE

To study advance practice nursing for chronic kidney disease clients in primary health care - Ghana, Ireland, Cuba

Mrs Claudia MANU-PRESTON, ILPARPA

To investigate homelessness models of housing and support for people with a mental illness - UK, Italy, Canada, USA

Mr Brenton PEDLER, MILLNER

To investigate alternative education programs particularly how their successful outcomes are measured - USA, Canada, Denmark, UK

Miss Penny SMALLACOMBE, NIGHTCLIFF

To investigate the structures and language maintenance programming of international Indigenous media organisations - Norway, Canada

QUEENSLAND

Acting Inspector Corey ALLEN, BRISBANE

The Dorothy and Brian Wilson Churchill Fellowship to identify and improve methods of engaging, diverting and responding to youth who are homeless or sleeping rough in urban environments - UK, Ireland, USA, New Zealand

Mr Jonathon BARNES, ARANA HILLS

To study timber conservation and repair techniques - UK

Senior Sergeant Leslie BULLUSS, THURSDAY ISLAND

To research culturally appropriate Indigenous community policing models - USA, Canada

Dr Jayne CLAPTON, AUCHENFLOWER

To investigate sustainable outcomes for students of low socio-economic backgrounds in Australian higher education - Netherlands, UK, Ireland, Finland

Ms Marilyn CONNELL, TIARO

The James Love Churchill Fellowship to research endangered river turtle conservation projects and enterprises that are community based and multi-faceted - Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Brazil

Ms Carmel COOPER, THE GAP

To study teacher professional development in the transition from school for students with a disability - USA

Mr Boyd CURRAN, LONGREACH

To study programs for empowering disadvantaged Indigenous youth to improve life choices and employment opportunities - USA, Canada, UK, New Zealand

Ms Susan FISHER, ST LUCIA

To study methods for stimulating private sector support for the arts in a challenging economic environment - USA, Canada, UK, Ireland

Mrs Melissa FORBES, TOOWOOMBA

The Dr Dorothea Sandars and Irene Lee Churchill Fellowship to attend the Vocal Pedagogy Institute at Shenandoah Conservatory and intern with Robert Edwin and Jeanette Lovetri - USA

Miss Michelle GIBB, EATONS HILL

The Bob and June Prickett Churchill Fellowship to explore how a multidisciplinary wound care model could enhance wound healing services in Australia - Denmark, UK

Dr Janet HUANG, FAIRFIELD

To study advanced techniques in reconstructive surgery particularly relating to head, neck and breast cancer and tissue transplantation - USA

Mr Timothy KNOX, WILSONTON HEIGHTS

To study the management of cultural and natural resources by Aboriginal people - USA

Dr Christopher LAMBRIDES, SHERWOOD

The Samuel and Eileen Gluyas Churchill Fellowship to study novel breeding techniques for tropical forage and turf grasses - Columbia, Brazil, USA, Japan

Mr Maurice POTRZEBA, SALISBURY

To study historic pointing, mortars, gauged arches and niche construction to facilitate the correct preservation of historical buildings - UK

Ms Francesca SAVIGE, WEST END

To study Shakespeare in community theatre under the mentorship of Janet Buckland and Ubom! Drama Company - South Africa

Mr Jason SPROTT, COOMERA

To study sustainable seaport design, development and operation - Singapore, China, UK, Netherlands, USA, Canada

Miss Christina WATERSON, HIGHGATE HILL

To study the origins of patterns and their relation to 3Dimensional spaces and objects - Japan, China, Turkey

Mrs Merran WILLIAMS, BUDERIM

The Jeannie Ferris, National Centre for Gynaecological Cancers Consumer Churchill Fellowship to investigate strategies used to help women diagnosed with ovarian cancer in terms of 'survivorship' - USA

Ms Sarah-Grace WILLIAMS, WEST END

The Stuart and Norma Leslie Churchill Fellowship to undertake lessons and assist renowned conductors and leading European and American Orchestras - UK, Germany, Russia, Ukraine, Norway, USA

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Ms Maxine ASHTON, MILE END

To investigate international approaches that effectively help people with mental illness to quit tobacco - USA, Canada

Ms Dianne CHARTRES, DULWICH

To investigate Supported Decision Making practices, capacity building strategies and other alternatives to full guardianship - Canada, UK, Ireland, Hungary, India

Mr Bernard FITZSIMONS, EDWARDSTOWN

The Phyllis Primrose Whyte Churchill Fellowship to optimise industry and tertiary partnerships to maximise outcomes from Project Based Learning in schools - USA, Canada

Dr Sean MILLER, MOUNT GAMBIER

The Jack Green Churchill Fellowship to identify opportunities to support Australian cattle exports to cold climates - Canada, USA

Dr Declan PAGE, NORWOOD

To assess natural treatment systems for Australian applications in water supply and water recycling - United Arab Emirates, Germany, USA

Ms Allison RUSSELL, GOODWOOD

The Churchill Fellows' Association of South Australia Churchill Fellowship to study innovative museum outreach programs which respond to community needs - UK

Brevet Sergeant David SCUTCHINGS, NETLEY

To explore the use of innovative airborne policing methods to reduce death and serious injury on rural roads - USA, UK

Ms Gabriella SMART, MALVERN

The Dame Roma Mitchell Churchill Fellowship to analyse aspects of artistic direction in music which positively influence audience engagement and education - UK, Netherlands, Belgium, Canada, China

Mr Daniel SMITH, SEAFORD

To examine entrepreneurial programs with the aim of identifying areas that can be applied to Australian programs - USA, UK

TASMANIA

Dr Alice DOWNIE, RELBIA

The Bob and June Prickett Churchill Fellowship to study eye banking retrieval systems for the purposes of corneal transplantation - UK, USA

Dr Rebecca JONES, DULCOT

To visit centres of Eucalyptus research to learn techniques for the analysis of the Eucalyptus genome sequence - Germany, France, USA

Mr Geoffrey LAW, DYNMYRNE

To explore the challenges facing temperate forests in World Heritage Areas - USA, Japan, Slovakia

Mr Dion LESTER, SOUTH HOBART

To investigate land use planning approaches for the establishment and facilitation of urban agriculture - UK, Cuba, Canada

Mr Travis TIDDY, QUEENSTOWN

The Gallagher Bequest Churchill Fellowship to conduct research into post-industrial sites for community development and geo-tourism opportunities - Italy, Germany, UK, Ireland

VICTORIA

Ms Sarah BARTON, WINDSOR

To research the content for a landmark documentary about the history of the disability rights movement - USA, UK

Ms Kate BRADY, NORTH MELBOURNE

The Peter Mitchell Churchill Fellowship to study disaster recovery services following a variety of emergencies - USA, UK, China

Associate Professor Alexander COLLIE, MOUNT MARTHA

To study the impact of compensation on health and work outcomes following injury - UK, Switzerland, Germany, Canada, USA

Dr Natalie de MORTON, BLACK ROCK

The Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Churchill Fellowship to study physical ageing in community dwelling older adults - USA, Canada

Dr Sharon HAYMES, EAST MELBOURNE

The Dr Dorothea Sandars and Irene Lee Churchill Fellowship to undertake research and training in the systemic review of new treatments for eye disease - UK, USA

Superintendent Craig HOWARD, MELBOURNE

The Donald Mackay Churchill Fellowship to investigate techniques for regional investigators to identify and disrupt groups on the path to criminal organisation - UK, Netherlands, Canada, USA

Mr Kon KARAPANAGIOTIDIS, BRUNSWICK

To visit leading refugee organisations to ascertain strategies for advocating and supporting asylum seekers in Australia - UK, Belgium, Canada, Switzerland, Greece, USA

Miss Lally KATZ, KEW

To gain knowledge of current German, Irish and North American playwrighting techniques and processes - Germany, Ireland, USA

Ms Johann KIRBY, MELBOURNE

To develop plain language community legal education programs by researching how these services are being effectively delivered through overseas programs - USA, Canada, UK, Portugal

Mr Daniel MARTIN, MALDON

To investigate integrated Varroa mite control for the future benefit of Australian beekeepers and farmers - USA

Mr Christopher POVEY, MELBOURNE

To investigate programs for sustaining the tenancies of high risk tenants - UK, USA

Mr Mark REEVES, MARLO

To study approaches to the adolescent experience of a Rite of Passage in contemporary education - Canada, USA

Ms Michelle ROBERTS, WOODEND

The Nancy Fairfax Churchill Fellowship to investigate strategies that contribute to creating a classroom environment where school aged children who have experienced emergencies and disasters are able to maintain their social, emotional and academic trajectories - USA, Israel

Mr Marcus RYAN, MOUNT WARRENHEIP

To investigate landscaping practices and plant selection for ornamental horticulture within dry climates - UK, Spain, Greece, Cyprus, Netherlands, France

Mrs Susan SALAU, GRETA

The Dr Dorothea Sandars and Irene Lee Churchill Fellowship to explore leading palliative care volunteer service models to ensure volunteer service and resource development in Australia is sustainable - Singapore, UK, Canada

Dr Susannah TYE, BURWOOD

To study the development of subsecond neurotransmitter monitoring techniques for behavioural research and neurosurgical procedures - USA

Mr Lincoln WEDDELL, LANCEFIELD

To investigate world production of vegetable seeds within the framework of possible widespread shortages - USA, France, Netherlands, South Africa

Mr Dennis WITCOMBE, RESERVOIR

The Jack Brockhoff Foundation Churchill Fellowship to research advanced communication for the Deafblind community - USA, Finland

Mr Clancy WRIGHT, CARLTON

The Sir William Kilpatrick Churchill Fellowship to study methods for initiating cultural change regarding alcohol consumption - UK, Ireland, Sweden

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Ms Louise CATO, CLAREMONT

To investigate community support and advocacy services for those living with communication impairment following Acquired Brain Injury - UK, Netherlands, USA, Canada

Ms Wendy CLINCH, PORT HEDLAND

To investigate the application of international holistic models of Aboriginal health services provided in remote communities - USA, Canada

Mr Danny DEUTSCHER, KENSINGTON

The Park Family Churchill Fellowship to identify factors influencing young people in making career decisions relating to apprenticeships - UK, USA

Dr Paul DOUGHTY, WELSHPOOL

The Australian Biological Resources Study Churchill Fellowship to examine Australian specimens which will result in a large number of new species descriptions of frogs and reptiles, particularly geckos - UK, USA

Mrs Judith HILL, SERPENTINE

To study intergenerational, cross-cultural participation in global child centred environmental projects - New Zealand, USA, UK, Brazil

Ms Vicki JACK, KARRATHA

The Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Churchill Fellowship to explore models of educational delivery that are encompassing and respectful of cultural obligations specifically related to rural and remote Indigenous communities - USA, Canada, Sweden

Ms Julie JACKSON, PERTH

The WA Department for Child Protection Churchill Fellowship to study methods to achieve an integrated and collaborative approach to improve services for children and their families where there are child welfare concerns - New Zealand, USA, Canada, UK

Ms Veronica LAKE, FREMANTLE

To visit theatre companies and investigate their educational programmes for connecting Shakespeare to young people in the classroom situation - UK, Canada

Dr Claire LANGDON, MOUNT PLEASANT

To study the use of stimulation devices to improve function in people with eating, drinking and swallowing impairments - South Korea, Netherlands, France, UK, USA

Mr Timothy ROBERTON, SWAN VIEW

To study the innovative community music and disability activities of L'Association Nationale Ressource Musique et Handicap - France

Mr Jamie WOOD, WILLETTON

To study physiotherapy techniques for people with Cystic Fibrosis and Bronchiectasis - UK, Sweden, Belgium