SOME STUDENTS DESERVE HONOURS

Reflecting a strong commitment to research training for information professionals, the School of Information Studies at Charles Sturt University (CSU) is now providing hiah achieving students with an opportunity to distinguish themselves from their classmates and/or embark on a pathway to doctoral studies through the introduction of an Honours program.

Students with a bachelor degree in library and information studies (LIS) (or equivalent) with a credit average or better are encouraged to consider enhancing their career by enrolling in one of the few available dedicated Australian LIS Honours programs.

The CSU program will enable students to develop research skills that are of value in the workplace, to the profession and to the LIS discipline. Research is all about finding out answers to questions or problems in an organised, systematic, critical and often scientific way. Good research gathers information, reflects on its meaning, arrives at conclusions, evaluates them and then puts forward an interpretation. Outcomes of research can be new discoveries, the creation of understanding or knowledge, theory building, testing, confirmation or refutation, and/or investigations of issues and problems for local decision-making.

During the course of their Honours program, students will be supported by experienced senior researchers as they delve deeply into a subject, issue, or problem in which they have an interest or about which they have curiosity. Honours classes will be small and, being comprised of high achievers with an interest in research, provide an exciting and challenging study environment.

Candidates who are accepted into the program will work closely with an experienced supervisor, who will guide them through their research program. Students may select to undertake their research in a range of topics, including information literacy, information seeking, digital libraries, library management, human computer interaction, bibliographic organisation, or may even consider a topic related to their workplace. A list of areas and staff expertise can be found at www.csu.edu.au/faculty/educat/sis/ research/#areasofexpertise.

Honours candidates will undertake training in research methods, develop a research proposal and complete their research project, reporting their results in a dissertation. Students will be encouraged to publish the findings of their research in a journal or as conference papers. Graduates will enter the workforce at the forefront of the evolving information professions. They will also be qualified to undertake a career in the information studies field, to work as researchers, or be in a position to undertake a further research higher degree. The program is also available via distance education using an innovative suite of interactive

Some scholarships are available from CSU on a competitive basis and more information on these can be found at www.csu.edu.au/student/scholarships/honours/.

If you are interested in undertaking the Honours program at CSU or wish to make further enquiries, please contact Dr Annemaree Llovd, Honours and Higher Degree Research Coordinator in the School of Information Studies, Charles Sturt University on (02) 69 33 2468 or email anlloyd@csu.edu.au.

