

NUI Dr Mary L Thornton Scholarship in Education 2012

The National University of Ireland is pleased to invite applications for the Dr Mary L Thornton Scholarship, offered for competition in 2012. The Scholarship will be awarded on the basis of a common competition open to NUI graduates. The Dr Mary L Thornton Scholarship is an annual scholarship in Education, funded by a bequest from the late Dr Thornton.

1. Value of Fellowship

The value of the Scholarship is **€5,000**

2. Objectives

This Scholarship is intended to encourage postgraduate research in the field of Education in a constituent university or a recognised college of NUI. The NUI would wish, through the scholarship, to encourage research related to Irish higher education and accordingly, preference will be given to applications in this area. However, applications will be accepted in relation to projects in any area of educational research.

3. Eligibility

Candidates must be holders of an honours bachelor degree of the National University of Ireland and must have been accepted, or have applied for admission, to a research degree at masters or doctoral level in the field of Education in a constituent university or recognised college of NUI.

4. Application Procedure

Application forms are available to download at www.nui.ie/awards and should be submitted with the following documentation:

- 4.1 Research Proposal:** Candidates are required to submit a detailed statement (max. 3000 words) concerning the research which they propose to undertake during the tenure of the Scholarship. The statement should include:
 - (i) the proposed topic of the research;
 - (ii) the proposed nature, scope and methodology of the research;
 - (iii) a preliminary literature review;
 - (iv) where the research will be conducted and reasons for choosing that centre.
- 4.2 Curriculum Vitae:** to include academic and other relevant achievements to date.
- 4.3 Certified Academic Transcripts:** to be submitted for each degree and diploma awarded.
- 4.4 Reports of two Academic Referees:** to be completed by the referee(s) and returned to the candidate in a sealed envelope. The referee(s) should sign their name on the sealed flap of the envelope. It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that the references are submitted to NUI with their applications by the closing date.

5. Selection Process

- 5.1 A Panel consisting of the Heads of Departments/Schools in Education, or their representatives, from each of the constituent universities will administer the competition for the Scholarship. An independent specialist, appointed by NUI, will chair the Panel.
- 5.2 Depending on the number of applications, a short-listing process may be adopted, in which case not all candidates will be called for interview.
- 5.3 Following the interviews, the Panel will finalise their recommendations to the Senate on the awarding of the Scholarship.
- 5.4 The decision of the Senate on the awarding of the Scholarship will be final.
- 5.5 The candidate who is awarded the Scholarship will be required to present one copy of the completed research to the National University of Ireland.

6. Lodgment of Documents (checklist)

Applications and associated documentation should be submitted in hard-copy to: The Registrar, National University of Ireland, 49 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

- 6.1 An electronic copy of the Research Proposal (word format) should be emailed to: awards@nui.ie
- 6.2 The **closing date** for receipt of applications is **Friday, 30 March 2012**.

Please note that applications and references may be submitted electronically but these should be supported by hard copies in each case.