

The Eric Fry Labour History Scholarship

The Canberra Region Branch of the Australian Society for the Study of Labour History (ASSLH) and the National Institute for Social Sciences and Law at the Australian National University (NISSL) invite students doing honours or equivalent to apply for a scholarship to do research at the Noel Butlin Archives Centre (NBAC), based at ANU in Canberra.

The aim of the scholarship is to assist a promising student, with an interest in labour history and/or the labour movement more generally, to overcome the financial obstacles to doing research in Canberra.

The scholarship honours the contribution of Dr Eric Fry to labour history as Senior Lecturer in History from 1959 and as Reader 1967–1986 at the Australian National University. With Robin Gollan he founded the Australian Society for the Study of Labour History in 1961 and was the first Secretary and then President 1984–1986.

One scholarship will be granted each year, for \$1000, to assist with fares to Canberra, accommodation, and other research expenses. Academic and research assistance and supervision in Canberra will also be offered.

The NBAC is the largest non-government archives in Australia, and holds an unrivalled collection of trade union and business records, along with the personal papers of left wing and labour movement activists.

To be eligible a student must:

1. Be accepted into an honours program (or equivalent) at an Australian university, or university in New Zealand, PNG, Timor L'Este or Fiji, in which one requirement is the production of a research thesis of at least 10,000 words. (By equivalent we mean that the study program must make a student eligible for enrolment in a postgraduate research degree.)
2. Be intending to write their thesis in the broad areas of labour and social history or labour movement studies. This means that as a minimum, it should be a topic that would be acceptable for publication in the journal, *Labour History* (Australia). Students need not be working within the discipline of history: students of politics, international relations, sociology, Australian studies, economics, economic history, industrial relations, management, Pacific studies, cultural studies, museum studies, and other disciplines may be eligible: it is the nature of the thesis project only that is relevant.
3. Intend using the resources of the NBAC as a major component of their research. Students are welcome to use other archival and research facilities in Canberra, and should outline any such intentions in their application.
4. Supply written references from their intended academic supervisor, and one other academic with personal knowledge of the student. These references must, *inter alia*, attest to the nature of the proposed research program, the need to use the resources of the NBAC,

the ability of the student to complete the proposed thesis to a high standard and on time, and the potential for the student to advance to postgraduate research.

The criteria for the award will be:

1. The relevance of the project for the discipline of labour history.
2. The degree to which the resources of the NBAC are essential to the proposed thesis.
3. The academic capabilities of the student, as reflected in university results, academic references, and other evidence supplied; including their potential to succeed at postgraduate research.
4. The degree to which the student needs financial assistance to do their research in Canberra.

The successful student will be required to:

1. Supply a copy of their finished thesis to the NBAC in both electronic and printed form, along with permission to publish all or part of the thesis on the Labour History society's website.
2. Make themselves available to attend a meeting of the Labour History Society in Canberra to report on the progress of their research.

Applications

Applications should be in the form of a letter addressing the criteria above, along with photocopies of all relevant documentary evidence and a statement agreeing to the scholarship conditions. Applications for the 2006 scholarship will close on 2 December 2005 and the scholarship awarded by 16 December. The decision will be made by a panel of three, consisting of a representative of the NBAC, a representative of the NISSL, and a representative of the Labour History Society. We reserve the right not to award a scholarship in any year. No correspondence will be entered into.

Applications should be addressed to

Labour History Scholarship
Australian Society for the Study of Labour History (Canberra Branch)
LPO Box 8043
Australian National University ACT 0200

Inquiries can be directed to:

Dr Paul Pickering, NISSL, tel 02 6125 3451, email paul.pickering@anu.edu.au
Maggie Shapley, NBAC, tel 02 6125 9602, email maggie.shapley@anu.edu.au
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