Education Report: Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Awards

To: Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education

Date: 27 June 2019
Priority: High

Security Level: In Confidence

METIS No: 1195407

Drafter: Saul Simmonds

DDI: s 9(2)(a)

Key Contact: Frances Walsh

DDI:

Messaging seen by Communications team: No

Round Robin: No

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this paper is for you to:

Note the annual selection of the 2019/2020 Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Awards has been completed.

Agree the decision of the selection committee to grant awards to 16 candidates for the 2019/2020 round and sign off the letters of introduction for each candidate.

Proactively release the Education Report and information regarding the Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Awards.

Summary

This report provides background information on the Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Awards, and recommends that you agree to the decision to grant the award to 16 successful candidates for the 2019/2020 round.

It is proposed that you provide each successful candidate with a signed letter of introduction that will assist the process of networking and building relationships in their area of study. Letters of introduction are attached for each successful candidate and will be included with the formal letters confirming the award.
Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

a. **note** that the annual selection of the Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards has been completed

Noted

b. **agree** with the decision of the selection committee to award 16 successful candidates for the 2019/2020 round

Agree / Disagree

c. **sign** the letters of introduction for each successful candidate to be returned to the Ministry of Education

d. **note** that, upon approval of the recommendations, the successful candidates will be sent a formal confirmation of the award, accompanied by the letter of introduction

Noted

e. **proactively release** the Education Report and information regarding the Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Awards

Release/Not release

John McKeefry
Associate Deputy Secretary
Early Learning and Student Achievement

26/06/2019

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

29/6/19
Background

1. The Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Awards were established following the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to New Zealand in 1970. The objective of the award is to assist technicians to pursue full-time study in a Commonwealth country, from which the people of New Zealand will benefit. For the purposes of these awards, technicians are defined as trained people, qualified and recognised as technicians in their discipline, and who have worked in their field for at least three years.

2. The Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Award Act 1970 provides for grants to be awarded annually within the total funds voted by Parliament for the purposes of the award under the delegation of the Minister of Education. The appropriation is $100,000 per annum from allocated funding sitting within Vote Education.

3. The selection committee, as specified in the 1991 amendment to the Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Award Act, comprises of a representative from each of the following:
   - Vice Chancellors' Committee (Katherine Wright)
   - New Zealand Qualifications Authority (Ms Frannie Aston)
   - Ministry of Primary Industries (Bryan Wilson)
   - New Zealand Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics (Dr Leon Fourie)

   The selection committee recommended that grants be paid to 16 successful candidates totalling $89,150 (within the $100,000 appropriation).

4. All successful candidates met the award criteria.

Successful Candidates

5. Successful candidates will be required to submit a short report (maximum of two pages of typescript) to the Secretary of the Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards on the completion of their award. This report will outline the project for which the grant was utilised and the allocation of the funding.

6. The decision of the selection committee is that the 16 applicant's receive a grant from within the 2019/2020 award fund, see Appendix One.
Proactive Release

It is intended that this Education Report is proactively released, as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982. Please see "Queen Elizabeth II Technicians Award Media Statement," attached.
### Appendix one

**Recommended candidates for the 2019/2020 Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last name</th>
<th>First name</th>
<th>Employer</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Area of Study</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bissell</td>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>Cawthron Institute</td>
<td>Senior Research Technician</td>
<td>Training in microbial functioning in lake sediments</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>$7,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birchall</td>
<td>Penelope</td>
<td>ESR</td>
<td>Senior Forensic Technician</td>
<td>Train in photogrammetry for drone operators</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>$7,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blakemore-Terry</td>
<td>Stephen</td>
<td>Self Employed</td>
<td>Mechanic</td>
<td>Undertake interviews about training students in the automotive industry</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brownstein</td>
<td>Gretchen</td>
<td>Landcare Research</td>
<td>Research Technician</td>
<td>Study wildlife monitoring techniques and data management</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>$4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandler</td>
<td>Gillian</td>
<td>ESR</td>
<td>Principal Forensic Technician</td>
<td>Complete MSc in forensic explosives</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coleman</td>
<td>Morgan</td>
<td>Land Care Research</td>
<td>Science Technician</td>
<td>Refining methodologies in penguin research</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>$2,750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daly</td>
<td>Oonagh</td>
<td>NIWA</td>
<td>Freshwater Ecology Technician</td>
<td>Study periphyton identification</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>$4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>De Silva</td>
<td>Nuwan</td>
<td>Environment Southland</td>
<td>Technical Specialist</td>
<td>Undertake comparative studies on estuary and coastal waters</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensor</td>
<td>Christopher</td>
<td>Cawthron Institute</td>
<td>Aquaculture Technician</td>
<td>Study aquatic animal nutrition</td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>$7,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackman</td>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>Agresearch</td>
<td>Senior Technician</td>
<td>Study bio-herbicide formulation and techniques</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>$8,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macleod</td>
<td>Alex</td>
<td>Environment Southland</td>
<td>Team Leader Data Eco Systems</td>
<td>Study science leadership</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>$3,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murdoch</td>
<td>Judith</td>
<td>University Of Otago</td>
<td>Research Technician</td>
<td>Train in the calibration of ocean monitoring apparatus</td>
<td>Bermuda</td>
<td>$8,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ogilvie</td>
<td>Hamish</td>
<td>Environmental Southland</td>
<td>Technical Specialist</td>
<td>Complete the NZ Diploma in Field Hydrology</td>
<td>NZ</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roberts</td>
<td>Keryn</td>
<td>Environment Southland</td>
<td>Environmental Scientist</td>
<td>Undertake comparative studies on estuary and coastal waters</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scouler</td>
<td>James</td>
<td>Pattle Delamore Partners Ltd</td>
<td>Environmental Technician</td>
<td>Training in design and management of environmental software</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>$8,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson</td>
<td>Derrick</td>
<td>Agresearch Ltd</td>
<td>Senior Technician</td>
<td>Advanced training in conservation management</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>$8,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$87,150.00</td>
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Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards
Recipients Announced for 2019/2020

The Minister of Education, the Hon Chris Hipkins, has announced grants totalling $89,150 to sixteen recipients in the latest round of the Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Awards. The recipients, who work in a wide range of industries, will receive grants that enable them to undertake study and training in Commonwealth countries during the next 12 months.

The QEI Tech Technicians' Study Awards were inaugurated in 1970. The grants are available each year. Applicants are required to have a minimum of three years' work experience in their field of expertise. The award is only offered where there is evidence of significant employer assistance and support. For more information and application forms please visit the TeachNZ website: www.teachnz.govt.nz/qe2techawards

The awards for the 2019/2020 round are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last name</th>
<th>First name</th>
<th>Employer</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Seeking</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<td>Experience</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$27,150.00</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For further information contact: Andrew Hutson, Administrator
QEII Technicians' Study Awards
ph. 04 528 0808 aj@hutson.net.nz
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Laura Biessy who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Laura will be undertaking a study of microbial functioning in lake sediments at the Great Lakes Institute For Environmental Research in Windsor, Canada.

Any support that may be provided to Laura whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Penelope Birchall who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Penelope will be undertaking a study of photogrammetry for drone operators at the IRED Academy in Emsworth, United Kingdom.

Any support that may be provided to Penelope whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Stephen Blakemore-Terry who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Stephen will be conducting interviews with regards to training students in the automotive industry at various locations in the South Island of New Zealand.

Any support that may be provided to Stephen whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Gretchen Brownstein who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Gretchen will be undertaking a study of wildlife monitoring techniques and data management at the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute in Edmonton, Canada.

Any support that may be provided to Gretchen whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Gillian Chandler who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Gillian will be completing an MSc in Forensic Explosives at the Cranfield University in Swindon, United Kingdom.

Any support that may be provided to Gillian whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Morgan Coleman who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Morgan will be refining methodologies in penguin research at the Phillip Island Nature Parks in Victoria, Australia.

Any support that may be provided to Morgan whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Oonagh Daly who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Oonagh will be undertaking a study of periphyton identification at Durham University in the United Kingdom.

Any support that may be provided to Oonagh whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces **Nuwan De Silva** who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Nuwan will be undertaking comparative studies on estuary and coastal waters at the Monash University in Victoria, Australia.

Any support that may be provided to Nuwan whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Christopher Ensor who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Christopher will be undertaking a study of aquatic animal nutrition at the Stirling University in Scotland.

Any support that may be provided to Christopher whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Sarah Jackman who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Sarah will be undertaking a study of bio-herbicide formulation and techniques at the CABI Egham in Surrey, United Kingdom.

Any support that may be provided to Sarah whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Alex Macleod who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Alex will be undertaking a study of science leadership at the Barefoot Thinking Co Ltd in Newton Abbot, United Kingdom.

Any support that may be provided to Alex whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Judith Murdoch who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Judith will be studying the calibration of ocean monitoring apparatus at the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences in Bermuda.

Any support that may be provided to Judith whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Hamish Oglivie who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Hamish will be completing an NZ Diploma in Field Hydrology at the Primary Training Organisation in New Zealand.

Any support that may be provided to Hamish whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Keryn Roberts who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians' Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Keryn will be undertaking comparative studies on estuary and coastal waters at the Monash University in Victoria, Australia.

Any support that may be provided to Keryn whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces James Scouller who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

James will be studying the design and management of environmental software at the Le Pagon Coding Bootcamp in Montreal, Canada.

Any support that may be provided to James whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter introduces Derrick Wilson who has been granted a Queen Elizabeth II Technicians’ Study Award for the 2019/2020 round.

The purpose of this award is to enable a small group of carefully selected technicians gain advanced technical education, training and experience in Commonwealth countries.

Derrick will be undertaking advanced training in conservation management at the Allerton Project in Loddisington, United Kingdom.

Any support that may be provided to Derrick whilst undertaking these studies would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education