IVF and Assisted Reproductive Technologies: The Global Experience

Deadline for Applications: 5pm, Friday 1 May 2015

The University of Wollongong’s Faculty of Law, Humanities and the Arts: School of Humanities and Social Inquiry is offering up to two PhD scholarships in association with an ARC Discovery Project. This ARC Discovery Project will be a comprehensive study of IVF and assisted reproductive technologies over the forty years since the birth of the first IVF-conceived baby. These forms of conception, gestation and parenting have transformed understandings of the family and have led to regulatory and policy responses and public debate, which can only be understood in a global frame. A series of transnational case studies, with a specific Asia-Pacific focus, will trace the development of the present consumer, medical and regulatory environments and provide a historically-informed basis for dealing with policy deliberations locally and internationally.

Research Environment and Topics

The PhD project(s) will be supervised by chief investigators Vera Mackie, Sarah Ferber and Nicola Marks. We are interested in focused case studies which will complement the work of the Chief Investigators. Possible topics might include, for example, a country-based study of the use of assisted reproductive technologies, or a thematic study of cultural representations of assisted reproductive technologies.

Eligibility and Application Details

Applications are invited for commencement in July 2015. Applicants should have an Honours degree (or equivalent) in a relevant Humanities or Social Science discipline with a strong result. An Honours degree is a four-year degree which includes a thesis component. For a scholarship it is usually necessary to have a result of First Class Honours. Additional relevant research experience and/or research activity, awards or prizes will be regarded favourably. Depending on the topic, a working knowledge of a language other than English may be an advantage.

Applicants should submit a full postgraduate research degree application through the UOW research degrees portal at uow.edu.au/apply. Your application should include an academic transcript, copy of passport or birth certificate and an outline of the proposed research project. The application should be clearly marked "PhD Scholarship: IVF and Assisted Reproductive Technologies: The Global Experience", and state that the project will be supervised by Vera Mackie, Sarah Ferber and Nicola Marks. Please submit your application before close of business (Eastern Australian time) on Friday 1 May 2015, and inform Vera Mackie vera@uow.edu.au that you have submitted an application.

Both domestic and international prospective students are encouraged to apply. The scholarship stipend is $AUD25,392 per annum, indexed annually for 3 years.

For further information about the project and the PhD scholarships, contact the chief investigators through Professor Vera Mackie vera@uow.edu.au. You are strongly advised to discuss your application and proposed research project by e-mail with the chief investigators before submitting your application.

For information about the School of Humanities and Social Inquiry visit lha.uow.edu.au/hsi.