



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE



**FACULTY OF MEDICINE, DENTISTRY  
AND HEALTH SCIENCES**

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**DEPARTMENT OF  
PHYSIOTHERAPY ANNIVERSARY  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Creating the next generation of leading physiotherapists

**BELIEVE**

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

# DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOTHERAPY ANNIVERSARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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One hundred and ten years ago Eliza McAuley laid the foundations for the modern physiotherapy programs at the University of Melbourne with studies in massage and anatomy. In 1991 the University's Department of Physiotherapy opened its doors and has since welcomed thousands of successful students and researchers. In this special twenty-fifth anniversary year, we are thrilled to celebrate these and many other achievements.

The Department's vision in teaching and learning remains focussed on creating a new generation of exceptional physiotherapists who will be trained to pursue excellence, professional commitment, research and leadership. As the first graduate program of its kind in Australia, the Doctor of Physiotherapy (DPT) has created a new benchmark in physiotherapy education. We offer our students a comprehensive, integrated course in the theory and practice of physiotherapy as well as a dynamic and interactive learning environment, amongst the finest in Australia.

The Department is an international leader in research and provides diverse and fulfilling opportunities for the pursuit of research higher degree studies. It boasts demonstrable areas of research excellence in developing best practice care for premature babies and the elderly, and for sufferers of cancer and neurodegenerative diseases. The Department is also the home of the nationally recognised NHMRC Centre for Health, Exercise and Sports Medicine (CHESM) where researchers are committed to improving the wellbeing of all Australians through musculoskeletal research.

To commemorate the past, celebrate the present and anticipate a bright future we wish to officially launch the Department of Physiotherapy's Anniversary Scholarship Fund. It is the aim of the scholarship fund to provide support for talented students who would otherwise be unable to complete studies in physiotherapy and to access world-class education at the University of Melbourne.

We would like to create two scholarships through the Fund, one that pays homage to teaching and learning by providing support for a student enrolled in the DPT, and another that acknowledges the importance of research by providing support for a research higher degree student.

Scholarships from the Anniversary Scholarship Fund may be awarded to:

- support students experiencing financial hardship;
- support students from diverse social and cultural backgrounds, including refugees;
- assist Indigenous students to study physiotherapy or enrol in higher degree programs; and
- support students whose families encounter unexpected financial difficulty so that they can continue their studies.





# WHY DO WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT?

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In 2016, despite Commonwealth supported funding for the DPT and PhDs, it is expensive to live in Melbourne and there is little time for students to engage in extra work to support living expenses during their very demanding, full-time studies. Students from lower socio-economic backgrounds, or from regional, rural or Indigenous backgrounds face additional obstacles and barriers to accessing higher education and completing their studies. Scholarship support is vital in redressing inequities of these kinds both at graduate and postgraduate level.

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## **Professor Linda Denehy, Head, Department of Physiotherapy**

“A scholarship of \$10,000 per year for three years will go a long way to reducing a student’s financial burden. By supporting the Department of Physiotherapy Anniversary Scholarship Fund, you are investing in future generations of physiotherapists who will lead and be responsible for health care. Please help them help us.”

## **Professor Mark Hargreaves, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences**

“What a wonderful way to celebrate the Department of Physiotherapy’s 25 years! By establishing this scholarship, we acknowledge the value of educating first-class physiotherapists to serve in our communities and enhance the health and wellbeing of us all.”

## **Doha Al-Maliki (BPhysio 2012)**

“A scholarship from the University of Melbourne provided me with much-needed financial security throughout the course of my physiotherapy degree. By removing the financial barriers associated with full-time study, the scholarship afforded me the privilege of being able to fully commit to mastering the theoretical and practical skills required to embark on a successful physiotherapy career. It also enabled me to be more selective about how I spent my time outside of coursework hours. I chose to undertake volunteer work in physiotherapy, an experience that allowed me to give back and added value to my degree.”



## SUPPORT THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOTHERAPY ANNIVERSARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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We are inviting all of our alumni to consider supporting the current and future students of the Department of Physiotherapy by making a donation. Together we can play a vital role in educating tomorrow's leaders.

The University is a certified Deductible Gift recipient (DGR) and all gifts to the University of \$2 or more are tax deductible for Australian tax purposes. If you wish to make a gift to the Department of Physiotherapy Anniversary Scholarship Fund, please visit this website: <http://alumni.online.unimelb.edu.au/physioscholarship>

For more information on other ways to support this initiative, please contact:

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