THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN – SOUTH AUSTRALIA
POSTDOCTORAL GRANTS

RULES

The Australian Federation of University Women-SA has existed under that name since 1974, but the association has a much longer history. In 1914 the Women Graduates’ Club was founded as a sub-society of the Adelaide University Women Students’ Club (which was founded in 1909).

In the aftermath of the devastation of World War I, women’s organisations world-wide began to forge bonds with the purpose of encouraging educated women to use their knowledge and skills to promote peace through the education of women and girls. This led to the formation of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW) in 1920 and the Australian Federation of University Women (AFUW) in 1922, with which the Adelaide Women Graduates’ Club along with similar organisations in other Australian states immediately formally affiliated.

In 1929 the organisation became the Adelaide University Women Graduates’ Association, and in 1968, the South Australian University Women Graduates’ Association to cater for graduates of the newly-established Flinders University. In 1974, it became the Australian Federation of University Women – South Australia when all of AFUW’s state and territory member associations adopted the uniform nomenclature. In 2009–10, AFUW and all its member associations will be adopting the name Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc. to cater for the greater diversity of tertiary education available in Australia.

AFUW is now one of 79 national affiliates of the IFUW. Through IFUW and AFUW, AFUW-SA has a voice on national and international matters of critical importance to the protection of human rights and the status of women and girls. Members of AFUW-SA identify and monitor local, national and global events affecting women, and speak out on issues of equity, human rights and educational (formal and informal) opportunities.

During the 1920s Adelaide women graduates established a bursary fund from which the association could assist female students undertaking postgraduate research. At that stage contributions were derived from a levy on membership subscriptions, but in 1935 the association began hiring out academic dress at graduation ceremonies within the University of Adelaide and this became the main source of income for the bursary fund.

As funds grew, so did the range of bursaries offered – for postgraduate research and coursework degrees, for men as well as women and for female Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at undergraduate and graduate levels. In the twenty years prior to 2009, when AFUW-SA Inc. retired from operating the academic dress hire service, $1.3million in bursaries was given away. The bursary program will continue, relying mainly on income from investments.

The University of Adelaide takes pride in its long history and the quality of its many graduates. As the first Australian university to confer degrees on women, a special place in its historical record is preserved for the accomplishments of female graduates.
To acknowledge the contribution made by the AFUW, the University has established in perpetuity, The Australian Federation of University Women – South Australia Postdoctoral Grants in their name. The aim of the grants is to help female postdoctoral fellows to establish their careers.

1. The Grants will be formally named The Australian Federation of University Women – South Australia Postdoctoral Grants.

2. The Grants will provide financial assistance to early career female postdoctoral fellows at the University of Adelaide who will be presenting either a research poster or an oral research presentation at a conference, or require small grant support for research not covered by other funding sources. Examples of such support include:
   - Travel to make use of collections or laboratories
   - Cost of collection of data
   - Purchase of equipment

3. Preference will be given to female Postdoctoral fellows not more than 5 years out from their Doctor of Philosophy.

4. It is anticipated that two Grants valued at up to $5,000 each will be awarded annually.

5. Selection will be based on the applicant’s track record, necessity of the travel to an applicant's research/scholarly activities, the standing of the conference (if applicable) and the expected benefits to the applicant.

6. Awards are made on the condition that they are used solely for the purpose stated in the application (i.e. for travel to the conference, conference accommodation, registration and any legitimate scholarly or research-related expense).

7. Applications will be called for in February each year and the Grants must be utilised in the year they are awarded.

8. The selection of recipients will be coordinated by the Development and Alumni Office. The Selection Panel will consist of two Associate Deans (Research), a representative from the Research Branch at the University and a representative from the AFUW (SA).

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Vice-Chancellor and President    On behalf of AFUW –SA

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Date      Date

Approved by the AFUW (SA) and the Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President, the University of Adelaide.
Updated on 9 February 2011