

MEDIA RELEASE

The Australian Technology Network of Universities Women's Executive Development Program (ATN WEXDEV) will be offering a \$10,000 postgraduate scholarship to focus on gender equity.

The Clare Burton Scholarship was established by the five ATN universities (Curtin, QUT, RMIT, UniSA, UTS) to honour and continue the path-breaking work of Dr. Clare Burton, a leading researcher, public sector administrator, academic, consultant and writer on employment equity, who passed away suddenly in August 1998. It is awarded biennially and provides funds to support post-graduate research into gender equity.

Dr Burton was a strong advocate and activist for social change, particularly in the area of pay equity for women. Her academic research fed into policy and practical change in the workplace. Among her numerous achievements, she was awarded the Australasian Political Studies Association Women and Politics Prize in 1984 for her essay 'Public and Private Concerns in Academic Institutions.' In the 1990s Dr Burton conducted about a dozen university equity reviews as well as reviewing both the Australian and New Zealand Defence Forces.

A scholarship of \$10,000 is available to a student enrolled, or intending to enrol, in an ATN university, in either post-graduate coursework or a research degree where the major piece of work is focussed on gender equity.

As well as the basic facilities similar to those enjoyed by other enrolled higher degree students, the successful applicant will receive individual support/mentoring related to their current research and future career, from their host institution. National ATN networks, e.g. WEXDEV, may also provide support, as appropriate.

The scholarship has been offered twice, first in 2002 and then in 2004. The first recipient, Sarah Wendt, completed a PhD exploring the impact of rural culture on women's experience, and men's perpetration of domestic violence. The second recipient, Robyn North, examined how social policy can influence gender equality in heterosexual relationships and/or further support existing gender inequalities in heterosexual relationships.

Further information is available on the ATN website
<http://www.atn.edu.au/wgroups/wex.htm>

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