ILP INFORMATION

For projects commencing in 2017

Discipline of Paediatrics

This information is for current supervisors/co-supervisors, and potential supervisors, and provided as a brief summary. It is subject to change annually. For the most up-to-date information, refer to links to the UNSW Medicine webpage, provided in each section.

WHAT IS AN ILP?
The Independent Learning Project (ILP) is intended to provide UNSW medical students with a period of in-depth study that engenders an approach to medicine that is constantly questioning and self-critical. The ILP aims to promote lifelong learning patterns and skills which will enable them to approach future medical challenges in their careers with a rigor and depth not possible without a detailed knowledge of the formal processes of research, literature appraisal, data collection, analysis and presentation.

An ILP is 24 weeks of full time work spread over 30 weeks.
Students are required to conduct a literature review and a final report. The final report is written up in the form of a manuscript which ideally will be published in a peer-reviewed journal.

https://medprogram.med.unsw.edu.au/independent-learning-project-ilp

KEY DATES
April Students begin to approach supervisors to negotiate projects.
April UNSW Medicine ILP Information Session (for students who will commence ILP/Honours in 2015).
June ILP Application Form due - for both negotiated and allocated projects.
   Form uploaded to eMed.
August Allocated ILPs will be listed on eMed for students to browse and select.
August ILP Student Form due.
October Allocation emails will be sent to supervisors and students.
February ILP commences.

WHO CAN SUPERVISE?
The minimum requirement is that supervisors have research supervision experience and academic/medical qualifications relevant to the project. Therefore, if you co-supervise a project in 2016 you could potentially supervise in 2017.

You must also hold an academic or conjoint appointment with UNSW.

NEGOTIATED VS ALLOCATED?
Negotiated projects are those agreed upon by the supervisor and a specific student/s and have been submitted by the due date. Allocated projects are those where the supervisor has submitted a project by the due date, but does not yet have a student to undertake it. These projects are then put on eMed and students who do not have a project/supervisor can select one. Projects that are oversubscribed are balloted.

There are pros and cons to both, however negotiated projects seem to give the supervisor a little more control over who their student is, remembering you are paired together for a year.

In both cases the ILP application form must be completed by the supervisor.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
Balnaves Foundation Indigenous Medical ILP Award For ILP's relevant to Indigenous health.
Value: $2,500

Dr Peter Campbell Perinatology ILP Award
For ILP's relevant to Perinatology.
Value: $6,000

Higher Thinking UNSW Brain Cancer Research Fund
For ILP's researching the mechanisms of why brain tumours progress from low grade to deadly grade brain tumours.
Value: $2,500

Lorrie Fay Memorial Kidsafe Scholarship
For ILP's relevant to child safety issues.
Value: $4,800

https://scholarships.online.unsw.edu.au/
WHAT IS HONOURS?
The BSc (Med) Hons program is a one-year (34 weeks) supervised research program leading to the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (Medicine) Honours.
Students undertake the program in Year 4.
BSc (Med) Hons projects need to (and will be assessed on their ability to):
• Enable students to acquire an appreciation of the value of observation and research in the development of medical science
• Enable students to determine the ‘current state of knowledge’ in a defined field
• Provide experience in the written and spoken presentation of scientific information and scholarly research, and
• Provide an invaluable background in basic research philosophy and techniques on which a subsequent career in specialised medical research may be built.
Applications that do not explain/demonstrate how a student will be able to achieve the above aims will be rejected.

https://medprogram.med.unsw.edu.au/honours-program

KEY DATES
March
Students apply for Honours programme via expression of interest.

April
Students begin to approach supervisors to negotiate projects.

June
Application Form due.
Supervisor Form due.
Forms emailed to ilp@unsw.edu.au

February
Honours commences.

WHO CAN SUPERVISE?
The minimum requirement is that supervisors have research supervision experience and academic / medical qualifications relevant to the project. Therefore, if you co-supervise a project in 2016 you could potentially supervise in 2017.
You must also hold an academic or conjoint appointment with UNSW.

PROCESS
• Year 3 students are sent a call from UNSW Medicine for Expression of Interests to undertake Honours in March. Those applicants who were successful, are informed at the end of March.
• Successful applicants are then required to work with a potential supervisor to submit a complete application package including:
  1. Application Form and the nomination of examiners submitted electronically from the supervisor’s email; and
  2. Supervisor’s Form
  All fields in the form and the nomination must be filled; blanks/gaps in information will nullify the entire application.
• Students must first pass the academic requirement. After that, the proposals will be assessed based on the potential of the projects to achieve the aims listed above.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
David Walsh Memorial Scholarship
For students undertaking Honours projects in developmental biology, genetics or biochemistry, and their relationship to birth defects.
Value: $1,400

Hazel Morris Award in Medicine
For students undertaking Honours.
Value: $1,000

Mary Edna Quinn Scholarship
For students undertaking Honours.
Value: $4,000

Rose Ling Lang Award in Medicine
For students undertaking Honours to undertake study or attend a conference related to his/her Honours work at an overseas university.
Value: $2,000

https://scholarships.online.unsw.edu.au/
MEDICINE WEBSITE
This is the most important step in finding an ILP / Honours student.
Students are directed to the following pages to commence searching for supervisors:
- [http://med.unsw.edu.au/ilp-supervisors](http://med.unsw.edu.au/ilp-supervisors)
- [http://med.unsw.edu.au/ilp](http://med.unsw.edu.au/ilp)

For your name to appear on these pages, you will need to log in to your profile on the Medicine website:
1. Access the site here - [http://med.unsw.edu.au/user/login](http://med.unsw.edu.au/user/login)
2. After login, you will see your name in the top right corner ‘Hello XX XXX XXX’. Click on your name and then “Edit” tab on the page.
3. You will find the ILP section near the bottom of the page. It is a ‘type ahead’ list. Select your topic and separate each topic with a comma.
4. When finished, click “save” (at the bottom of the page) and logout (in top right corner).

**When you are no longer available to supervise please remove the topics from your profile.**

RESEARCH GATEWAY PROFILE
Having an up-to-date profile on the Research Gateway is a great portal for students to see your current research including publications.

To update your profile:
1. Visit [http://research.unsw.edu.au](http://research.unsw.edu.au)
2. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click “Log In.” You will need you zNumber and zPass to access.
3. Click on the “Edit” tab.
4. Once you have finished editing, scroll down to “Hide this Profile” and make sure the check-box is “un-ticked”
5. Click “Save”

Your publications are automatically imported into your Research Gateway profile via ROS.

RESEARCH MANAGER
Students will often contact Samantha McFedries, Research Manager looking for supervisors. She also organises the ILP/Honours Information Evening detailed below.

If you are interested in supervising or co-supervising an ILP / Honours project in 2017 - please s.mcfedries@unsw.edu.au

ILP/HONOURS INFORMATION EVENING
This is for all Discipline of Paediatrics academics and conjoints, including those who are based at Sydney metropolitan hospitals outside of Sydney Children’s Hospital.

Representatives from each sub-speciality / research group / department will be asked to give a brief presentation (3 minutes) introducing supervisors in their area and the kinds of projects they offer.

At the conclusion of the presentations, students and supervisors / co-supervisors are encouraged to network, including those supervisors who did not present.

The overall goal of the night is for students and supervisors to identify each other and establish who they would like to potentially work with on an ILP / Honours project in 2017. It is anticipated that students and supervisors will arrange to meet in the days / weeks following the Information Evening to discuss the possibility of a project further.

The information evening has been scheduled for Wednesday 23rd March 2016.

If you would like to attend on the night to network with the students or represent your sub-speciality / research group / department, please advise email Samantha McFedries - s.mcfedries@unsw.edu.au