

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY, Sydney, Australia: Ph.D. Scholarship opportunity to study behaviour, cognition, and learning in desert ants or honeybees.

Candidates are invited to apply for a PhD scholarship opportunity at the Department of Biological Sciences (<http://www.bio.mq.edu.au/>). Students on scholarships are not obliged to contribute to teaching, but may do so to supplement their income if desired. Up to AU\$20,000 will be available to cover direct research expenses, and a scheme from the Research Office exists to support travel to visit overseas laboratories and to attend international conferences.

The project is based in the laboratory of Ken Cheng (http://www.bio.mq.edu.au/cheng_lab/), to whom enquiries should be directed (ken.cheng@mq.edu.au). Interested applicants should first contact Professor Cheng with an expression of interest, including a CV and academic record. The theme of the PhD opportunity is relatively open, but possible study systems are 1) field experiments on desert ants, *Melophorus bagoti*, in Central Australia investigating their navigation, learning, or foraging ecology; 2) campus-based experiments on honeybees, comparing the performance of precocious foragers with artificially accelerated development and normal foragers, on a range of tasks such as discrimination, navigation, and flight performance. The honeybee work will be co-supervised by Dr. Andrew Barron of the Department of Biological Sciences (<http://sites.google.com/site/cognitiveneuroethology/>).

Applicants should have completed research qualifications equivalent to a four-year Australian Bachelor degree with First Class Honours, such as a Bachelor degree plus a Masters degree with a substantial research component. Applicants should have a background in some of the following areas: biology, psychology, animal behavior, behavioral ecology, neuroethology.

Closing date for expressions of interest: 30 June 2011.