

FWPA Priority Areas for Investment for Postgrad Scholarships

The decision making process for postgraduate scholarship's will be informed by the Research and Development and Knowledge Generation and Adoption strategies as well as by a strong preference for research projects to be actively engaged with industry to address their needs ensuring adoption of research outcomes by industry.

Research & Development Strategy

The key aims of this strategy are to invest in and co-ordinate research and development to improve the industry's competitiveness, inform its climate change response, enhance investment, increase usage and ensure the sustainability of forests, wood products and services in Australia.

The strategy has 3 key themes for investment in research:

1. Market Access and Development
2. Solid Wood Products
3. Sustainability and Resources

Market Access and Development

The market access and development research theme is focused on the recognition, development and exploitation of new market opportunities for forest and wood products.

Projects in this theme will create increased understanding of market attitudes to the use of wood, as well as the environmental and design attributes of timber building products. Results from this program will be relevant to industry or fundamental in the development of projects that will be applied by industry to support the expansion of current markets as well as assist in the removal of regulatory and market barriers to the use of timber products in domestic and commercial building applications.

Solid Wood Products

The solid wood products research theme aims to identify and develop improvements to exiting manufacturing through maximum value recovery from the resource.

Priority areas include optimisation of chemical/energy use, waste stream utilisation and the development of new products including hybrid materials.

Sustainability and Resources

The sustainability and resources research theme focuses on increasing understanding of optimal forest management practices and their impact on wood production, sustainability, environmental impacts and economics of forestry operations.

Other priorities include applied knowledge of wood properties of the forest resource, scientifically based forest certification, and projects that contribute to the development and adoption of improved techniques for the segregation of standing trees, logs, timber and fibre to the most appropriate use and identification methods to improve wood properties.

Knowledge Generation and Adoption Strategy

The aim of this strategy is to expand the industry's capacity and capability – including knowledge generation, and adoption, and promotion to facilitate growth.

Key to this theme is the support of new postgraduate students undertaking research that will build skills and knowledge relevant to the forest and wood products industry.

FWPA's stakeholders and members are importers, growers and processors of wood. An important priority for FWPA is to foster linkages between our members and the scientific community. Research projects that build or create such linkages will be viewed favourably.

FWPA Annual Operational Plan

For further information on the strategies driving FWPA's activities please refer to our Annual Operational Plan

Full details can be found on the strategies in FWPA's annual operational plan which is on our website www.fwpa.com.au.