



NATIONAL MEDIATION CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP 2010

The purpose of the National Mediation Conference Scholarship is to encourage original research and study at a postgraduate level that will assist the community to understand dispute resolution processes and/or enhance the body of knowledge of dispute resolution practitioners through research.

The conference in Adelaide is the 10th National Mediation Conference and as such is a celebration of ADR in Australia. Applicants are directed to the “Request for Abstracts Advance Notice for Papers” on the website www.mediationconference.com.au for an indication of the wide ranging topics under discussion (see list below) as well as the overall theme of the conference “Celebrating the Past- Embracing the Present and Creating the Future.”

An amount of up to \$10,000 will be awarded and up to \$1,000 to assist with payment of the costs associated with travel and accommodation to enable the successful candidate to present a paper at the conference.

To be eligible the candidate must be a citizen or permanent resident of Australia and be currently enrolled in a higher degree by coursework or research and study at an Australian University.

The candidates must be willing and able to present an abbreviated version of their paper at the Adelaide 2010 National Mediation Conference (30 minutes). Papers must be between 3000 and 5000 words with double-spacing, Times New Roman 12 point font and the Harvard system of referencing.

Three assessors will use the following criteria to select the winning candidate:

- The topic and substance of the paper is contemporary, original, innovative, ground breaking and/or cutting edge.
- The topic and substance of the paper adds to the knowledge base of academics, students and practitioners in the fields of peace and conflict studies, conflict resolution and/or dispute resolution.
- The topic and substance of the paper has application to mediation in a wide range of fields of practice.
- The candidate’s ideas are clearly and logically presented and the arguments are substantiated.
- The candidate refers to a wide range of peer reviewed literature and uses a consistent form of referencing to acknowledge the source of ideas and to substantiate assertions.
- The paper is deemed to be of a standard that is acceptable for presentation at the 10th National Mediation Conference and for publication in the peer reviewed Conference Proceedings (to be published after the conference).

Candidates might like to note the following suggested topics as set out in the conference advance notice. Candidates are not restricted to those topics.

- Novel, innovative and challenging concepts and theories that broaden the practice of mediation
- Practical mediation and facilitation skills particularly those drawn from alternative methods, theories and disciplines
- The nexus between theory and practice
- Mediation in the international arena- knowledge and skill sets drawn from mediating geo political and high conflict international disputes
- Mediation and its connection to peace building and peace making
- Drawing lessons from traditional conflict resolution models within indigenous communities
- Designing architecture for managing and facilitating conflict resolution within organisations, alliances and workplaces using a dispute systems design, conflict systems management or project allianceing perspective
- The social sciences and their impact on mediation practice, theory and culture
- Social sciences and the law – strengthening the relationship through collaboration within the profession of mediation
- The retired judge and senior counsel mediation culture
- High dollar value and complex commercial mediations and the place of the generalist mediator with high level expertise in mediation skills
- Judges and tribunal members and the dual roles of mediating and determining the matter
- Mediation as a compulsory step in the pre-litigation process
- The Family Court of Australia and the Federal Magistrates Court. The challenges of embracing mediation and less adversarial litigation
- The role and relevance of mediators in the practice of collaborative law
- Creative approaches to dispute resolution research, including qualitative research, action research and reflective observations of practice

The deadline for submission of papers is the **26th February 2010** and should be directed to the Board of Management 2010 National Mediation Conference Inc, GPO Box 522, Adelaide SA 5001.