



## PhD scholarship in Chemistry

### Heterocyclic derivatives as fragmenting triggers in cancer therapy

We are seeking an enthusiastic and hard-working person for a 3 year PhD studentship in Organic Synthesis in the School of Chemical Sciences, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand. Applicants should have a strong Honours or Masters degree in Chemistry and have completed a thesis in Organic Synthesis or related studies.

The project centres on the synthesis of derivatives of heterocyclic-based compounds, which may form an essential part of novel prodrugs designed to assist in improving outcomes for patients undergoing radiotherapy. Time-resolved measurements of the stability of the compounds, to help formulate synthetic targets, will also be carried out. The goal of the research is to discover compounds which fragment with high efficiency under radiotherapy conditions.

The project is led by Associate Professors Bob Anderson and Brent Copp, and has been funded by the Marsden Fund, New Zealand's premier funding agency of fundamental and strategic research. The successful candidate will be based in the School of Chemical Sciences and will join the team effort with our collaborators at the Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre, Dr Jeff Smaill (medicinal chemist) and Associate Professor Adam Patterson (biologist).

The value of the scholarship is NZ\$ 25,000 per year for 3 years, plus tuition fees. The starting date is 1<sup>st</sup> March 2014, or by negotiation.

#### Candidates must include in their application:-

- A full Curriculum Vitae containing an official University transcript (i.e. list of grades).
- The names and contact details of at least two people who can act as referees.
- A clear statement of when you could begin your PhD research.
- If English is not your first language, international applicants must meet the University's English language requirements (e.g. IELTS  $\geq$  6.5; TOEFL  $\geq$  90). See <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/for/international-students/is-entry-requirements/is-english-language-requirements.html> for details.

Review of applications will begin immediately and shall continue until the position is filled.

Applications and enquires should be sent to Associate Professor Brent Copp, School of Chemical Sciences (b.copp@auckland.ac.nz).