

Dear AINSE scholars,

The health and wellbeing of our scholars, staff and collaborators is our highest priority. The AINSE team are working to assist all our scholarship holders and students during this challenging period.

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, the AINSE Board held a meeting on 25th March to discuss key items for the April–July 2020 period.

AINSE will continue to offer our events and scholarships throughout 2020. Our annual Winter School will move to an online format in July and we will work continuously with the research community to explore how AINSE programs can best adapt to support their needs. All AINSE staff have been working effectively off-site since 17th March.

Please see the full list of current changes to upcoming AINSE events and programs below:

- ***The Winter School will be held as an online event in July, with a plan for student participants to visit ANSTO facilities later in the year if feasible;***
- ***The Women in STEM and Entrepreneurship (WISE) Mentorship Program will continue to run via videoconferencing and online discussion sessions as per normal;***
- ***Honours scholarships will be announced by the end of March. Successful applicants who defer their Honours enrolment will be accommodated;***
- ***All current participants of the Scholarship AINSE ANSTO French Embassy (SAAFE) program will be offered a six-month extension;***
- ***Postgraduate Research Award (PGRA), Residential Student Scholarship (RSS), and Early-Career Research Grant (ECRG) applications will proceed as normal, with applicants encouraged to apply for ANSTO access at the end of 2020 or early 2021;***
- ***The ANSTO Graduate Institute 'Industry Foundations Scholarship' will open mid-April, with applications closing 17th July;***
- ***Existing PGRA scholars will be assisted with their individual research requirements; and***
- ***Existing ECRG holders will be offered a six-month extension.***

AINSE are committed to supporting the research community through this difficult time. We will closely monitor the ongoing situation and continue to update you with further developments.

Please feel free to share this correspondence of 26th March 2020 with your research community where appropriate.

Kind regards,

The AINSE Team. *Correspondence as at 25 March 2020*