

# GLOBAL CHALLENGES UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE GRADUATE SUMMER SCHOOL 'WHY WILDLIFE?'

**30 JANUARY – 10 FEBRUARY 2016**

## INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

Following the 'Why Wildlife' workshop (for academic staff) held in Uppsala, Sweden in April 2015, this postgraduate summer school addresses some of the challenges and specific problems within the discipline of wildlife as well as the opportunity to experience the uniqueness of New Zealand. You will learn through lectures from experienced scientists, field work and a memorable field trip through 'Middle Earth', New Zealand's Mackenzie Country.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

- Venue:** Lincoln University, New Zealand
- Language of instruction:** English. Fluency in both written and spoken English is a pre-requisite for the Summer School.
- Participants:** The GCUA Graduate Summer School is open to postgraduate students associated with GCUA universities, whose research is directly related to some aspect of wildlife, and who have shown interest in addressing global challenges. Students from both natural and social science/economics backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Applications are welcome from PhD candidates, final year masters' students and junior scientists/instructors, whose research interests are in this field.
- Maximum number of participants:** 30 (equivalent to two participants from each GCUA affiliated university).
- Course fees:** The summer school is free of charge for students who meet the selection criteria. Accommodation and meals are included. Please note: The student will be responsible for any international travel and transfers required.
- Course credits:** 5 ECTS
- Application close date:** Sunday 15 November 2015
- Applications should be sent to Lincoln University:  
james.ross@lincoln.ac.nz



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## SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

The objective of this Summer School is to gather an international group of selected postgraduate students of different disciplinary backgrounds related to the topic of wildlife. Through lectures from experienced scientists within the field, students will be presented with advice and tools to address challenges and specific problems within the discipline of wildlife. Participants will be provided with multiple opportunities to interact with invited scientists and learn from each other, building networks that will be of benefit in the future.

[www.slu.se/en/international/global-challenges-university-alliance/workshops/gcuaw7-wildlife](http://www.slu.se/en/international/global-challenges-university-alliance/workshops/gcuaw7-wildlife)

## OUTLINE OF THE SUMMER SCHOOL

Before the course starts, students will be required to read some background papers, which will be assigned in December 2015, to ensure that all participants have a basic knowledge and will be able to fully benefit from the course.

Each student is also required to prepare in advance an electronic research poster describing their research – based on their own subject and geographical area perspective. The posters will be printed and presented on the first day in an informal session to provide an overview of the global challenges faced by the different participants. Information from the poster will then be used later to formulate a press release with students participating in a mock TV interview.

Group work over the first five days will be conducted in both within-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary settings. Topics addressed during the summer school include:

- Working with indigenous communities on restoration projects
- Bioprotection and biosecurity
- Citizen science and its role in wildlife research
- Effective science communication
- Working with the media
- Urban ecology restoration in an earthquake recovery area (field trip)
- The use of R and GIS software for wildlife research
- Island pest eradication and the concept of 'predator-free' New Zealand
- Technology for wildlife monitoring
- Maximising the value of natural history collections.

Following the first five days at Lincoln University the students will go on a three-day field trip to the spectacular Mackenzie Region – home of the world's rarest wading bird (the black stilt) and the location of the Tekapo Observatory, an official Dark Sky Reserve.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Please complete the attached application form and return with the following information:

- Curriculum vitae (max. two pages, A4). Please also clearly state the stage of your education, eg. 1st year of PhD, final year master's, half-way through PhD etc
- Poster abstract (max. 300 words)
- A letter of motivation (max. 1 page) describing your motivation and goals for taking part in the Summer School.

## SELECTION PROCEDURE

Applications will be screened by the Lincoln University organisers, who will contact the GCUA universities after a selection process. Please discuss with your local GCUA representatives before your application is submitted.

For additional information, please contact the GCUA representative at your university, or Dr James Ross, Lincoln University, email [james.ross@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:james.ross@lincoln.ac.nz).



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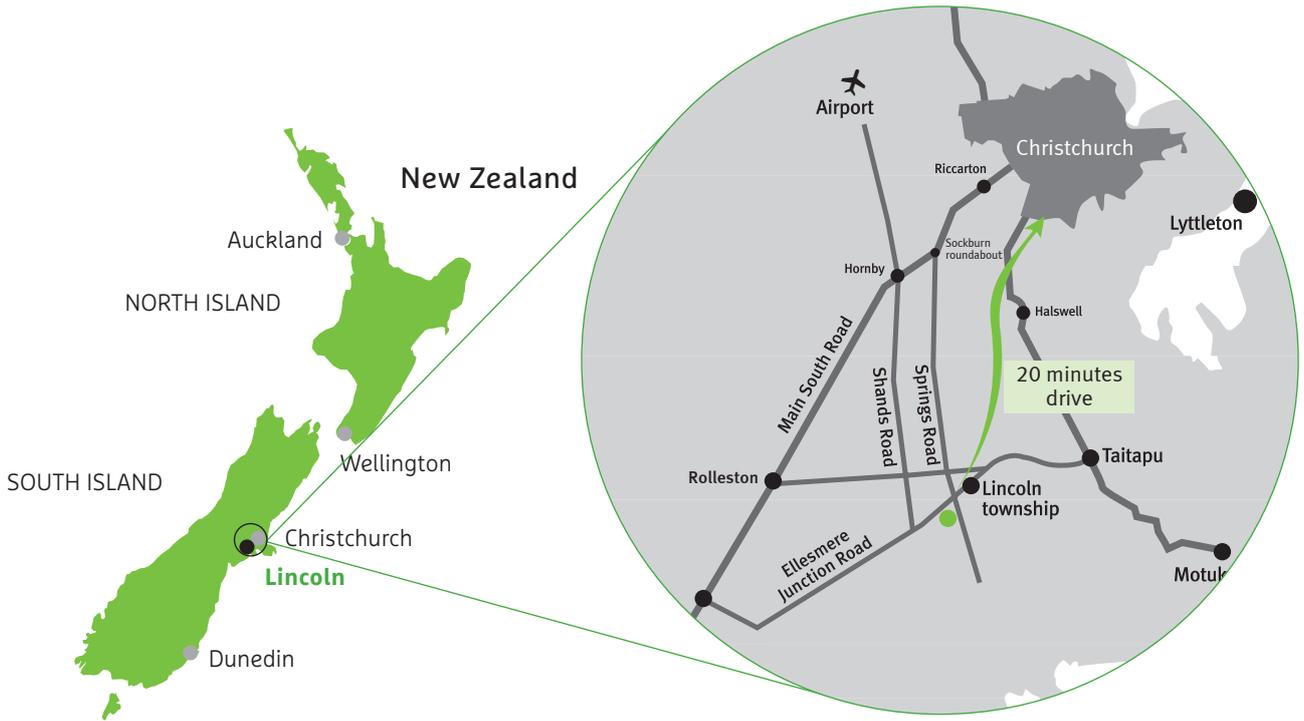
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# TIMETABLE

<b>Saturday 30 January</b>	Arrival at Lincoln University and sightseeing around Christchurch city
<b>Sunday 31 January</b>	Official welcome to New Zealand and Lincoln University
<b>Monday 1 February</b>	Session 1: Working with Indigenous Communities Session 2: Bioprotection and Biosecurity Session 3: Interactive overview (Citizen Science – Naturewatch) Dinner and social function
<b>Tuesday 2 February</b>	Session 1: Science Communication Session 2: Working with the Media Session 3: Interactive overview (Mock TV interviews)
<b>Wednesday 3 February</b>	Session 1: Entomology Museum Session 2: Landcare Herbarium Session 3: Urban Ecology in the Red Zone Canterbury Museum and exploration of Christchurch Dinner in Christchurch city
<b>Thursday 4 February</b>	Session 1: Introduction to R or GIS (students can choose either option) Session 2: Workshops Session 3: Interactive overview (Map building)
<b>Friday 5 February</b>	Session 1: Predator-free New Zealand Session 2: Technology for wildlife monitoring Session 3: Interactive overview (Camera traps and acoustic recorders)
<b>Saturday 6 February – Waitangi Day</b>	Travel to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Talbot Forest</li><li>• Lunch at Fairlie</li><li>• Tekapo Scientific Reserve</li><li>• Tekapo Observatory: Earth &amp; Sky Twilight Tour</li></ul> Accommodation in Glentanner, Mackenzie Country Please note: Although it is summer in New Zealand, you will require extra warm clothing and sensible footwear for the Twilight Tour
<b>Sunday 7 February</b>	Black Stilt captivity breeding facility, Twizel Tasman Predator Control Area: Project River Recovery Explore Mt Cook: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kea Point Walk, 2hrs OR</li><li>• Hooker Valley Walk, 3hrs</li></ul>
<b>Monday 8 February</b> (Note: public holiday)	Return to Lincoln University, via Thar Hunting Reserve
<b>Tuesday 9 February</b>	Presentations for assessment
<b>Wednesday 10 February</b>	Farewells and departure



# WHERE WE ARE



# GCUA GRADUATE SUMMER SCHOOL FIELD TRIP

