

# PHD

AT THE INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNANCE AND POLICY ANALYSIS

## ABOUT THE INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNANCE AND POLICY ANALYSIS

The Institute for Governance and Policy Analysis (IGPA) at the University of Canberra, was established in January 2014 to harness the research strengths of the ANZSOG Institute for Governance (ANZSIG) and the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM). The aim of the Institute is to create and sustain an international class research institution for the study and practice of governance and public policy. The Institute has a strong social mission committed to the production of leading edge research and research driven education programs with genuine public value and, by implication, policy impact. The depth of expertise at the Institute enables opportunities for exciting and cutting edge research in governance and public policy analysis, combining knowledge in institutional design with expertise in qualitative and quantitative methods, evaluation, micro-simulation and policy modelling.

## DID YOU KNOW?

### THE INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNANCE...

- ... possesses the largest critical mass of internationally ranked governance and public policy scholars in Australia and an eminent adjunct faculty which includes 16 award winning members of the Commonwealth Senior Executive Service and the world of political communication.
- ... is home to Australian Laureate Professor John Dryzek, supporting the Institute's world leading Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance.
- ... presently receives funding for six Australian Research Council (ARC) funded projects researching critical governance problems in Australia.
- ... in 2014 was awarded more funding for ARC research projects than any other social science research Institute in Australia.
- ... conducts authoritative applied research on different aspects of social inclusion with a particular emphasis on modelling wellbeing and innovation in policy intervention.
- ... through NATSEM provides authoritative commentary on the Australian budget and via STINMOD+ is one of the leading policy modelling organisations in Australia.
- ... conducts high profile policy and organisational evaluations for domestic and international organisations (for example, Austrade, Murray-Darling Basin Authority, United Nations Development Program, and the World Bank).
- ... publishes the AMP "Cost of Living" report series.
- ... delivers the "Open Policy-making" program for the UK Cabinet Office and the "Leading and Managing Change" program for the Commonwealth Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.
- ... provides graduate programs in public administration, public policy, public finance and economics for various Commonwealth Departments.
- ... is currently working in partnership with several overseas governments and international organisations on change governance problems in Afghanistan, Brazil, China, Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Tunisia, the UK, Vietnam, and Yemen.
- ... runs a quarterly Parliamentary Triangle Seminar Series which is televised on the ABC's Big Ideas program.
- ... publishes one of Australia's leading public policy blogs – The Policy Space (see: <http://www.thepolicyspace.com.au/>)
- ... has over 50 PhD students pursuing research on governance and public policy themes.

## THE INSTITUTE'S ACTIVITIES ARE ORGANISED AROUND THREE PROGRAMS

### RESEARCH

### EDUCATION

### ENGAGEMENT

IGPA's research agenda is driven by three research centres:

- 1. Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance**
- 2. Centre for Change Governance**  
(including public sector design and innovation, change governance, political participation)
- 3. National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM)**  
(including social wellbeing and equity, policy modelling and evaluation)

### RESEARCH

Our three research centres explore many of the contemporary critical public policy problems including issues of equitable and inclusive social and economic development, climate change and crisis in democracy. In combining disciplinary expertise and the generation of evidence-based research, the Centres focus on practical problem-solving through the development of new approaches to governance and public policy.

## EDUCATION

The Institute was born from a belief that the best graduate education is a product of cutting edge teaching and learning methods underpinned by the highest quality research. In a remarkably short period of time, the Institute has become a leading international provider of postgraduate and professional development programs for overseas, Commonwealth and State jurisdictions on governance, leadership and public policy themes. We deliver the following types of programs:

- Graduate certificate programs for Commonwealth Government Departments designed in collaboration with the Australian Public Service (Economics, Management for the Public Sector, Public Administration, and Public Policy and Finance).
- Master of Public Administration (open to domestic and international students)
- Purpose built leadership programs for Australian public sector and overseas governments.
- International MPA program with international partners.
- PhD and Professional Doctorates.

## WHY STUDY AT IGPA

IGPA's aim is to deepen theory, advance knowledge and improve practice in a way that is of significance to scholars and practitioners in Australia and internationally. At IGPA we endeavour to provide high quality postgraduate student education through a collective ethos where research students:

- play a central role in the activities of the Institute and influence the research agenda;
- are embedded within vibrant research programs which possess a critical mass of scholars who share ideas, challenge each other and are dedicated to pushing forward frontiers of knowledge;
- are supported by a research program which provides them with methodological choices to build their capacity not just to complete a thesis but to pursue a career in academia or other research led careers;
- are taught the rudiments of good academic and professional practice;
- are encouraged to innovate in thesis design;
- are provided with regular opportunities to communicate their ideas and debate other key disciplinary concerns; and,
- work in an environment where problems with academic progress are shared and debated in a reflexive, professional manner.

All IGPA PhD students pursuing critical governance research with IGPA Fellow status and membership of a research program have access to:

## ENGAGEMENT

The Institute provides a neutral space for bringing together experts from academia, practice and the private and third sectors to solve critical governance problems. We aspire to be a trusted knowledge broker that enables creative conversations between theory and practice that advance the quality of contemporary governance. We achieve this through delivering a broad program of events in which we engage our network of researchers, practitioners and the wider public in discussions that are located at the nexus of research and practice. This includes:

- **IGPA Research Seminar Series** – featuring local and international researchers reporting their research findings in a friendly and informal environment.
- **Canberra Conversation Lecture Series** – public intellectuals are provided with a platform to debate major policy problems confronting Canberra and the nation.
- **Centre for Change Governance Seminars** – providing a forum to share and exchange knowledge with specialist audiences and the wider public.
- **Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance Seminar Series** – each week CDDGG holds a seminar in which researchers present their findings across a variety of topics in the subject area.
- **NATSEM Seminar Series** – each month NATSEM holds a seminar in which researchers present their findings across a variety of topics. These seminars range from discussions on key theoretical issues through to practical empirical studies.
- **Democratic Conversations Uncensored** – is a new public lecture series jointly hosted by IGPA and the Museum of Australian Democracy aimed at enhancing the quality of debate in the nation's capital on the important democratic questions of our time.
- **Parliamentary Triangle Seminar Series** – televised panel discussions on critical governance problems with leading international and national thinkers and practitioners.

- Institute research activities (e.g. conferences, seminars and symposia);
- support services (Research Support Office);
- thesis development and professional skills workshops;
- high quality research training program encompassing the philosophy of the social sciences;
- quantitative and qualitative methods training;
- opportunities for paper presentations and feedback through our Graduate Research Forum and various workshops and seminar series.

## TYPES OF PHD

At IGPA it is possible to complete a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Professional Doctorate.

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) is a higher degree by research course undertaken over a period of 3 to 4 years. Under the supervision of Institute researchers, the PhD candidate conducts independent research and prepares either a written dissertation (80,000 to 100,000 words in length), a portfolio of published works (PhD by Publication), or a combination of written chapters and published works.

### PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE BY RESEARCH THESIS

At IGPA it is also possible to undertake a Professional Doctorate over a 3 year period. A Professional Doctorate focuses on improved professional practice through the combination of research, coursework and professional work/industry experience.

The University of Canberra website contains further information:

<http://www.canberra.edu.au/research/future-research-students/how-to-apply/research-courses>

## APPLY FOR A PHD

### Step 1. Familiarise yourself with IGPA

Explore the Institute's website (<http://www.governanceinstitute.edu.au/>), to learn more about our research centres (<http://www.governanceinstitute.edu.au/centres>) and potential supervisors (<http://www.governanceinstitute.edu.au/research/research-students/future-students#areas-of-expertise-and-supervision>). It is important to familiarise yourself with the research centres and academic fellows in order to determine where you think your PhD will sit and identify potential supervisors. If you would like to discuss your PhD proposal, please do not hesitate to make initial contact with a relevant academic fellow for guidance and potentially early support for your application.

### Step 2. Get in touch with us

Once you have an idea of how your research fits with IGPA you can formally apply following the instructions provided at <http://www.canberra.edu.au/research/future-research-students/how-to-apply>.

Alternatively you can contact our Graduate Research team at [IGPAHDRadmin@canberra.edu.au](mailto:IGPAHDRadmin@canberra.edu.au). To ensure that we can effectively consider your application and provide appropriate guidance please provide an expression of interest which includes the following documents:

- Research proposal (maximum 4 pages)
- Academic transcripts
- Proof of English proficiency (if required and available)
- Sample of written work, preferably in the proposed area of research (maximum 30 pages)
- Curriculum Vitae

For more information go to the University of Canberra's website:

<http://www.canberra.edu.au/research/future-research-students/how-to-apply/research-courses>