

Emerging Researchers in Ageing (ERA) – COTA Over 50s Award Winners

Over 100 PhD students from all over Australia applied to attend the University of Queensland ERA Masterclass. Thirty-eight candidates were selected.

Thirteen of these delegates submitted proposals for the COTA Over 50s' awards program in policy research in ageing. Of the thirteen proposals, six were selected due to the quality of work. This is two more than originally envisioned.

Executive Director of COTA Queensland, Mr Mark Tucker-Evans, will present six certificates of recognition at the 28 March ERA Masterclass 2008 awards ceremony.

Paper proposals were selected in consideration of their:

- Relevance to existing COTA Over 50s 2008 national policy priorities,
- Potential to link results to development of substantial national policy recommendations and practical outcomes,
- Research merit and rigour,
- Potential to lead to additional, useful evidence-based policy research.

Award winning students will develop their proposals into substantial papers for publication in the *Issues in Ageing: A Journal of Award-Winning Postgraduate Research* published on the COTA Over 50s' website by its National Policy Research Centre. COTA Over 50s will provide a mentor/advisor to work with the students and the academic advisor during the period in which the papers are being developed.

The deadlines for final research papers will coincide with COTA Over 50s' National Policy Council Forum to be held 26 – 29 May, 2008, and will be distributed to delegates attending the Forum. On publication of the research papers, the six (6) awardees will receive \$500 in recognition of their valuable contribution.

Winning Authors and their Proposals (in alphabetical order)

Awardees – Papers directly related to COTA Over 50s Policy Priorities
1. Natalie Chan – The Australian National University Ageing-in-place: Does type of support matter?
2. Lyn Courtney – James Cook University Rejecting 'Retirement' and Embracing 'Re-evolvement': Preliminary Findings from the Australian Baby Boom Career Women Survey
3. Carol Anne (Cappy) Engelbrecht - Queensland University of Technology Professional Development in Educational Gerontology in support of Later Life Learning
4. Maree Petersen – University of Queensland Ageism: designed and planned for older Australians?
5. Joanne S.C. Tan – University of Adelaide Ffilial Responsibilities and expectations: A cross-cultural Perspective, comparing Anglo- and Chinese-Australians
Awardee – Paper related to COTA Over 50s National Policy Office
6. Andrea M. Petriwskyj – University of Queensland Governance in the grey area: the challenge of representing, and involving, senior citizens