

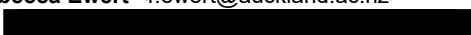


Official information act request, relating to petitions about scholarships

Rebecca Ewert <r.ewert@auckland.ac.nz>

Thu, Aug 15, 2019 at 3:55 PM

To:



Dear



I refer to your request of 16 July 2019. The only award that the University administers which is funded by a foreign government is the Asian Development Bank – Japan Scholarship Program. This scholarship is funded by the Government of Japan. 16 student have benefited from this scholarship from 2014-2018. The total value of these awards was \$1,439,611.48. No petitions, protests, or formal objections have been raised against this scholarship.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Ewert

General Counsel

University of Auckland

From:



Sent: Tuesday, 16 July 2019 1:51 PM

To: andrea.vujnovich@aut.ac.nz; Lisa Finucane <l.finucane@auckland.ac.nz>; oia@waikato.ac.nz; contact@massey.ac.nz; info@victoria.ac.nz; records@canterbury.ac.nz; council@lincoln.ac.nz; university@otago.ac.nz

Subject: Official information act request, relating to petitions about scholarships

To whomever it may concern,

[Quoted text hidden]

Auckland University of Technology
Private Bag 92006, Auckland 1142, NZ
T: +64 9 921 9999
www.aut.ac.nz

AUT

9 August 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

In response to your OIA request.

Scholarship funding provided by International Governments is for their own nationals/citizens and are offered in their home country for study overseas to build on their national capabilities, they are not open to anyone else to apply for.

This data covers off the other elements of your request, these are PhD level scholarships.

Year	Foreign Funded Schemes	Country	No. Students	Total Value NZD (3 year tenure)	Petitions or Protests	Action
2015	2	Indonesia	7	444,000	None	N/A
2016	2	Indonesia	1	66,000	None	N/A
2017	2	Indonesia	3	66,000	None	N/A
2018	2	Indonesia	1	66,000	None	N/A
2019	2	Indonesia	0	0	None	NA

Yours sincerely

Alison Sykora
Head of Communications
Auckland University of Technology.

13 August 2019



By email: [REDACTED]

Lincoln University
PO Box 85084, Lincoln University,
Lincoln 7647, New Zealand
0800 10 60 10
www.lincoln.ac.nz

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

On 16 July 2019, Lincoln University received your official information request regarding documents and records for the last five financial years, showing the:

- number of scholarships/grants/programmes or similar financial or compensated places that are offered or available at, or recognised by, Lincoln University, the funding for which comes from foreign countries or foreign national groups
- nations or groups of nations the scholarships are from
- total value of the scholarships and numbers of students who have benefited from them
- number of petitions, protests (for or against), or formal objections received by the University about the scholarships, and what steps the University took in response.

You clarified that your request is as a result of a recent petition objecting to Victoria University of Wellington offering a \$250 scholarship from the Embassy of Israel. We note that you are particularly interested in similar protests and which nations or national groups offer scholarships in New Zealand.

I can advise that Lincoln University does not offer any scholarships on behalf of government organisations. We have a number of international governments who sponsor their students for full tuition fees at Lincoln University. These are paid to the University directly. Any other stipends are paid directly to the student from these governments.

We have not received any petitions, protests or formal objections about scholarships.

Please note that you are entitled, under section 28 of the Official Information Act 1982, to have this response reviewed by the Office of the Ombudsman.

Nāku noa, nā

Helena Parsons
Council Secretary

T: 03 423 0192

E: council@lincoln.ac.nz

3 October 2019

[REDACTED]

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request

I am responding on behalf of the University to your request for information, received on 16 July. Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in response. The information you have requested is as follows:

“For the last five calendar or financial years up to today’s date (whichever category of year is more practicable for you), I request any documents and records that are held by your university that outline;

- a) *How many scholarships/grants/programmes/other similar financial or otherwise compensated places are offered, or are available at, or are formally recognised by your university; the funding for which comes from foreign nations and/or foreign national groups that can be clearly identified as originating wholly or substantially from any one foreign nation; or any small group of foreign nations with common interests^{1,2}. Hereafter, referred to as “Scholarships”*

AND

- b) *That identify what nations/groups of nations these Scholarships originate from.*
i. *And, if practicable, the total value of these/the total number of students who have benefitted from these.*

AND

- c) *How many petitions for or against, protests for or against, and formal objections raised by any parties (foreign or domestic), about any of the Scholarships in a), that have been received/recorded by your university.*

AND

- d) *Where available, that outline what steps, if any, your university took in response to the events in c).”*

Please note that the University changed its student management system in late 2017. Historic information that would identify the funding body for an international scholarship was not transferred to the new system, and is not held. I am able to provide information from 2018 onwards.

I respond to each parts A and B of your request in the following table. Where the numbers are small enough to potentially identify individuals originating from those countries, we have listed as 'less than 5'. I note that your request has gone to a number of NZ Universities, so if your intention is to aggregate this information and not publish details which could identify individuals I would be happy to provide actual numbers.

Scholarship Body Name	Number of Students	Number of Students	Over how many Years
	2018	2019	
Barbados	less than 5	less than 5	2 years
Brazilian Government - Science without Borders (SWB)	less than 5	less than 5	2 years
Indonesia	5	5	2 years
Iraq (English only)	less than 5	less than 5	2 years
Japan	less than 5	Nil	2 years
Kuwait	less than 5	Nil	2 years
MARA Malaysia	40	77	1 year only
Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission (SACM)	66	47	3 years
Thai Government	less than 5	less than 5	2 years
United Arab Emirates	Nil	less than 5	2 years
Vietnam Ministry of Education & Training	less than 5	less than 5	2 years
China Scholarship Council	7	Less than 5	4 years

The University has no record of petitions for or against, protests for or against, and formal objections raised by any parties (foreign or domestic), about any of the Scholarships listed above.

I trust this is the information you require.

Yours faithfully

Jodie Banner
Director of Risk and Assurance



Official information act request, relating to petitions about scholarships [Incident: 957100]

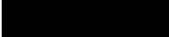
Manager Policy and Compliance <policycompliance@otago.ac.nz>

Fri, Nov 8, 2019 at 9:45 AM

To:



Dear



I am the Manager, Policy and Compliance at the University of Otago and I have been looking into the information you requested under the OIA. I have consulted with various senior staff in the Scholarships area and the sole prize awarded at the University of Otago that explicitly fits the description of a foreign nation or foreign embassy funded prize or scholarship is the "Austrian Literature Prize" which was established in 1995 by a donation from the Austrian Government. "The prize is awarded annually by the University Council on the recommendation of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Humanities), after consultation with the Head of the Department of German Language and Literature and the Austrian Embassy, to a third year student in the Department, for the best academic essay or academic project on a work or works of Austrian Literature." There have been no protests regarding this prize.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this matter.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Claire

Claire Gallop • Manager, Policy and Compliance, Office of the Registrar • Deputy Privacy Officer • Te Whare Wānanga o Ōtākou, University of Otago • P.O Box 56, Dunedin • Tel +64 3 479 8993

[Quoted text hidden]

Office of the Registrar

Information and Records Management
Tel: +64 3 366 7001
Email: records@canterbury.ac.nz
Web: www.canterbury.ac.nz/irm



12 August 2019

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST OIA-19-45 – SCHOLARSHIPS

I refer to your official information request dated 16 July 2019 for information relating to Scholarships at the University of Canterbury. You requested:

1. *How many scholarships/grants/programmes/other similar financial or otherwise compensated places are offered, or are available at, or are formally recognised by your university; the funding for which comes from foreign nations and/or foreign national groups that can be clearly identified as originating wholly or substantially from any one foreign nation; or any small group of foreign nations with common interests, hereafter referred to as “scholarships”, and*
2. *That identify what nations/groups of nations these scholarships come originate from; and if practicable, the total value of these / the total number of students who have benefitted from these;*

The University has only a few formally recognised scholarships that may meet this criteria. These are:

- The Kuching Malaysian Alumni Scholarship
- Tan Sri Datuk Oh Siew Nam PSM, PJN Malaysian Scholarships
- Ngau Boon Keat Postgraduate Scholarship in Mechanical Engineering
- Eamon Molloy Memorial Scholarship

Further information on scholarships at UC can be located here: <https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/get-started/scholarships/>

At UC, scholarships are often facilitated by the University of Canterbury Foundation, which is a separate organisation and not subject to the Official Information Act. Because the Foundation manages the relationship with donors, it is difficult to ascertain the precise citizenship of the donors; the donors above are presumed to be foreign nationals, but may have dual citizenship.

In addition to these, there is also the University of Canterbury and China Scholarships Council Joint PhD Scholarship Programme. This scholarship is administered by the China Scholarships Council, and UC is not able to determine the precise origin of the funding. It is also not possible for the University to determine how many students receive this scholarship, as it is assigned to them before they arrive at UC. As part of

the agreement, the department the student is studying in pays for the student's fees. However, this information is not readily extractable from our systems as these payments are not logged as being specifically for this scholarship. This aspect is therefore declined under s18(f), cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

Please note that the University's Scholarships Policy precludes us from taking on scholarships from individuals, organisations or groups whose principles do not align with our strategic intent and goals, so it is unlikely that scholarships or donations will be accepted where this is likely to be controversial.

3. *How many petitions for or against, and formal objections raised by any parties (foreign or domestic), about any of the Scholarships in a) that have been received/recorded by your university, and where available, outline what steps, if any, your university took in response to these events.*

None.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. McGregor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rachael McGregor
Information Advisor

13 August 2019

[REDACTED]

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official information request for information on scholarships from foreign nations

I refer to your official information request dated 16 July 2019:

“For the last five calendar or financial years up to today’s date (whichever category of year is more practicable for you), I request

any documents and records that are held by your university that outline;

- a) How many scholarships/grants/programmes/other similar financial or otherwise compensated places are offered, or are available at, or are formally recognised by your university; the funding for which comes from foreign nations and/or foreign national groups that can be clearly identified as originating wholly or substantially from any one foreign nation; or any small group of foreign nations with common interests^{1,2}. Hereafter, referred to as “Scholarships”*

AND

- b) That identify what nations/groups of nations these Scholarships originate from.*
i) And, if practicable, the total value of these/the total number of students who have benefitted from these.

AND

- c) How many petitions for or against, protests for or against, and formal objections raised by any parties (foreign or domestic), about any of the Scholarships in a), that have been received/recorded by your university.*

AND

- d) Where available, that outline what steps, if any, your university took in response to the events in c).”*

Please find the information attached in relation to your request.

The University has received email correspondence from two student groups (Students for Justice in Palestine and Shalom Students Association VUW) in relation to the Embassy of Israel Prize in Political Science & International Relations listed in the attached table. Students for Justice in Palestine have complained to the University about the competition, while Shalom Students Association VUW have stated their support for it. Both student

groups have also set up petitions on change.org asking for support. Representatives from Students for Justice in Palestine met with staff members at the University to discuss the situation further. After this meeting, those staff members raised the groups concerns in a meeting of the Political Science and International Relations Programme. The programme considered their concerns and decided to retain the competition.

As with all university prizes (which are given by donors, whether individuals, organisations or governments) they encourage and recognise excellence in research and academic performance by students at all levels, from undergraduate through to PhD. No university prize implies support for the views or behaviour of any prize donor (whether an individual, a family, a corporation, an organisation or a government).

The Embassy of Israel Prize in Political Science and International Relations is conferred upon a student whose research has been of such merit as to warrant receipt of a prize. The Embassy of Israel is not in any way involved in the judging of the prize, the selection of topics, or the submission of essays. (Essays are typically nominated by academic staff teaching courses that include some aspect of Israeli politics). Essays critical of any aspect of Israeli politics, including its policies towards Palestinians, can be put forward for the prize. The academic staff of the Political Science and International Relations programme encourages the submission of critical work of high academic merit in all courses.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact me at oiarequests@vuw.ac.nz.

Yours sincerely



Georgia Tawharu

Adviser, Information Access and Copyright

Scholarship/Prize Name	No. of recipients in last 5 years	Value/Prize
Asian Politics Prize	5 Roughly \$200 (can vary)	
Australian High Commissioners Prize	2 \$250.00	
China Scholarship Council Scholarship	VUW cover tuition fees for up to four years 8 Stipend etc. covered by China Scholarships Council	
Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst	The difference between domestic and international student fees covered (students pay domestic fees only) 2 domestic fees only	
Directorate General of Higher Education - Indonesia (DIKTI)	All tuition and living costs covered for three years with a possible extension of six months if needed 1 needed	
Embassy of Israel Prize in Political Science & International Relations	4 \$250.00	
Embassy of Israel Prize in Religion and the State of Israel	4 \$500.00 1st Prize: \$250 book voucher 2nd Prize: \$150 book voucher 6 3rd Prize: \$100 book voucher	
European Union Prize	6 Certificate of achievement	
French Government Prize	The difference between domestic and international student fees covered (students pay domestic fees only) 2 domestic fees only	
Fulbright Scholarship	9 The value of the prize is determined by the German Embassy	
German Ambassadors Prize	1 Cash and book (subject to available funds)	
Japanese Ambassadors Prize	0 \$350.00	
Korean Ambassadors Prize	4 \$150.00 per year (subject to available funds)	
Latin American Essay Prize	5 Varies	
Lee Foundation	72 Tuition and accommodation covered	
Malaysian Scholarship - MARA	55 Tuition covered	
Malaysian Scholarship - PSD/JPA	12 Tuition covered	
Myanmar Young Leaders' Programme		
National Council of Science & Technology of the United Mexican States (CONACYT)	0 CONACYT cover stipend, fees etc. (No record of values available) 6 \$250 each cash and/or book and a certificate	
New Zealand Indonesian Association Gamelan Prizes	24 Tuition covered and a stipend received for accommodation 6 \$400.00 (subject to available funds)	
Saudi Scholarship - KASP	2 Monthly allowance received for accommodation VUW cover tuition fees, relocation grant (\$2,500.00) plus \$5,500 stipend for three years.	
Spanish Embassy Essay Prize	2 Government of Samoa cover \$18,000 stipend for three years.	
Tabung Haji	VUW provide a top-up scholarship of \$4,000 per year for three years then cover tuition and 31 stipend (approximately \$31,500.00) in the 4th year	
The Government of the Independent State of Samoa		
Vietnam International Education Development (VIED)		



13 August 2019

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Re: Official information request for scholarship information

I refer to your official information request dated 16 July 2019 asking for the following information.

For the last five calendar or financial years up to today's date (whichever category of year is more practicable for you), I request any documents and records that are held by your university that outline;
a) How many scholarships/grants/programmes/other similar financial or otherwise compensated places are offered, or are available at, or are formally recognised by your university; the funding for which comes from foreign nations and/or foreign national groups that can be clearly identified as originating wholly or substantially from any one foreign nation; or any small group of foreign nations with common interests^{1, 2}. Hereafter, referred to as "Scholarships"

AND

b) That identify what nations/groups of nations these Scholarships originate from.

i) And, if practicable, the total value of these/the total number of students who have benefitted from these.

AND

c) How many petitions for or against, protests for or against, and formal objections raised by any parties (foreign or domestic), about any of the Scholarships in a), that have been received/recorded by your university.

AND

d) Where available, that outline what steps, if any, your university took in response to the events in c).

The University has decided to release the information it holds in response to your request.

It will take some time to prepare this information for release, however we expect to provide the information to you by 30 August 2019.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact me directly.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'D Fowler'.

Duanna Fowler
Director, Office of the Vice-Chancellor