



Australian Institute of Sport – Cycling Australia Sport-Based PhD Scholarship - Cycling “Olympic Coach Focus”

Two unique and exciting opportunities have been created for academically strong applicants with a passion for sport science research and an ambition to become an Olympic or Professional cycling coach. Each Industry-Based PhD Scholarship will combine a scientifically challenging research program (conforming to the academic requirements of a leading Australian University) with coaching science and leadership training relevant to high performance coaching and world class sport science.

In addition to the university training, the two PhD scholars will be supported by four partner groups; Cycling Australia’s High Performance Program, The Australian Sports Commission’s Sport Coach and Official Section, the AIS Performance Research Centre, and the AIS Elite Performance Section. These four-year scholarships have been designed to provide the PhD candidates with the background required to be a leader within a high-performance cycling team.

One of the PhD scholars will focus on key performance aspects of **endurance cycling** whereas the other will focus on **sprint cycling**. Each of the PhD opportunities builds on an impressive track record established by previous and current AIS Sport-Based PhD scholars (Dr. Scott Gardner, Dr. Tammie Ebert, Marc Quod and Laura Garvican). These scholars have interfaced with the National Cycling Team, conducted relevant applied sport science research over a period of 3-4 years, and emerged as world-class sport scientists in their respective fields of study.

Scholarship funding will provide a unique opportunity for a graduate with research experience and preferably a Class 1 Honours degree or equivalent to carry out high quality applied sports science research in close collaboration with AIS sport scientists, Cycling Australia National Team Coaches and National Team Cyclists. The successful applicants will be primarily based at the AIS in Canberra and will have supervisors from both the AIS and a leading Australian University. The scholarship provides a stipend of approximately \$25,000 for the first year, with increments annually thereafter as coaching involvement increases. In addition to the stipend, there will be an operating budget of ~\$5,000 per annum.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate well-developed knowledge and research skills in exercise physiology, general physiology, biology or other academic fields relevant to elite cycling performance. Familiarity with competitive cycling is not a pre-requisite but a desire and willingness to pursue excellence in elite athlete preparation is required.

Preference will be given to Australian residents who would be competitive applicants for an APA PhD scholarship.

Start date: Early 2010.

Inquiries: Dr. David T. Martin - Phone: 02 6214 1562;
david.martin@ausport.gov.au

Applications: Closing date 1st December 2009.

- . Applicants are requested to address the "Job Holder Requirements" listed in the Duty Statement overleaf.
- . Please supply the names of two professional referees, a copy of your academic transcript and a brief CV containing contact details (maximum 2 pages).
- . email submissions to

Dr. David T. Martin
david.martin@ausport.gov.au

DUTY STATEMENT - PhD Scholar, Cycling “Olympic Coach Focus”

PRIMARY JOB OBJECTIVES:

- Obtain coaching experience and qualifications to make a valuable contribution as an assistant national team cycling coach
- Obtain a PhD based on research that significantly contributes towards improving a) the performance of elite athletes using novel approaches and techniques that could aid in athlete preparation and performance and b) understanding of the mechanisms underlying changes in performance ability.
- Become an integral and contributing member of the Australian Institute of Sport Science and coaching teams, the Australian national sport science community, the Australian national coaching community, as well as Australia’s High Performance Cycling Program.

SPECIFIC INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT:

- Obtain relevant coaching credentials and participate in elite coach development and leadership programmes and experiences.
- Satisfaction of AIS and the selected University PhD supervisors with rate of progress in the design and conduct of research.
- Success in obtaining research grant applications and completing projects on schedule.
- Completion and publication of research papers and sport-specific reviews.
- Participation in Australian Institute of Sport (coaching and science) and University Seminars and Meetings, sometimes as a presenter.
- Contribution to the general operation of the AIS Sport Science Division, Cycling Australia’s High Performance Program, the Faculty of Applied Science of the selected University and ASC high performance coaching programs as appropriate.
- Extent of collegial interaction with other PhD scholars and coaching scholars.
- Interface in a productive and enjoy able manner with national team cycling coaches, support staff and sports administrators.
- Demonstration of behaviours and qualities that support the values of the Australian Sports Commission, Cycling Australia and the select University.

JOB HOLDER REQUIREMENTS:

- An Honours degree (is first class still a requirement?) or a Masters degree in exercise science or a field of study that relates to high performance sport. (Preference will be given to applicants who have applied for and are likely to win an APA PhD scholarship.)
- Demonstrated ability to conduct research and to apply the findings in practical settings.
- Experience with and / or aptitude for working with elite athletes and coaches and a desire to become a world class sport scientist/technical coach/leader.
- Background in sport as an athlete, coach or as part of the support team.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Demonstrates leadership motivation – pursues informal and formal leadership opportunities. Leadership experience
- Outstanding organisational skills.
- Personal attributes as follows:
 - Love of sport
 - Enthusiasm, reliability and creativity.
 - Outstanding interpersonal skills.
 - Ability to work effectively as a member of a team, or independently where necessary.
 - Willingness to work unconventional hours and travel.
 - Passion for results – strives for excellence and demonstrates perseverance
 - Generates innovative solutions
 - Navigates ambiguity
 - High emotional intelligence