

Postgraduate Information Evenings 2020 - *Medicine Transcript*

Anjelica Juturu: Welcome to everyone to our medicine postgraduate information session. It's my pleasure to introduce you all to our academic panel and also introduce you all to the event. Before we begin, we would like to pay our acknowledgement to the country.

With respect for Aboriginal cultural protocol and out of recognition that its campuses occupy their traditional lands, Western Sydney University acknowledges the Darug, Eora, Dharawal (also referred to as Tharawal) and Wiradjuri peoples and thanks them for their support of its work in their lands in Greater Western Sydney and beyond.

The panel for today, we have distinguished professor Annemarie Hennessy, who's the Dean of the School of Medicine. And me, I'm Anjelica Juturu. I'm a Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology advanced student and also contact service centre staff member. We have other academics who will be in breakout sessions and I will explain more about it shortly.

And can we go to the next slide please. Just as a disclaimer, I would like to let all participants know that this zoom meeting and breakout sessions are being recorded for publishing purposes. So you can turn on your video and audio to ask your questions, or to view this event. But it would be recorded. Even participation in chat of all sections of the zoom meeting and breakout sessions are recorded so that we can correlate a catalogue of frequently answer asked questions for prospective students. All the information that's collected will be handled as per the privacy and policy and privacy management plan of the university. So please feel free to contact our events team on the email address provided if you have any further questions.

And talking about the agenda for today. Professor Annemarie will talk about the postgraduate study options Western offers for our medicine students. Then I will talk about Western Sydney University at a glance, we will discuss a bit about the higher degree research options that are available, and finally, I would speak about the application process and the fee particulars of our courses. At the end the session will be open for Q and A, wherein one of my colleagues will post in breakout session links in the chat and depending on the course you're interested in, you can click on the zoom link and be diverted to another meeting room.

And at the same time, I would also like to let you know that in terms of admission questions our admissions team available for chat as well. And they'll be available until 7pm. So you can attend the session and later go on to speak to them. I will now like to hand over to Dr Annemarie for the presentation.

Annemarie: Welcome everybody, great to see you and thank you for coming. The School of Medicine at Western Sydney University is now 13 years old, but for the undergraduate medical degree we started that course in 2007. But in the last five years we've been able to add some really exciting courses that we're hoping to talk to you about today and to take your questions about. I'll just listed for you here. Epidemiology which you all know about in a Covid19 world is the study of population illnesses and wellness and health and we have a graduate certificate, diploma and masters of epidemiology that are available in our school. The other two courses listed on this slide are courses that involve imaging, medical imaging. So, sonography is the art of ultrasound. We can do that around hearts or around blood vessels and so we have a cardiac sonography course as well as a graduate diploma in vascular sonography. And then for the first time in late 2020 and 2021 we're

offering an advanced imaging course to get ready to learn about and understand and work in the area of magnetic resonance imaging.

Now, to be able to do the latter courses they involve being on the job clinical training that is not provided by the university, you are in a clinical training, job in those domains and then you seek to get the qualification for graduate master's diploma or certificate through the University at the time that you're already employed in a training position in those domains, and we're happy to take questions about those in the breakout rooms. Next slide.

And the other collection of courses are around diabetes care and education, so specifically designed to be diabetic educators as we come to grips with a with an epidemic of diabetes in parts of Sydney where we work. We have a course in allergy leading up to a masters. To be able to complete the masters in that you need to have a medical degree and be qualified to practice and then can achieve this additional training. The Masters of pathology is only offered to those who are undertaking specialist training in pathology. So they already have a medical degree. And the same for the gynaecological surgery degree, is an advanced trading degree for those who are already in a training pipeline to become clinical medical gynaecologists. Thank you, Anjelica.

Anjelica Juturu: Thank you so much for that. Now we'll talk about the university. So I think one question. Most of us would have in mind is during the current COVID 19 pandemic situation, how can the university support you. So I'll just like to go over that. Currently, the university has moved to an online teaching scenario where most of our classes are conducted online and very few practical sessions are being conducted on campus. Also, the students service facilities like Student Central and well-being services have moved online to a live chat and phone call mode of communication.

In terms of study assistance Western Sydney is supporting all our students through our online e learning platform. And all the study resources are being made available online so that students can study remotely as well. Even they have introduced academic support services so that the students can contact the academics or contact the support services to get some assistance in terms of their studies at Western. We have established a Corona Virus support line as well. So this is the central contact point for all our students and staff. They are responsible for managing and directing all our inquiries. So in case any student has any issues or they need any support this team has provided a trusted platform for students to seek best advice possible.

And finally, the student hardship fund. One of the most important decisions the university has taken currently is to develop a hardship fund so that it can assist students who are facing financial situations during the pandemic. So we have supported by providing grocery vouchers, loan laptops and even financial support for students who have been facing some difficulties. And once a student calls the coronavirus support line, they lodge a form and most of the situations could be solved within five days. So that's one of the most important things that we've done during this time.

And now I would like to just go over the higher degree research options that are available to all students at Western. Yeah, so the main courses we have are the masters of research and the PhD course. So the masters of research or M Res is like a pathway to a doctorate program. This would be like a two year degree, where in the first year, the student would be studying the Bachelor of research studies. And in the second year they would be doing the Masters of research. In the first year they study the core disciplinary research units. And in the second year they be doing a research project. There's also a PhD and masters of philosophy program. So the PhD has three variations. One is the traditional thesis based PhD. Two is a PhD by publication. And the third one is professional doctorates, so students could do a doctorate of education or doctorate of creative arts and so on. A

PhD usually takes three years full time, whereas a Masters of philosophy takes around two years full time.

And just to mention there are other higher degree research options available as well, like the doctor of philosophy, the doctor of cultural research. We have a higher degree research seminar being conducted tomorrow. So, my colleague has posted the link for that information. So you can attend that session as well to can get more information if interested in these.

Next slide please. Application process, so that you can be classified as two types, when you're making an application. So you'll be considered either domestic student or an international student. A domestic student is someone who's an Australian citizen or New Zealand citizen or permanent resident a permanent humanitarian visa holder. Whereas an international student is someone who has a citizenship in another country. If you are domestic student, you can apply directly via our Western Portal which is free, of course. There are some medicine courses, for which you might need to apply through UAC, which is the Universities Admission Centre. And there's an application fee associated to those applications. The international students apply to a separate application portal called the Study Link Portal. And depending on the country they have a citizenship from you might need to consider applying to an agent, if needed. You can visit our websites to know whether you can apply directly or not.

We have two intakes right now. So one is the Summer B/Q1/1H session, which starts from the 11th of January and the other intake is the Autumn intake, which is the first of March intake. Majority of the autumn session courses close by the 14th of February, this coming year. So you can visit our website to see the exact closing dates for different courses as well. And just to let you all know we have admission support available this evening, my colleague has posted a link in those zoom chat box. You can click on that link and live chat with our admissions team and speak about your application and any admission requirements. They are available until 7pm today so you can attend this session, and then head on there. And the link, which you can see right now on the slide. That's where we have individual closing dates published so you can visit this website as well to look at the exact closing dates.

Next slide please. And understanding fees - so in terms of fees as well, like the application process, the domestic students would be subjected to a different fee, whereas international students would be subjected to a different fee. Some courses are Commonwealth supported places, that is the government provides subsidized rates for those courses and students can get HECS Help. Some eligible post graduate courses can be put on to fee help as well. And all the postgraduate education courses and most post graduate nursing courses at Western, are Commonwealth supported places and they follow the undergraduate fee structure that is the fees would be a bit lesser than the other courses.

In terms of the International fees. It could be slightly different than the domestic fees. And the international students will be subjected to certain extra fees in terms of getting the student health cover, to get an official offer letter and so on as well. You can visit our fee website so that you can see the exact fees charged for each course. And there's also a student services and amenities fee are charged for all students, irrespective of whether their domestic or international. And the fee is a very small fee around \$150 to \$200 depending on how many units are going to study. And this fee is usually used to cover student facilities and to provide other programs and services for students.