



Walter Fisher Grant for Mycology Research

On behalf of

The Royal Society of Queensland

Applications are now open for applications for grants from a pool of \$20,000 from The Royal Society of Queensland Research Fund, **closing at midnight on 5 March 2023.**

Further information about the Fund can be found on: <http://www.royalsocietyqld.org/research/>.

Overview

An amount of up to \$20,000 is offered for one or more curiosity-led projects with a focus on microscopic or macroscopic fungi. The Society envisages up to 4 grants of up to \$5000 each, but other configurations will be considered.

The perspective of the 2023 Walter Fisher Grant(s) will lie within the general purview of mycology, within the natural, physical, social or biomedical sciences. Cross-disciplinary studies will be welcomed.

Projects with a commercial objective on behalf of a commercial entity are likely to be ruled ineligible, but if the findings are likely to have wide public interest, if the researcher has scientific freedom and if the intellectual property will be publicly available, these applications could be considered. Public servants are welcome to apply, so long as their department will grant scientific freedom.

Selection criteria

Successful applications will demonstrate the following to the satisfaction of The Royal Society of Queensland Trustee and its advisory subcommittee:

Mandatory criteria (must be satisfied)

- A. The application does not include corporate overheads for the hosting entity, but only for direct costs associated with original research.
- B. The proposed project will be additional to research that would otherwise have been conducted anyway.
- C. If the applicant is not an Eligible Entity (Deductible Gift Recipient Type 1, a taxation category that includes most universities and other research institutions), the applicant must apply through such a body or give evidence of its consent to hosting the project.
- D. Unless the applicant personally has extensive research experience, they should nominate experienced researchers or naturalists who will guide the project.
- E. Current Councillors, employees or contractors of the Society or members of the Walter Fisher family are not eligible. Officers and employees of Carlton & United or Asahi are not eligible.

Assessable criteria (scorable)

- F. The project has scientific merit and the applicant understands rigorous scientific methods and the principles of independent, evidence-based intellectual inquiry. The project should aim to yield a report publishable in a peer-reviewed journal such as *Proceedings of The Royal Society of Queensland*.
- G. The project is not primarily constituted of monitoring or data gathering without some original research or analysis or contribution to a publishable project.
- H. The researcher has the logistical capacity to complete the project on time and within budget.

Successful applicants may be invited to make a short presentation to meetings of the Society at an early stage of their research, and after the research is completed.

Format of applications (template appended)

Applicants should address the following items, ensuring that the selection criteria are addressed within these items. Applications need not exceed 1000 words:

- background and significance of the topic, research questions to be addressed (criterion F);
- approach, study design, methods (criteria F, G);
- timelines for undertaking the project and expending the grant (criterion H);
- capability of the applicant to achieve the outcome (criterion H);
- signature of applicant; and supervisor, if applicant is a student; or office bearer if the application is in the name of an organisation (criteria A, B, C, D).

Further information

Potential applicants requiring further information are invited to contact the **Research Coordinator Walter Fisher Round, Vice-President Col Lynam**, via research@royalsocietyqld.org.au. Any philanthropist who would like to know more about the inspiring opportunities to advance science available under the Society's umbrella is invited to contact the **President Dr Nelson Quinn**, via president@royalsocietyqld.org.au to discuss how to perpetuate your name and scientific interests.

Walter Fisher

Walter Thomas Fisher was born in Brisbane in 1924. He studied at the University of Queensland and earned a four-year degree in applied science. His first career position was based at a factory near Lake Corangamite, Victoria, making lactic acid for use in food manufacturing as a substitute for the citric acid previously imported from the lemon groves in Italy, but that had become unavailable because of wartime exigencies. His success in that field caught the eye of the legendary brewing identity Reginald Fogarty. Young Walter accepted an offer of a position in the Northern Australian Brewery in Cairns. He developed procedures to manage yeasts and maintain strict process hygiene. Over time he progressed within the company and retired as Executive Director Brewing of Fosters Group, based in Melbourne, in 1986. His family have donated \$20,000 to honour his lifetime achievement in mycology and his long-standing willingness to encourage younger researchers. The Trustee of The Royal Society of Queensland Research Fund approved of advertising a special Walter Fisher round on 9 December 2022, Walter Fisher's 98th birthday.

The Royal Society of Queensland



The Royal Society of Queensland is the senior generalist scientific institution in Queensland. It traces its origin through the Philosophical Society of Queensland, founded in 1859, back to the Royal Society, founded in London in 1660. The Governor of Queensland is Patron.

The scope of its mission is science and the application of science including science-related education and policy. It has published original research and scientific opinion in the natural sciences through the peer-reviewed *Proceedings* almost annually since 1884. It encourages original research and the application of scientific method and knowledge to policy and decision-making. It aims to counter the ill-effects of specialisation by sharing knowledge across jurisdictional silos.

The Society advocates on behalf of science and scientists but is not politically aligned and as a learned society, is not activist.



The Royal Society of Queensland Research Grant Application Form



A. PERSONAL DETAILS:

Name: _____

Position: _____

Institution/Organisation: _____

Department & Departmental Head _____

Supervisor/s _____

Supervisor/s Contact email: _____

B. PREFERRED CONTACT DETAILS:

Phone: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Postal Address: _____

C. PROJECT TITLE

Title: _____

DATE

D. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED RESEARCH (Criteria F, G)

(Expand page to fit details)

E. PROPOSED BUDGET, MILESTONES AND TIMELINES (Criteria A, H) (Expand page to fit details)

Checklist:

I have included the following documents with the completed form:

Reference (Criterion D).

Evidence that an Eligible Entity supports the project (Criterion B)

Forward your application to:

The Secretary, The Royal Society of Queensland rsocqld@gmail.com by midnight on 5 March 2023.

Mail to:

The Royal Society of Queensland
P.O. Box 6201, St Lucia Brisbane, Qld, 4067
(Postmarked on or before 5 March 2023)

Any queries:

Research Coordinator (research@royalsocietyqld.org.au)