UNSW-CSIRO
Industry PhD Program

The Industry PhD aims to create future applied research and innovation leaders who are work-ready, understand the needs of industry and know how to collaborate with others.
UNSW-CSIRO Industry PhD Program

The Industry PhD program has been developed to help bridge the ‘research-industry divide’ in Australia. Specifically the program addresses three key areas:

1. Increasing the number of high calibre STEM graduates going on to applied research and technology careers
2. Increasing innovation and industry-focussed, practical research training (to ensure that STEM research graduates are ‘work ready’)
3. Providing more incentive and opportunities for Australian businesses to employ STEM researchers

The program aims to provide an innovation and industry-focussed 4-year applied research training experience that gives graduates a competitive advantage across a broad range of future career paths.

The Industry PhD Difference

Industry PhD Higher Degree Research candidates will:

- Undertake an industry-focussed, applied research project
- Be supervised by a team of three supervisors with expertise in applied research skills, knowledge exchange and industry
- Undertake an industry focused training program with coursework and development activities
- Gain ‘real life’ industry experience through a six-month internship during their four-year candidature

Career and Professional Development

Candidates will have access to structured and tailored development activities that foster essential and transferrable professional skills including leadership, entrepreneurship and innovation, to support them in achieving their career goals when they finish their Industry PhD.

Our aim is to ensure candidates take time to reflect on these opportunities and develop their own insights and understanding of innovation at the interface of academia, industry and applied research.

Supervision

A key feature of the Industry PhD is a team-based approach to supervision. As well as working together to set the direction of your project, your industry, UNSW and CSIRO supervisors will undertake some of the professional development with you.

Internship

An industry internship of at least six-months in total will be undertaken during the four-year program. This could be regularly throughout the candidature or as a six-month block of time. The practical learning activities candidates will undertake during this period will provide personal insight into what ‘work-readiness’ means by developing their business skills and experience. The internship will also help candidates understand how the industry partner’s operations influence the way in which they approach research and development.

Launch Camp

Launch Camp is an experience designed to help research teams to think about their impact through the lens of customers or end-users and markets. Running over two days, it builds research team capacity to use new frameworks to understand and validate the problem they are solving & who their customer or end-user is. Launch Camp occurs towards the end of the first year of the Industry PhD program, with participation from both candidates and their supervisory team.
On graduation from the Industry PhD Program, candidates will:

- Have completed an industry focussed research project
- Have presented their research at national and / or international conferences
- Have produced a PhD thesis and had the opportunity to produce high quality external research publications

Candidates will also have the following attributes and skills:

- Project Management skills
- Awareness of industry
- Developed analytical and critical thinking skills
- Experience in collaborating in teams
- Leadership, innovation and transferable skills
- Industry-focussed professional skills
- Ability to communicate complex problems and solutions to different audiences

Training Program Overview

Over the four-year candidature, Industry PhD candidates will undertake the UNSW HDR development program expected of all UNSW HDRs. This will provide each candidate with the skills of a Higher Degree Researcher.

In addition, Industry PhD candidates will undertake unique Industry PhD focus areas to provide them with the skills required to have a research career in industry or applied research.

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<td>Conduct your research project within the candidature framework</td>
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<td>Research Project &amp; Skills</td>
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<td>Developing the fundamental and disciplinary research skills</td>
<td>Learn a 'life-cycle' approach to research, design thinking &amp; project management</td>
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<td>Building collaborations and engaging with community and industry</td>
<td>Use the right language to share knowledge/concepts across boundaries to drive new innovation</td>
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<td>Learn to manage where, when, what and how to publish</td>
<td>Career planning, networking, mentoring and profile building</td>
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**Partner Roles & Responsibilities**

**Industry Partner**
- Provide the Industry problem for the Research Project
- Host and supervise 6-month internship (customised across the 4 years)
- Provide a Mentor to dedicate time to mentorship and follow up
- Participate in the research training program

**UNSW**
- Provide Supervision
- Provide required training for PhD Candidates and assist with iPhD specific training for candidates and supervisors (including industry partners)
- Participate in the research training program with Candidate as required

**CSIRO**
- Provide training to iPhD candidates and training support to Industry partners and Supervisors
- Provide research supervisor, expertise in project area
- Provide opportunities to experience working in an applied research context
- Participate in the research training program with Candidate as required

**Candidate**
- Undertake the research project and maintain satisfactory progress
- Interact and communicate with each supervisor on a regular basis
- Participate in the research and development training program
- Complete a compulsory internship (minimum six months)

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**Contact details**

For industry and CSIRO representatives  
CSIRO Industry PhD Program Manager: unswiphd@csiro.au

For potential and enrolled candidates and UNSW supervisors  
Email: iphd@unsw.edu.au

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