



# The Mary Pope Scholarship in Spiritual Care and Ageing

WHITLEY RESEARCH   
*Whitley College, Victoria*

Baptcare

Baptcare and Whitley College have served the Baptist community of Victoria for a combined total of just over 200 years. Their shared legacy of ministry committed to the training of leaders and pastoral care of women and men, throughout that period, leads to this bold, new, and collaborative research initiative.

Evidence-based aged-care including high quality pastoral and spiritual care implemented throughout Baptcare's network of facilities and services, and has been identified as a strategic focus for Whitley College's Research Programme. This Scholarship will support a Whitley College student studying towards a PhD at the University of Divinity that makes a demonstrable contribution to the strategic research objectives of Baptcare and Whitley College in the area of spiritual care and ageing.

The Scholarship of up to \$30,000 per annum, will be awarded at a level determined according to individual student circumstances.

## Eligibility Criteria

1. The candidate must be successfully admitted to commence a PhD in the fields of spiritual-care and ageing at the University of Divinity.
2. The candidate must be willing to collaborate with a team of researchers, industry practitioners and stakeholders.
3. The candidate must have capacity to make a contribution to the future of Australian theological scholarship and education in this area.
4. The candidate must have the capacity to collaborate with others in developing industry-standard resource that makes an impact upon, and engages with, the strategic objectives of aged-care stakeholders.
5. Students who have already commenced a PhD at the University of Divinity and meet the other criteria are eligible to apply.

# Applications

1. Request a Mary Pope Scholarship application form and return, along with a completed HDR enquiry form, to the Director of Research at Whitley College, Associate Professor Darrell Jackson. You should also include with your application a statement of up to 650 words on your capacity to contribute to the future of Australian theological scholarship and, secondly, your capacity to collaborate with others in developing industry-standard resources that will potentially impact the provision of aged-care.
2. Both forms are available on request by emailing the Director of Research [djackson@whitley.edu.au](mailto:djackson@whitley.edu.au) or the Academic Registrar, [dmorgan@whitley.edu.au](mailto:dmorgan@whitley.edu.au)
3. Applications will be considered by a Selection Panel representing the interests of Baptcare and Whitley College. The successful applicant will be invited by the Selection Panel to complete an HDR application form for PhD entry (download from <https://divinity.edu.au/sgr/future-research-students/>) return this to the Director of Research for signature and forwarding to the School of Graduate Research of the University, for consideration by the Research Committee of the University.
4. Applicants for the Mary Pope PhD Scholarship must be able to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of both Whitley College and Baptcare, that the proposed research topic and/or research question has academic merit and has demonstrated potential for real and direct benefit to the development and advancement of spiritual care and ageing, in its various dimensions, and/or improving the provision of aged-care at an operational level within Baptcare.
5. For scholarship application and enrolment deadlines, please refer to the Mary Pope Scholarship page on the Whitley College website.
6. The outcome of the award will be announced in time to allow University application in either November or April. HDR application deadlines are published on the University of Divinity's website at <https://divinity.edu.au/sgr/> Late submissions cannot be accepted.

## The Mary Pope Scholarship Fund

Mary Pope was the President of the Baptist Women's Association during the 1940s and helped raise over £4,000 to pay for a homestead at Strathalan, which opened as the Strathalan Homes in 1945, with nine residents. This was the Victorian Baptist community's first aged care facility and it started the journey towards what would eventually become Baptcare.

The Scholarship Fund promotes research-led activity in the fields of spiritual care and ageing. This includes the provision of scholarships for PhD study, publishing activity for peer review, and the development of industry-standard resources.



## Support the Fund

Support the work of the Mary Pope Scholarship Fund by making a tax deductible (AUD \$2 or more) donation.

Donation forms are available from:

**Rev Associate Professor Darrell Jackson**

The Director of Research

[djackson@whitley.edu.au](mailto:djackson@whitley.edu.au)

**Whitley College**

50 The Avenue, Parkville  
VIC 3052.

[whitley.edu.au](http://whitley.edu.au)

## Enquiries

All enquiries should be directed to the Director of Research at Whitley College,  
**Rev Associate Professor Darrell Jackson:**  
[djackson@whitley.edu.au](mailto:djackson@whitley.edu.au)

