Doing a PhD at ANU/NICTA?

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Jorge Cham @ The Stanford Daily
Plan

• Why do a PhD at all?
• Why at ANU/NICTA (what are ANU and NICTA anyway)?
• Some of the exciting research we do
Why do a PhD at all?

**It’s fun**
- Lots of freedom (topic, style, pace)
- Very varied
- Challenge, accomplishment
- Meet people just like you!

**You will learn a lot**
- Become a world expert in an area
- Communication
- Commercialisation, entrepreneurship
- Life skills (your limits, coping with uncertainty, humility)

**You won’t be as poor as you think**
- Stipends: APA rate (22K) + topup (7-10K) + IP assignment (1-3K)
- For foreign students, NICTA may pay fees (smaller topup)
Why at ANU/NICTA?

**ANU is** Australia’s leading research university.

**NICTA is** Australia’s National Centre of Excellence in ICT Research.

**Mission:** conduct world class research that generates national benefit. Focus on used-inspired basic research.

**In numbers:** 5 labs, 700 people (300 researchers, 300 students, 100 support staff), 25 research projects, 4 spin outs, 100 active patents, 600 publications/year.

**CRL:** 1/5 of NICTA in number of researchers and students. Top 1 or 2 of NICTA labs on every performance measure.

**Enhanced PhD program:** exposure to commercialisation, communication training, teamwork, internships (incl. abroad), some coursework.
Scientific Disciplines

Computer Vision

Machine Learning

Reasoning and Control

Software Engineering

Wireless Signal Processing
Impact Areas

Bio-engineering

e-Government

Infrastructure
Impact Areas: Bio-engineering

Bio-engineering

Assistive Vision Devices

normal
macular degeneration
retinitis pigmentosa
Impact Areas: Bio-engineering

Bio-engineering

Env. Mgt & Biosecurity
Impact Areas: Bio-engineering

Bio-engineering

Human Body Monitoring
Impact Areas: Infrastructure

Smart Grid
Impact Areas: Infrastructure

Transport
Impact Areas: Infrastructure

Broadband Femtocell Access
Impact Areas: e-Government

Service-Oriented Architectures

e-Government
Impact Areas: e-Government

Business Rules & Proc. Compliance

e-Government
The imagination driving Australia’s ICT future

Impact Areas: e-Government

Document Analysis

e-Government
Research is an exciting career

Don't be scared to try solving hard problems and fail

Come and do a PhD with us and bring your friends!
Any questions?

PROSPECTIVE GRAD STUDENTS: DON’T BE FOOLED! MAKE SURE YOU ASK THESE QUESTIONS DURING YOUR GRAD SCHOOL VISIT DAY!

WILL YOUR QUALIFYING EXAMS PROCEDURE UTERLY DESTROY MY DIGNITY AND SENSE OF SELF-RESPECT?

ARE YOUR HEALTH-CARE PLANS AFFORDABLE, OR WILL I END UP GOING TO A DENTIST THAT OPERATES OUT OF A TRAILER?

WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME, DO YOU SEE A YOUNG CREATIVE MIND, OR A SERIES OF POTENTIAL JOURNAL PAPERS?

IF I DIDN’T HAVE A FELLOWSHIP, WOULD YOU BE TALKING TO ME AT ALL?

CAN YOU REALLY LIVE COMFORTABLY IN THIS MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREA WITH THAT STIPEND, OR WILL I FIND MYSELF LIVING OUT OF A CLOSET WORKING PART TIME AS A SHOE SALESMAN?

BESIDES MOVING UP IN THE "U.S. NEWS" RANKINGS, WHY DO YOU WANT ME TO COME TO YOUR SCHOOL?

IF I HAD A FELLOWSHIP, WOULD YOU THINK I WERE A BETTER PERSON?

CAN YOU REALLY LIVE COMFORTABLY IN THIS MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREA WITH THAT STIPEND, OR WILL I FIND MYSELF LIVING OUT OF A CLOSET WORKING PART TIME AS A SHOE SALESMAN?

IS GRAD LIFE REALLY AS DEPRESSING AS DEPICTED IN THE COMIC STRIP "PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER"?

WILL MY TEACHERS TAKE PERSONAL INTEREST IN MY LEARNING, OR WILL I BE SPENDING SEVERAL ALL-NIGHTERS WORKING ON PROBLEM SETS MADE BY FRUSTRATED FACULTY WHO WOULD RATHER BE DOING RESEARCH INSTEAD?

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