



SA-NT BRANCH

ACN 009 061 278
ABN 12 009 061 278

PETROLEUM EXPLORATION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA
SOUTH AUSTRALIA – NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH

2024 NTGS / PESA SA-NT Student Prize for the Best Northern Territory-focussed Petroleum & Energy Resource Geoscience Research Thesis or Paper

A prize of \$1,000 will be awarded to the author of the best Honours, Masters or PhD thesis or associated research paper submitted in 2024 that focuses on petroleum or related energy resource geoscience of the Northern Territory. PhD theses by publication may be represented by a nominated chapter prepared or submitted as a research paper for peer-review in 2024.

Candidates may be of any nationality if enrolled at an Australian tertiary educational institution while undertaking their research. If the research was undertaken overseas, the candidate must be an Australian citizen. An ideal candidate would demonstrate their intention to pursue a career in industrial upstream petroleum or energy resource development (CO₂ storage, H₂ storage, deep hydrogeology, geothermal resources) or in related academic research.

Assessment of applications will be based on academic excellence of the research, its contribution to understanding Northern Territory petroleum or related energy resource geoscience and comments from a referee who would ideally be a supervisor of the candidate's research. **Applications may be made on a candidate's behalf by their supervisor initially.**

PRIZE VALUE \$1,000

**APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM
Friday 29th November 2024**

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS
Monday 16th December 2024 (5:00 PM Australian C.D.T.)**

(NOTE: Applications received after the deadline cannot be considered).

For further information, candidates or Research Supervisors may contact Mark Bunch (Scholarship Sub-Committee, PESA SA-NT Branch) via telephone on (08) 831 34292 or via e-mail at mark.bunch@adelaide.edu.au

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The South Australia – Northern Territory Branch of the Petroleum Exploration Society of Australia makes annual awards to current or recently enrolled tertiary education students undertaking research work on topics directly related to the petroleum or related energy resource industries. These awards aim to provide support for students likely to enter the industry sector or petroleum/energy resource-related geoscientific research in academia upon graduation, and to encourage research on topics pertinent to these fields.

The terms and conditions of this award are:

1. The SA-NT Branch of PESA aims to award the Northern Territory Geological Survey (NTGS) / PESA SA-NT Best Northern Territory-focussed Petroleum & Energy Resource Geoscience Research Project Prize.
2. The value of the prize will be \$1,000. The Committee will award a maximum of one prize per year, and the prize cannot be shared. If the quality of any or all applications does not warrant doing so, no award will be made.
3. Candidates may have won a branch Research Prize before but the research topic covered by their current application must substantially differ from or significantly advance the research of their winning application.
4. Candidates may be of any nationality if enrolled at an Australian tertiary educational institution while undertaking their research. If the research was undertaken overseas, the candidate must be an Australian citizen. Candidates must have submitted their Honours, Masters or PhD thesis during 2024. In the case of a 'PhD by publication', the candidate must nominate a thesis chapter prepared as a research paper that must have been submitted for peer-review in 2024 in order to be eligible.
5. The research study must have a Petroleum or Energy Resource Geoscience focus within the Northern Territory.
6. The candidate must be a member of PESA; membership is available to students for free and to recent graduates for a reduced fee. Membership approval may be pending on submission of an application for this prize.
7. The candidate must intend to pursue a career in upstream petroleum or energy resource industries, or in related geoscientific research, and this intention must be stated explicitly as part of their supporting letter.
8. Qualifying Applications will be assessed on three criteria:
 - (i) The academic excellence of the research.
 - (ii) Relevance of the research to furthering understanding of Petroleum or Energy Resource Geoscience within the Northern Territory.
 - (iii) Comments and details provided by a referee(s), a paper peer-reviewer or the candidate themselves.
9. For consideration, the following must be submitted either by the candidate or on their behalf, to Mark Bunch at mark.bunch@adelaide.edu.au before the applications deadline, marking the email as CONFIDENTIAL
 - (i) Completed Form A,
 - (ii) Completed Form B, with comments from a referee/supervisor who can attest to the quality of the candidate's thesis or submitted/published research paper. Form B can be sent directly by the referee/supervisor to the email address above.
 - (iii) Abstract of the thesis or nominated research paper (redacting confidential or sensitive data/results).
 - (iv) Supporting letter from or on behalf of the candidate outlining why their research should be considered, how their research will further geoscientific understanding of NT Petroleum & Energy Resources, and how they plan to remain working in petroleum or other energy resource geoscience upon graduation.
10. An Awards Sub-Committee will be convened by the PESA SA-NT Branch Committee to review all applications for the award. Responsibility for the assessment of applications and selection of the award winner (if any) rests with the Committee, whose decision will be final.
11. The window for applications closes at 5:00 PM Australian C.D.T. on Monday 16th December 2024. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.



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APPLICATION FORM A

To be completed by or on behalf of the student candidate and forwarded together with an abstract of their thesis/submitted research paper and supporting cover letter. The supporting cover letter should state why their research should be considered for this award, how the research will further geoscientific understanding of NT Petroleum & Energy Resources, and demonstrate their intention to remain working in petroleum or energy resource geoscience following their studies. These documents must be emailed to Mark Bunch at mark.bunch@adelaide.edu.au as PDFs by 5:00 PM Australian C.D.T. on Monday 16th December 2024 (Australian C.S.T). Please mark the e-mail as CONFIDENTIAL.

CANDIDATE NAME

INSTITUTION

DEPARTMENT/SCHOOL

SUPERVISOR

DEGREE PROGRAM

RESEARCH TOPIC



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APPLICATION FORM B

To be completed by a referee/research project supervisor who can attest to the quality of the candidate's thesis or submitted research paper.

NAME/POSITION

CANDIDATE NAME

INSTITUTION

Please support the above application with comments on how the student's thesis/submitted research paper ranks against others within the field during 2024, why their research should be considered for this award, how this research furthers geoscientific understanding of NT Petroleum & Energy Resource Geoscience, and any other information relevant to the assessment of the candidate's case (not to exceed one page). Please send this directly to Mark Bunch at mark.bunch@adelaide.edu.au as a PDF by 5:00 PM Australian C.D.T. on Monday 16th December 2024 (Australian C.S.T). Please mark the e-mail as CONFIDENTIAL.