

2023 DLT scholars



13

New scholars



20

Continuing scholars

Alumni Story - Shaban Sulejman

The Dafydd Lewis Trust scholarship had a significant and life-changing impact on my professional career and personal circumstances. It offered the resources, support networks, confidence to attend university and boost the quality of my academic and career aspirations. My personal circumstances led me to apply for the generous scholarship. I grew up in the town of Shepparton, and unfortunately faced difficult circumstances due to my father's health and my mother solely emigrating from Albania.



Despite coming from a rural area, I was determined to achieve my goals through my passions in optics and photonics. I completed a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and physics from 2017 to 2019. I went on to complete a Master of Science in optical physics from 2020 to 2021. I am currently undertaking my Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in optical physics.

My current role is as a PhD student at The University of Melbourne and ARC Centre of Excellence for Transformative Meta-Optical systems. Overall, I am most proud of obtaining university degrees and providing for my parents despite my circumstances. A specific work achievement that I am also proud of is using the nanotechnology that I designed to image invisible biological specimens, particularly cancer cells. I personally have a strong connection with cancer as my father battled prostate cancer and I therefore feel honoured to play a small part in developing technology that can assist with cancer detection.

The scholarship significantly changed my life, both professionally and personally, and I wouldn't be where I am without it. Aside from the generous and substantial monetary benefit, the scholarship also offers support networks, interactions with peers and professionals in various fields, and enhanced knowledge on career development and leadership. It can stimulate new connections, strengthen interpersonal skills and boost careers to beyond unimaginable places. People facing difficult circumstances, coming from remote, seeking refuge, or any other circumstance, can be generously supported by the Dafydd Lewis Trust to make dreams come true and positively impact lives.

2023 New Scholars

13 young men from a variety of regional and metro based Victorian secondary schools were awarded Dafydd Lewis Trust scholarships in February and were welcomed into the Lewis network at the annual Welcome Event in March. The 2023 scholar cohort cover a wide range of courses including:

Information Technology	Science	Chemical Engineering	Software Engineering
Engineering & Commerce	Accounting & Business	Pharmaceutical Sciences	Osteopathy



2023 Welcome Event

2023 Lewis Mentor Program

We are once again calling all Alumni and professionals in the DLT network to register their interest to be mentors for the 2023 Lewis Mentor Program. The Mentor Program offers 2nd year scholars the opportunity to connect with people in their field of interest. We hope the program will help scholars build their professional networks, refine their career goals and assist them to apply for internships, graduate programs and other industry opportunities in future. Please let us know if you have professional knowledge and networks to help support the scholars to succeed! We are looking for mentors across a variety of industries and would be very grateful for your time and wisdom sharing. Please email your interest to info.lewisscholarships@gmail.com.

2024 Scholarship Applications

Please continue to share information on the Dafydd Lewis trust scholarship with your networks including past schools and young people you know. We will be opening the applications for 2023 scholarship later on this year and would encourage year 12 students from a variety of backgrounds to [apply!](#)