

PhD Opportunity

Understanding the perception of body in alcoholic drinks

Exciting PhD Opportunity combining Sensory Science and flavour chemistry to understand the perception of body in alcoholic drinks

Supervisors: Dr Rebecca Ford (University of Nottingham), Dr Sue Bastian and Dr Kerry Wilkinson (University of Adelaide)

Applicants are invited for this exciting fully funded 4-year PhD studentship studying the perception of body in beer and wine in both the UK (University of Nottingham) and Australia (University of Adelaide).

Body is a term used by consumers and technical experts to describe the viscous mouthfeel of alcoholic drinks. However, evidence suggests the perception of body is more complex, encompassing many other sensory properties. There are gaps in the literature regarding the impact of aroma and interactions with other components, such as sugar, alcohol and carbonation, on the perceived body of alcoholic drinks. This multidisciplinary PhD will take a scientifically-controlled approach to explore consumer language, sensory attributes and compositional factors contributing to the perception of body in beer and wine using sensory science and flavour chemistry techniques.

The student cohort will be co-supervised by staff at both universities and will undertake a minimum period of research of one year at each institution. The Adelaide-Nottingham Doctoral Scholars will be based on the Sutton Bonington campus in Nottingham when in the UK, and at the Waite Campus in Adelaide when in Australia. Both campuses are renowned for their world-leading research in agricultural, food and beverage sciences, and their outstanding facilities for research and teaching. PhD graduates will obtain jointly awarded degrees from the University of Adelaide and the University of Nottingham. The studentships will cover PhD tuition fees, plus a stipend corresponding to the standard research council rates of both countries.

Eligibility: The scholarship is open to UK/EU students. All students should have, or expect to obtain, a first-class or good 2:1/2A honours degree and/or a high distinction, distinction or high merit at the Masters level in a biologically related subject area.

Apply: To apply send your cv, unofficial transcripts (details of University grades/predicted grades) together with the names and contact details of two referees to the principal project supervisor (R.Ford@nottingham.ac.uk). Please also provide a covering letter to indicate your interests, why you are applying to the "Joint Nottingham-Adelaide Programme" and what attracts you to this PhD research.

Informal enquiries may be addressed to the individual project supervisors (contact details below) or to SB-Research@exmail.nottingham.ac.uk

(Contacts:-Rebecca Ford; R.Ford@nottingham.ac.uk; sue.bastian@adelaide.edu.au)

Closing date: March 2017 or until filled.

Start Date: Flexible between May and September 2017