

## **PhD Scholarship in English Studies**

Once valued primarily as commercial resources, the animals that inhabit Antarctica, such as whales, seals and penguins, have in recent years become environmental icons and tourist drawcards. Yet most people never directly see animals in an Antarctic habitat, gaining their knowledge and views of them through highly mediated encounters. This PhD research project investigates the way in which Antarctic animals are represented to the public through popular scientific and other non-fiction texts. Depending on the candidate's background and interests, genres analysed may include expository science books, children's animal books, magazine articles, television documentaries, museum and zoo exhibits, and websites. The project will require an interdisciplinary approach, drawing on literary and cultural studies, Antarctic studies and human-animal studies. It will further understanding of the role that textual representation plays in determining human attitudes towards animals in the Antarctic regions. The scholarship is funded by a University of Tasmania "Rising Stars" grant and is closely related to the ARC Discovery Project 'Creatures of the Ice: An Cultural Analysis of Human-Animal Relations in Antarctica'.

The primary supervisor for this project will be Dr Elizabeth Leane (School of English, Journalism and European Languages). The scholarship offers a tax-free stipend of \$25,000 p.a. for up to three years. Applicants should hold a first or upper second-class honours degree, or research masters degree, in an appropriate discipline.

For more information on the project please contact Dr Elizabeth Leane by email: [Elizabeth.Leane@utas.edu.au](mailto:Elizabeth.Leane@utas.edu.au).