

Expression of Interest Research Intern

Museums & Galleries NSW is seeking a research intern in the preparation of preliminary material for a pilot study on the economic benefits of cultural facilities on Local Government Areas.

The focus of this pilot study will be the Central West region of NSW, and will involve Bathurst, Orange and Dubbo Councils.

Background

M&G NSW is the leading support agency for the development and promotion of regional, community and public museums and galleries across NSW. M&G NSW will undertake a pilot study into the Economic Impact of (visitation to) Cultural facilities, including Museums and Galleries, on local communities.

There has been a growing international interest in understanding the immediate and flow on economic value of cultural facilities to their surrounding communities. This includes the direct spending (e.g. admission fees), indirect spending (e.g. transport, food/dining, merchandise etc) and the flow on effects from the provision of cultural services. There have also been a number of approaches to quantify the social impact and benefits of these facilities.

Outcomes of the Pilot

- Identified methodology for an integrated approach to benefit/cost analysis valuing both quantitative and qualitative material
- Concise data to illustrate the benefits of investing in cultural activities
- An independent report to argue for ongoing investment in cultural facilities

Task Description

The intern will be required to undertake background research which will be carried out in two stages:

Stage One - 6 weeks commencing 25 May

An annotated literature review of relevant international and national reports and publications which includes Benefit Cost Analyses of Cultural facilities, including the value of their social and cultural Impact. The aim of the literature review will be to:

- Position the study in the context of previous research
- Identify any gaps in existing research
- Identify potential models for approach and methodology
- Clarify the rationale for the study.

Stage Two - 3 weeks commencing 6 July

Compiling a survey of the three LGAs participating in the study to prepare a demographic snapshot of the local cultural facilities. This will include collating data in the following areas:

- Identification of the relevant facilities in each area
- Visitation statistics (including ABS information)
- Visitor spend
- Current infrastructure – internal and external
- Current levels of employment
- Any other relevant social, economic and cultural data that will contribute to a demographic snapshot of each LGA.

The above research will assist in the development of an assessment framework by the consultant to undertake the study. Most if not all of the information will be provided by the relevant Councils.

Timing

The timeframe for undertaking the Pilot is May – November 2009. The interested intern is needed to commence ASAP by the end of May 2009, and will be required to complete a minimum of 20 hours per week.

A desk and computer can be provided in M&G NSW offices if required, otherwise the intern can work from home and meet with M&G NSW staff on a regular basis.

***** DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS WEDNESDAY 20 MAY *****

Contact

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