

## 2006 Rhodes Scholarship recipient – Elizabeth Murphy

The School of Engineering congratulates Elizabeth Murphy on being awarded a Rhodes Scholarship for entry to Oxford University in October 2006.

*Criteria for the Rhodes scholarship* (extract from their website)

<http://www.usyd.edu.au/su/rhodes/RhodesHistory.html>



*The qualities that Cecil John Rhodes sought in his scholars were daunting. They included literary and scholastic attainments, qualities of maturity, truthfulness, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness and fellowship; physical vigour, as shown by fondness for or success in outdoor activities; and the exhibition of moral force of character and of instincts to public duties as their highest aim.*

*The Rhodes Scholarships remain distinctive, not only in the combination of qualities sought in the scholars, but in being such a large scheme directed towards a single university.*

### ***Tribute to Liz Murphy***

Elizabeth Murphy completed a five-year joint degree in Computer Systems Engineering and Computer Science at James Cook University between 1997 and 2002. Liz finished the final year of her Bachelor of Engineering / Bachelor of Science program in clear “top of the class” position and was awarded a University medal for academic achievement with straight High Distinctions for every subject undertaken apart from one subject for which she was given a Distinction.

Liz has received a host of awards and scholarships in recognition of her academic achievements. She received a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours in Engineering and was rated within the top of the four Honours bands for her final year thesis research. She received all of our top academic awards during the final year of her studies including the School of Engineering prize, the IEE prize and the IEEE North Queensland Section prize and the prestigious QNI scholarship. At her graduation ceremony in 2003 Liz received the University’s top award, the Graduate Association Medal. The later is only awarded when warranted to a student who has a *high level of academic achievement and made an outstanding contribution to the University community.*

Liz was awarded the Graduate Association Medal partly because of her academic achievement but also because she is a top class athlete who has collected a host of medals at university games level. She was a member of the Australian team for the Oceania Athletics Championships in New Zealand in 2002. Elizabeth also won a total of 8 medals at the Australian University Games while representing James

Cook University between 1998 and 2002. Medals collected include gold medals in the Heptathlon (1999, 2002) and the High Jump (2000, 2001). Elizabeth was a member of the Honorary "Green and Gold" Australian University Games merit team for athletics in 1999, 2001 and 2002, and was the Queensland Open Heptathlon Champion in 2001 that demands sporting prowess in a wide range of events.

Between sporting and educational commitments, most would consider that a busy enough lifestyle. However, Elizabeth has also found time to take an active role in the wider community working as a volunteer in various positions like coach to the Townsville North Stars Athletics Club athletics team in 2002. She was also the regional representative on the Athletics North Queensland Athlete's Commission in 2002. Currently Liz is an active member of the Australian Red Cross Save-A-Mate First Aid Unit.

One would forgive such a talented person as Elizabeth Murphy from being self-conceited and arrogant, but fortunately in this case, nothing could be further from the truth. Liz is one of the nicest persons you are ever likely to meet.

Congratulations Liz, we are so proud of you!

*Written and submitted by  
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