**Template to invite your Independent Advisor**

This document is available as a Word file on the School’s website and should be modified as required: <http://sciences.stg.adelaide.edu.au/agriculture-food-wine/study-with-us/hdr-student-support>

From principal supervisor of student to the prospective independent advisor

Dear Dr /Professor, etc [Independent Advisor],

The School of Agriculture, Food and Wine appoints an Independent Advisor for each of our postgraduate students; on behalf of [name of HDR candidate] and co-supervisors, I invite you to act as Independent Advisor to [name of HDR candidate] and his/her project. [Name of HDR candidate] began his/her PhD/Master by Research/Master of Philosophy in [Month, year], and his/her research will be in the area of [insert a sentence or two to describe the research topic].

The Independent Advisor is asked to:

* Comment on the content of the student’s research proposal (due 6 months into candidature);
* Attend the introductory seminar (3 months into candidature);
* Take part in the Major Review of Progress (12 months into candidature);
* Take part in the Thesis Preparation Review (ca 30 months into candidature).

In particular, we ask the Independent Advisor to focus on the science and feasibility within timeframe of the proposed research. The Independent Advisor maintains contact with the student throughout candidature to provide advice and a sounding board for ideas and so will be in a strong position to offer independent assessment of the student's progress. Although there are four requirements listed above, these are not intended to be onerous tasks.

If you would like more information about this role before accepting this invitation, please contact Dr [name & contact details of Postgraduate Coordinator] or A/Prof. Chris Ford, Chair of Postgraduate Committee, School of Agriculture, Food and Wine (telephone 08 8313 7386 or email christopher.ford@adelaide.edu.au ).

Yours sincerely,