

CALL FOR VISITING EARLY CAREER RESEARCH FELLOW APPLICANTS OCTOBER 2016

John Rylands Research Institute Visiting Early Career Research Fellows

Application deadline Friday 25 November 2016

Applications should be e-mailed to jrri@manchester.ac.uk

Overview

The John Rylands Research Institute is a unique partnership led by The University of Manchester's Faculty of Humanities and The University of Manchester Library in which humanities scholars, scientists, curators, conservators and digital imaging specialists are brought together to uncover, explore, unravel and reveal hidden ideas and knowledge contained within the Library's world-leading Special Collections. This Fellowship gives early career researchers the opportunity to visit the John Rylands Library and experience first-hand the Library's unique collections which count among the foremost repositories of primary sources in the UK, offering research potential across an exceptionally broad array of disciplines, chronologies and geographical areas. It also offers the opportunity to establish links with curators and scholars in their field at The University of Manchester who could provide future research mentorship.

What is a Visiting Early Career Research Fellowship?

Visiting Early Career Research Fellowships are an opportunity for applicants currently completing, or within two years of the award of their doctorate, to work on an application for an externally funded postdoctoral fellowship (for example, from the British Academy, Leverhulme Trust or Wellcome Trust) to conduct a future research project using the Library's Special Collections. It is intended to allow those unfamiliar with either archival research or Special Collections, and specifically the rich holdings of The University of Manchester's Special Collections, to identify areas of particular research promise for them, and, with the assistance of a skilled grant writer, to produce an application for a postdoctoral fellowship which would be focused on the holdings of the Library's Special Collections and would be held at the John Rylands Research Institute for the duration of the fellowship.

Assessment of applications

All applications are assessed by the Institute Directors in consultation with curators and academics.

Successful candidates will receive:

- A maximum of £1,500 per month for up to 3 months to cover travel, accommodation and living expenses during the Fellowship
- Support from expert curators and the Institute grant writer
- Introduction and mentoring by a subject-appropriate academic
- Workspace and reading room provision
- A warm welcome into the life of the Institute and invitations to take part in its activities

Essential Criteria

- Priority will be given to those candidates who show the greatest academic promise and whose current and proposed research demonstrates a close fit with the Library's holdings
- Applicants who have completed their PhD must be within two years of the award of their doctorate at the time of application
- Applicants who have yet to complete their PhD must be within one year of completion at the time of application

Visiting Early Career Research Fellow Application Process

Applicants are required to complete and submit an application form available at:

<http://www.jrri.manchester.ac.uk/research/funding/> to include:

- Personal details
- Project details to include: title of project, proposed start and end date of fellowship, objectives, methodology, an outline of potential sources to be consulted, and a description of how this project will build upon your existing research

- An up to date curriculum vitae (maximum 2 pages)
- Details, including e-mail address, of two referees who can be contacted should the application be shortlisted

What will the Institute expect from the applicant?

- That Fellowships are taken at a mutually agreed time within the 2016/17 academic year
- A short report at the end of the Fellowship to include concrete plans for postdoctoral fellowship applications

Adherence to financial procedures

- Expenses will be processed in arrears (on production of receipts and completed claim form) through the Institute Office
- All international expenditure, before being presented to the Institute office, must be converted to GB pounds sterling and include evidence of exchange rate on the day of transaction
- Any claim for utilities will only be covered for rental accommodation in Manchester