



## Humanities Researcher-Led Initiatives 2015/16 – Guidance notes

This initiative is intended to support the personal, professional and career development of researchers (e.g. research staff and PGRs) across the Faculty of Humanities. It aims to encourage researchers to initiate a professional development opportunity which will help them to influence or inspire their colleagues, and which will have an impact on the career development of themselves and others.

**Applications are invited from researchers for funding (of up to £500) to support projects to bring researchers from different Schools together to engage in some form of professional, personal or career development activity.** Successful applicants will be expected to actively consider how to engage researchers from different Schools with the activity. It is not sufficient to assume that the activity will appeal across disciplinary boundaries.

The criteria for this award are below and please ensure you read these fully before applying.

There is a limited amount of funds that will be allocated for the period 2015/16. Once the fund is exhausted, no more awards will be made this year. **ALL proposed projects must take place by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016.** Final decisions on which projects will be supported will reside with the Humanities Researcher Development Team.

Contact **Dr. Eljee Javier** ([eljee.javier@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:eljee.javier@manchester.ac.uk)) if you have queries regarding eligibility or other aspects of application.

### Application deadlines

There are three funding application deadlines for 2015/16:

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015 for projects scheduled to occur during semester one.
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 for projects scheduled to occur during semester two.
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016 for projects scheduled to occur after semester two but before 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

### Who is eligible?

The beneficiaries should be researchers from **more than one School**. Applications will be accepted from individual researchers or groups of researchers. Projects which involve other groups will also be considered (e.g. public engagement).

### **What activities are eligible?**

Anything which supports the general professional development or career development of researchers in **at least two** of the five Schools within Humanities (initiatives which appeal across Faculties will also be accepted, but they must originate in Humanities). Relevant skill areas include, but are not limited to: public engagement, communication, inter-personal skills, media work, teaching and learning, knowledge transfer, intrapreneurship, creativity, leadership and management, career planning/management, networking and collaboration.

Types of activities could include (but not limited to):

- Setting up a new workshop, training event or development scheme
- Bringing in guest speakers or trainers that focus on the development to of professional skills
- Initiatives to support and develop writing skills, both within and outside academia
- Running a forum for researchers, which addresses their development
- Team and leadership development activities
- Away days which cover the above skill areas
- Events to share research or expertise with groups outside of your School
- Events to promote understanding and dialogue between researchers from different discipline areas
- Developing proficiency in teaching and learning through the sharing of practice/resources/approaches across Schools
- Research into how and why researchers engage with the above activities, and what they gain from cross-School/Faculty collaborations or exchanges

### **Exclusions**

This fund is not for discipline-specific activities, since one of the main aims of the competition is to encourage interactions between researchers in different Schools within the University. It cannot be used to fund research conferences or to present research at other institutions (unless eligible as above). It cannot be used to duplicate activities already available, but *may* be awarded to prolong or extend existing successful initiatives.

### **What is covered?**

This fund will cover necessary costs including consumables, publicity materials, catering at events, room hire, fees and expenses of guest speakers/trainers, within the usual University [procurement](#) and [expenses](#) guidance.

### **Your commitment**

Administration of successful projects will be the responsibility of the lead-researcher. If you are awarded funding, you will be asked to write a short report and/or blog post on

the outcome of your project. Moreover you will be asked to hand out an evaluation form to your participants in order to gather evidence of the success of your project.

### **How to apply**

1. Read the guidance notes on this page
2. Check whether similar opportunities are available at the University of Manchester, via your School, Faculty Researcher Development Team, or [other internal training providers](#) . If so, it is unlikely that your application will be successful.
3. Discuss your proposal with your Supervisor, and any other stakeholders, to ensure they support it. **By submitting your application, you confirm that your Supervisor supports your idea and the time commitment involved.**
4. Complete and submit the application form to: [Eljee.Javier@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Eljee.Javier@manchester.ac.uk)