

Faculty of Education and Arts Research Institutes

- Humanities Research Institute
- Research Institute for Social Inclusion and Wellbeing (RISIW)
- Educational Research Institute Newcastle (ERIN)

Mid-Career Research Fellowship Scheme Guidelines - Round 1, for funding in 2011

1. OVERVIEW

In 2011, the Humanities Research Institute, the Research Institute for Social Inclusion and Wellbeing (RISIW) and the Educational Research Institute Newcastle (ERIN) (the Faculty Institutes) will each host a mid-career Research Fellow for one semester.

The purpose of the FEDUA Research Institutes Mid-Career Fellowship Scheme is:

1. To support high calibre mid-career researchers by providing time and support to maintain their momentum in terms of their research achievements and outputs.
2. To strengthen the capabilities of existing and emerging areas of research concentration and excellence within the three Faculty Institutes.

2. ELIGIBILITY

This Fellowship is restricted to staff employed on a full-time basis by the Faculty of Education and Arts at the University of Newcastle who have between 5 and 15 years experience since the award of their PhD at the closing date*.

Award of PhD date means the date of conferral of a PhD, and not the date of the submission of the thesis, nor the date the thesis was accepted by the examination board. Accordingly, applicants must have been awarded a PhD on or between September 1995 and September 2005.

*Eligibility exemptions will only be granted in exceptional circumstances, such as a significant break from the applicant's research career since award of their PhD. Eligibility exemption requests (of no more than half a page) must be attached to the application and must explain the length of and reason for the career break. Adequate grounds must be included in the eligibility exemption request or the application will be ruled ineligible.

At the closing time of submission of applications, all obligations regarding previously funded projects, including School, Faculty and University of Newcastle internal grants, must have been satisfactorily fulfilled. Such obligations include the provision of progress and final reports.

Research-only staff members, conjoint staff members and Level E academics are not eligible to apply for a Mid-Career Research Fellowship.

Fellowship applications should be discussed with, and require the recommendation of, the applicant's Head of School.

3. NATURE AND LEVEL OF SUPPORT

The value of a Fellowship will vary depending upon the amount of teaching relief required. Funding is transferred directly to the Fellow's School.

Funding is provided for relief of teaching duties only and not governance duties.

No cash is awarded directly to the Fellow.

Where the value of teaching relief is low, the Institutes may at their discretion decide to direct funds towards dedicated research assistance for a Fellow.

In addition to teaching relief, each Faculty Institute will provide administrative services, senior academic support in an intensive research environment and, subject to availability, access to office space within or close to Institute headquarters.

4. DURATION OF THE FELLOWSHIP

Mid-Career Research Fellowships are tenable for a period of six months, including one semester of teaching relief, and are not renewable.

The Fellowship can be taken in either Semester in 2011 in consultation with the applicant's Head of School.

5. SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- The quality of the applicant (50%) as demonstrated by research track record relative to opportunity;
- The quality of research outputs likely to be produced as a result of the Fellowship, including publications and external grant applications (30%);
- The strategic alignment with the established or emerging research strengths of the host Institute (20%).

6. ROLE OF THE FACULTY INSTITUTES

Each institute will host a mid-career Fellow and provide a package of support services tailored to the needs of each Fellow which may include administrative services, senior academic and external peer review of publications and grant applications produced during the Fellowship. Subject to availability, the Institutes will endeavour to provide each fellow with access to office space within, or close to, Institute headquarters.

The Faculty Institutes will provide funds directly to a Fellow's School to fund teaching relief for one semester.

7. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

7.1 Application process

This funding round opens on Monday 12 July, 2010.

Applications must be submitted on the Application Form by Monday 30 August, 2010 (the closing date).

Closing date for applications	Notification of results
Monday 30 August 2010	Friday 30 September 2010

Late applications will not be accepted.

Applications consist of a Word doc form, which must be completed and submitted as a PDF attachment and sent in an email to:

Catherine Oddie
Faculty Research Development Manager
Faculty of Education and Arts
catherine.oddie@newcastle.edu.au

by 5pm on the closing date.

Receipt of applications will be acknowledged by email.

7.2 Application form

The application form consists of:

- Description of expected research outputs
- Details of teaching relief requested
- Details of research track record relative to opportunities

Plus

- Recommendation signed by the Head of School to be provided in hard copy

7.2 Assessment

Evaluation of applications for all Fellowships will be the responsibility of a Selection Advisory Panel comprising the Faculty Institute Directors, the PVC - Faculty of Education and Arts and one other panel member external to the Faculty.

Applicants will be notified of the results by September 30, 2010.

8. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

It is expected that during the six months fellowship, each Fellow will undertake to accomplish two of the following activities:

- Initiate at least one large external grant application such as the ARC Future Fellowship or ARC Discovery Projects
- Finalise a number of specified publications
- Establish external collaborative research networks that may strengthen future external research grant applications and opportunities for publication.

9. CONDITIONS OF AWARD

10.1 Publications from Fellowship

The successful candidate will agree to acknowledge the appropriate Faculty Research Institute in any publication or public presentation that results from work undertaken during their Fellowship.

10.2 Outcomes Report

A Fellowship recipient will provide a report within two months of the conclusion of the Fellowship stating research outcomes.