The University of Adelaide Research Fellowships Scheme

Adelaide Research for Impact

2017 Guidelines

The University of Adelaide Research Fellowships Scheme has been established to retain, attract and support early-career and mid-career researchers of outstanding research calibre and potential. The Scheme supports the University's research strategy, Adelaide Research for Impact, by promoting and building capacity in research excellence and innovation. The current fellowship selection round supports fellowships commencing from 1 January 2018 for a period of up to 12 months.

Strategic Intent
Our mission is to conduct world-class research and innovation, engage globally, and partner with industry, government and the community to create high-value economic and social dividends.

There is no more important factor in research and innovation success than the attraction and retention of highly talented people. Therefore, we are enabling world-class researchers and research leaders to realise their potential through the University Research Fellowships Scheme.

This will further build our strong track record in research excellence and innovation, support the University's mission, and deliver major strategic objectives in:
- Research Excellence – delivering world-class research in our selected endeavours; and
- Industry Engagement and Innovation – translating our research for economic and social benefit.

These prestigious fellowships will further consolidate the University's position as a distinguished research-intensive and innovative institution, esteemed worldwide for its profound and influential contributions.

Scope and Support
Fellowships will be awarded for a period of up to 12 months. They will provide full salary plus on-costs, together with additional research support packages of up to $10k p.a. Applications from internal candidates will be accepted providing they have no other form of future support in 2018. Applications from outstanding external candidates will also be accepted but the applicant must be nominated by a University of Adelaide host School to be eligible for consideration. Externally nominated candidates should have a career plan for support beyond the fellowship.

The fellowships will permit international, interstate and industry targeted placements. There will be the opportunity and incentives to co-fund fellowships, both internally and with external partners from business and industry, government and philanthropy.

It is anticipated that fellowships will be provided to outstanding researchers who are, for example, waiting on the outcomes of applications for other fellowships and/or project support at the completion of a higher degree by research, or researchers who will transition from external fellowship support to an on-going academic appointment. High-performing candidates may lodge provisional ‘safety net’ applications in advance, if their existing external support expires in the current year or during the next calendar year. This Scheme is not intended to replace salary supplementation measures currently in place. Schools and faculties will be encouraged to provide longer term career opportunities where appropriate and feasible. It is expected that fellows will aggressively seek external funding that offsets or supersedes the University's award.

The call for 2017 applications will open on 24 July 2017 and close on 4 September 2017. Awards will be announced in October 2017 for fellowships commencing 1 January 2018.

Eligibility
The Scheme is not open to staff holding a University of Adelaide continuing position. Current University of Adelaide Research Fellows are eligible to apply. External candidates must be nominated by a University of Adelaide host School to be eligible for consideration. Potential applicants must consult with potential hosting School in preparing their application.
**Early Career Fellowships**
Applicants must have qualified for a PhD no more than 5 years before the closing date for applications, relative to opportunity.

**Mid-Career Fellowships**
Applicants must have qualified for a PhD no more than 15 years before the closing date for applications, relative to opportunity.

Career interruptions will be taken into account in determining time since you qualified for the award of the PhD, according to the criteria typically used by the Australian Research Council and National Health and Medical Research Council. Applicants must be eligible for external competitive fellowships. The Scheme will be open to internal and external applicants, with the latter nominated by Schools. Part-time applicants will be eligible for consideration at 0.5 FTE and above.

Circumstances that may be considered under ‘relative to opportunity’ provisions include but are not limited to:
- Employment outside the research sector, including time spent working in industry;
- Career disruption, such as pregnancy, illness, carer responsibilities for immediate family;
- Restrictions on available resources; and
- Re-location of an applicant or other similar circumstances that impact upon research productivity.

**Benefits**

**Early Career Fellowships**
The starting salary range for Early Career Fellowships will typically be the top three steps for an Academic Level A or, in exceptional cases, the first step of Academic Level B. In each case, the starting salary will be based on the track record of the fellow and any special circumstances applicable, and must be consistent with the University’s Enterprise Agreement.

**Mid-Career Fellowships**
The starting salary range for Mid-Career Fellowships will typically be the first five steps for an Academic Level B and the first two steps for an Academic Level C. In each case, the starting salary will be based on factors such as the excellence of the fellow's postdoctoral research experience and any special circumstances applicable, and must be consistent with the University’s Enterprise Agreement.

**Progression of Fellows**
All fellows will be eligible for annual salary increments and applicable salary increases under the University’s Enterprise Agreement. There will be provision and opportunity for promotion through the University’s processes. Any such salary increases will be met in full by the Scheme for the duration of the fellowship.

**Fellowship Research Support**
A Fellowship Research Support Scheme of up to $10k p.a. may be granted to successful applicants for expenditure associated with their fellowship research program. The relevant Head of School must approve expenditure of this grant consistent with the fellowship application.

**Instructions for Applicants**
Applications are to be made using the Internal Fund Scheme (IFS) eForm accessed via ResearchMaster. For support with the IFS eform, please review the Quick Reference Guides on the Research Services Website or contact a member of the Support Team via Research Systems.

External fellowship candidates will not be able to access the ResearchMaster eForm. Applications must therefore be submitted on behalf of the external candidate by a University of Adelaide supervisor (e.g. an academic member from the same School).

If you have any questions regarding the Interdisciplinary Research Funding scheme, please contact Dale Godfrey in Research Services dvcrschemes@adelaide.edu.au.

Applications close 5.00 pm on 4 September 2017.
Selection Criteria

The Scheme will award fellowships so as to serve best the objectives of the research strategy *Adelaide Research for Impact*.

The Selection Criteria for fellowship support will be:

- A research and innovation track record for stage of career that is well above world-class, allowing for career interruptions and other special circumstances (50%)
- A research and innovation project of outstanding merit (40%)
- A high-quality research and innovation environment (10%)

Leveraged support, co-investment and co-funded fellowships, both internally and with external partners from business and industry, government and philanthropy, will be considered favourably.

Applicants must also provide the contact details for three referees, including one from an independent leading expert. Referees will be contacted as required and after applications are shortlisted.

Conditions of Award

The conditions of awards will include:

- Formal participation by the applicant in University and Faculty strategic pipelines for development of competitive applications for external funding, including the innovation pipeline where relevant;
- Participation in mentoring/coaching and other training programs as determined by the University;
- A mid-term progress report against the original project objectives, including any applications for external funding, and a final report provided upon cessation of the fellowship.

Scheme Oversight

Applications will be assessed by a Selection Committee to be nominated by the DVC (Research), with rankings and recommendations to be provided to the DVC (Research), who will in turn make recommendations for funding to the Vice-Chancellor.

PROFESSOR JULIE OWENS
Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)