

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IHSS)

IHSS Distinguished Visiting Fellowships Scheme 2020-21

Application deadline: 6pm, Friday 5 June 2020

Aim

The primary aim of this scheme is to promote visits by distinguished established scholars or other researchers (including policy makers, representatives of the arts, business, government and industry), artists and writers whose period of residence will enrich the research landscape by active participation in research events and activities in collaboration with academic staff and research students in Humanities and Social Sciences. Distinguished Visiting Fellows will be affiliated with the Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IHSS) and with the nominating School. The work of DVFs is expected to fit the general aim of the Institute which is to promote research across the Faculty at large, and so nominations should demonstrate a detailed plan with cross-School/inter-disciplinary activity.

Details

This scheme primarily funds periods of residence (1-4 weeks) for highly distinguished researchers to come to QMUL. For **2020-2021** the Faculty will offer up to 15 non-stipendiary IHSS Visiting Fellowships, the total number being dependent upon the duration and timing of the proposed visits. Visits to Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) will normally be for between 1 and 4 weeks during the period 1 September 2020 – 30 June 2021. Support for longer visits could be tied to national and international fellowship schemes.

Main Goals of the Scheme

- To promote QMUL's international profile as a centre of scholarly and research excellence.
- To promote research collaborations between QMUL and leading researchers from outside the UK.
- To enhance the international scope and/or impact of collaborative research conducted by QMUL researchers.
- To promote cross-disciplinary research between individuals or groups of Queen Mary staff via the activities of IHSS.
- To enhance the research culture of QMUL through symposia, seminars, public engagement events and other activities.
- To enrich the research and training environment for early career (postgraduate and postdoctoral) scholars at QMUL.

Applicants are expected to specify a programme of events and activities which the proposed Distinguished Visiting Fellow will contribute to, or lead, in collaboration with QMUL staff. These should enhance the research programmes, strategies and international profiles of wider research clusters within Schools and Faculty Research Centres, as well as cross-disciplinary collaboration within the IHSS. Successful applications will likely include one research and/or training event

targeted at early career (PhD or recent postdoctoral) scholars and at least one further public event or interdisciplinary activity, such as a lecture, performance, exhibition, seminar, workshop, conference or symposium. Applications that propose a spectrum of innovative and/or high impact activities associated with the Distinguished Visiting Fellowships will be assessed more highly than nominations of scholars of similar quality that are less ambitious in scope. The extent and impact of planned activities should reflect the duration of the Distinguished Visiting Fellowship.

Selection Criteria and Process

Applications will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- The quality of proposed Distinguished Visiting Fellow's contribution to his/her research field as attested by the nominee's CV.
- The ability of the proposed programme to advance the collaborative research activities (and their impact) of QMUL staff nationally and internationally.
- The breadth and/or depth of the research constituency to which the proposed Distinguished Visiting Fellowship will appeal (preference may be given to interdisciplinary or multi-disciplinary projects).
- The ability of the proposed programme of events to enrich the research environment of wider research communities and early career (including PhD) researchers at QMUL.

Applications will be evaluated against the criteria by a Faculty panel led by the Dean for Research. Recommendations for funding will be approved by the HSS Vice-Principal's Group. Where more than one application is made by applicants based in a single School, the School Research Committee should rank applications in terms of priority.

Eligibility

Nominations can be made by academic staff members (including probationary staff), who will serve as nominators of external candidates. **Nominations cannot be made independently by potential Distinguished Visiting Fellows themselves.** Nominations can be made either by individuals or by groups of staff. Where group nominations are made, however, a lead nominator must be identified on the application form.

Details

This scheme funds periods of residence (1-4 weeks) for highly distinguished researchers at QMUL. For **2020-2021** the Faculty will offer up to 15 IHSS Visiting Fellowships, the total number being dependent upon the duration and timing of the proposed visits. Support for longer visits could be tied to national and international fellowship schemes. We are mindful that at present uncertainties exist around international travel; for proposed international Fellows it would be sensible to include contingency plans in light of these, including the potential for on-line events and activity.

Expenses met by the scheme

- Accommodation costs for the period of residence at QMUL in on-campus housing will be covered. If accommodation is sought elsewhere, the difference in cost will need to be met by the DVF or the host school (accommodation for spouse/children is not covered by the scheme). For alternative accommodation please visit: www.residences.qmul.ac.uk/qmul-accommodation/academicflats/index.html. Should the need arise to re-schedule a booked/confirmed visit outside the financial year in which the award is made, the host School will be responsible for the cost of accommodation and event expenses. In the event of the scheme

being heavily oversubscribed, the host School will be required to meet part of the costs - i.e. accommodation and event expenses.

- An additional amount of £250 will be paid towards the cost of organising a principal event organised in connection with the DVFs visit. This will be reimbursed upon submission of receipts together with the end of fellowship report within **two weeks** of departure of the DVF. (Note: The scheme does not cover airfare costs, airport transfers or transportation of any kind.)

Responsibility of the Nominator/Principal Applicant/School

- Liaising with the nominated Distinguished Visiting Fellow prior to submission of the application ensuring that the nominated Fellow has seen, understands, and agrees to the proposed programme of activities in advance of the application being submitted.
- Coordinating the Fellow's events and activities including ensuring that they are widely advertised providing details of events connected to the Fellowship to the IHSS Office (ihss@qmul.ac.uk) and other relevant teams including E-Bulletin on (e-bulletin@qmul.ac.uk). This should be done two months prior to the arrival of the DVF.
- Booking accommodation with the QMUL Accommodation Office:
<http://www.residences.qmul.ac.uk/>
- Providing the Distinguished Visiting Fellow with research facilities, access to IT etc. as appropriate. (Note: internet access and user ID and password should be arranged prior to the arrival of the DVF (helpdesk@qmul.ac.uk)).
- Ensuring that the required 'Right to Work check' is carried out. Any individual who carries out work for QMUL in the UK must undergo a 'Right to Work Check'. The Home Office does not place any distinction on paid or unpaid work. For example, if a visitor is carrying out unpaid research for QMUL then for immigration purposes it is still classed as work and a 'Right to Work Check' must be carried out to ensure legal compliance as soon as they arrive at QMUL. (<http://www.hr.qmul.ac.uk/workqm/righttowork/>; <https://www.gov.uk/permitted-paid-engagement-visa>)
- Ensuring that the Distinguished Visiting Fellow has insurance for the duration of stay at QMUL.
- Submitting the '**end of fellowship report**' to ihss@qmul.ac.uk within two weeks of departure of the DVF. The report should include details of the Fellow's activities at QMUL, the contribution to the research culture of the Faculty and any future potential collaborations.

How to apply

Applications should be made on the attached form and **duly signed by the nominator and the Head of School (all sections of the form must be completed in order to be considered)** and returned in PDF format to ihss@qmul.ac.uk.

Please note that CV information must be of the length required on the form. Nominations will be returned if CV information exceeds that length.

Deadline for submission

The application deadline is 6pm, Friday 5 June 2020. The outcome will be notified by mid July 2020.