

Guidelines for Global Visiting Fellowship Applications

1 The objectives of the Global Visiting Fellowship Scheme:

The BU Global Visiting Fellowship scheme will support internationally recognised mid-career researchers who are at least five years post-doctoral (or of comparable experience) with outstanding potential in one of [BU's strategic investment](#) areas (SIAs) (and from our list of international [priority partner institutions](#)). The scheme will enable the Global Visiting Fellow to contribute to the internationalisation of BU. The objectives of the scheme are:

- To attract global research talent to BU
- To provide sustained funding and resources for outstanding researchers or those whose career shows a steep upward trajectory
- To provide flexible funding for ambitious unilateral or bi-/multilateral research collaborations to fit the BU2025 goals and strategies
- To develop new, and strengthen existing, international links, relationships and dissemination activities
- To foster interdisciplinary research
- To develop research sustainability through collaboration, building capacity and raising the profile of BU globally

Fellows **must be nominated by a member of academic staff at BU** and approved by the relevant Executive Dean. This collaboration will be expected to propose ambitious and innovative programmes of research and related engagement activities. Additional BU staff members can be added to the nomination. Ideally, these will be early career researchers.

When applying, applicants will need to demonstrate how the award will support and enable their career goals; interdisciplinary research collaborations to meet the aims of [BU2025](#); international links; how they will develop collaborations, sustainability and capacity at BU; and clearly demonstrate that their skills and experience at the time of application match those expected (see section 3).

2 Who can apply?

This scheme aims to support excellent and high potential visiting fellowships in the following BU strategic investment areas:

- Sustainability, Low-Carbon Technology & Materials Science
- Assistive Technology
- Medical Science
- Animation, Simulation & Visualisation

*see [Annex 1](#) for a full description of the strategic investment areas.

Applications that incorporate social sciences and humanities are particularly welcome. In addition, visiting fellows must be employed by a BU priority partner institution. The full list of international priority partners can be found at [Annex 2](#).

2.1 Eligibility - Global Visiting Fellows will be:

- Internationally recognised mid-career researchers who are currently employed outside the UK at one of our [priority partner institutions](#), on a permanent contract, or, if temporary, on a contract that will not end during the course of the fellowship. Applicants will be expected to hold a doctorate of greater than five years by the start date of the fellowship or to be able to demonstrate equivalent research experience and/or training.
- Applications are welcome from researchers who are available to take up a Visiting Fellowship at BU¹ in line with the conditions of the fellowship shown at 5. Applicants who are working outside the UK but are employed primarily by a UK institution are not eligible to apply.
- Applications are welcome from those who have had a career break or time in other roles; there are no time limits in respect of time spent outside a research environment. Global Visiting Fellowships may be held on a part-time basis in order to combine research with personal responsibilities. Applications are particularly

¹ Subject to Visa approvals – Fellows who require a visa to visit the UK may be eligible to do so under the Standard Visitor visa categories of Business and/or Academic or Temporary Worker (Government Authorised Exchange). The appropriate visa will be determined by the purpose of the visit. The grant of any visa is always subject to the standard Home Office general grounds for refusal of a visa.

welcome from women (as a GVF and/or BU nominator) and the panel reserve the right to apply a quota to the funding available for a minimum of one female GVF to be funded per round.

- It is expected that 100% of the Global Visiting Fellows' time at BU (minimum of one month spread across three years) will be committed to the fellowship or activities related to the fellowship. However, with the possibility of ongoing travel restrictions, applicants are asked to consider creative alternatives to travel to deliver the aims of the scheme. It is expected that this will incorporate elements of fused activity, such as public engagement, international networking and dissemination activities, etc. Therefore, those with substantial ongoing research commitments as a result of participation in other grants are ineligible to apply.

Applicants should use the person specification (see section 3) to assess and justify their suitability for the scheme with reference to the objectives of the scheme.

Fellows will have the flexibility to develop a breadth of experience and partnerships, and secure external research funding during the award but should ensure that these other activities complement their focus and achievement of the aims of the fellowship, such as building international and interdisciplinary research collaborations.

3 Person specification:

Scheme applicants should:

- Demonstrate broad knowledge of the interdisciplinary research area of interest, and offer a compelling vision for the excellence and importance of the proposed research
- Take advantage of the flexible support offered, justify how the fellowship would have wider influence in the field
- Have their own original and ambitious plans / ideas, which complement the targeted research areas
- Demonstrate the relevance, timeliness or other aspects of the international collaboration, and the benefits envisaged
- Provide an approach to maximising the impact and influence of the proposed work, in the short and/or long-term. This may involve co-production of knowledge and implementation of this knowledge with business, public sector, civil society sector or the wider community
- Be capable of leading and developing a team or taking a leading role in their field; and show an ability to identify and maximise potential in others
- Demonstrate the ability to choose and develop appropriate collaborations and networks nationally, internationally or across disciplines

Experience and potential:

- Applicants must have the necessary level of skills, knowledge and experience to take forward the proposed Global Visiting Fellowship
- Have a track record of producing challenging, original and productive research outputs that stands out in their field
- Demonstrate flexibility to adapt to opportunity and embrace new directions

Personal development:

- Have identified and proposed opportunities for their own development as impactful and influential research leaders. This could include time for work in other environments, international links etc., development of new skills (e.g., in policy impact or commercialisation)
- Have identified opportunities to access career development support, e.g. mentoring and professional training and development, and relevant training courses that will underpin their future career ambitions and learning

Skills:

- Have strong communication and interpersonal skills and aim to develop these through engagement with different audiences
- Demonstrate how the outcomes of the fellowship will be communicated and used within and outside their immediate community
- Have the ability to build a team and direct them effectively to achieve their own research careers

4 Funding available:

- Total funding available for all Fellowship applications is £35k per round.
- The contribution from the Global Visiting Fellowship fund for **each** fellowship will not normally exceed £21k. It is expected that funds are used in the first two years of the three-year visiting fellowship. The resources requested will not allow under any circumstances for any remuneration including salary payments and/or fees of the Visiting Fellow.
- Funds are provided for the Fellow to carry out research related activities but may be used to work on joint activities with the BU nominator and staff. Acceptable funds may include travel and subsistence, consumables, equipment, networking related costs. Funds can also be used for childcare costs whilst in the

UK. Please note that the type of funding may be restricted dependent on the visa status obtained. Value for money will be viewed favourably, as well as creative ideas for delivering the aims of the scheme.

- Each awarded fellow is required to complete a financial statement form.
- It is expected that funds will be spent within the financial year/s specified in the financial statement form. Funding is allocated accordingly, and unspent funds are not transferrable.

5 **Conditions of the Fellowship:**

Global Visiting Fellows will:

- Hold a Visiting Fellow status at Bournemouth University for a period of up to three years. The period of the Fellowships will normally be from 1 August to 31 July (three years later). The terms of this Fellowship will be laid out in the award letter and associated documentation.
- Be expected to spend at least one month at Bournemouth during the lifetime of the three-year Fellowship. This can be completed accumulatively over the three-year Fellowship. However, with the possibility of ongoing travel restrictions, applicants are asked to consider creative alternatives to travel to deliver the aims of the scheme.
- Be on paid sabbatical leave or other agreed leave from their employer. The award of a Global Visiting Fellowship does not confer any employment rights or create an employment relationship with Bournemouth University. The Fellow remains an employee of their home institution.
- Be encouraged to contribute to the research environment and to the profile of the University through the involvement of staff and students, the dissemination of activities and outcomes, and public engagement. Applications proposing ambitious and innovative programmes of research and related engagement activities will be considered particularly favourably.
- Be encouraged to list the University as an affiliation on all publications or similar outputs produced as a result of the visiting fellowship. Issues of exploitation, dissemination and ownership, as with any collaborative research relationship, will need to be agreed between Bournemouth University and the fellow's home institution and this should be addressed in the application.
- The awarded Fellows will be expected to apply for external funding during the duration of the fellowship (both unilateral bids submitted by the host team as a consequence of the fellowship and/or bilateral/multilateral bids including the Global Visiting Fellow and their home university as a named collaborator). This should be to major funders where the research area is eligible, and for other fellowship schemes, such as the UKRI [Future Leaders Fellowship](#), British Academy [Global Professorships](#), etc. BU's Research Development and Support (RDS) will support awarded Fellows and their nominator with applying for further collaborative opportunities. BU expects that applicants will have to conduct research in the UK.
- BU expects all the researchers it funds to adopt the highest achievable standards in the conduct of their work. This means exhibiting impeccable integrity and following the principles of good research practice in line with the [UUK Concordat to Support Research integrity](#).

Nominating staff/Faculty will:

- Be responsible for making any appropriate arrangements to support the Fellow's visits to the University including completion of the [Non-EEA Visitors Assessment Form](#) as appropriate, for introducing the Fellow to the University and for ensuring they are given adequate guidance and resources to undertake the proposed activities (this includes providing office / lab. space, training, mentoring and support).
- Submit a biannual report, in collaboration with the Fellow, detailing activities and outcomes of the Fellowship. This will be led by the Head of Department and nominator and reported to RPMC. The outcome of the review may result in a Fellow failing to progress at any point during the fellowship and, following due process, BU terminating the visiting fellowship status.
- A final fiscal review will take place one month from the end of the fellowship to assess the quality and significance of the Fellow's work and achievements to date. The HoD and nominator will carry-out the review and report to RPMC. It is expected that following the successful completion of the fellowship, awardees will develop international research partnerships between BU and their permanent residency, and consider applying for collaborative research funding and, if eligible, the British Academy [Global Professorships](#) (if the Fellow wishes to transfer to BU).

If an awarded Fellow wishes to terminate the award, a notice period of one month, or time left on the fellowship if less, will be served and at the end of this period, the fellowship will be terminated.

6 **Application and selection process:**

- Fellows **must be nominated by a member of academic staff at Bournemouth University**, and approved by the Executive Dean.
- The **Fellow must obtain a supporting statement and signature from the relevant office in their home institution**, and provide a short CV, as well as complete [BU's Equality Monitoring Form](#).
- Applications should be submitted by the BU nominating member of staff to researchfellowships@bournemouth.ac.uk **by 18 March 2022**.

- Upon receipt of applications, RDS and Global Engagement will carry out eligibility checks within the scheme rules, such as costings and proposed area of research and any applications deemed ineligible will be rejected.
- The Review Panel will include Professors, an ECR, a Mid-Career academic, a Professional Service representative, and RDS rep. to act as Secretary.
- The Review Panel will meet mid-May 2022. Nominating staff members will be notified of the outcomes within two weeks of the panel meeting.
- The Review Panel will assess applications as per the published assessment criteria below ([Annex 3](#)). Where possible they will attempt to allow as many different Faculties and Departments as possible to benefit from a Global Visiting Fellowship award.
- The review panel will take into account time spent outside an active research or innovation environment, whether through career breaks, flexible working or as a consequence of working in other roles. In line with BU2025, we will positively encourage applications for fellows from under-represented groups. The panel reserve the right to apply a quota to the funding available for a minimum of one female GVF to be funded per round.
- The fund will normally run annually, and BU expects to fund up to five Fellows per call.

7 Diversity

The University values diversity and is committed to ensuring that we treat all individuals fairly and with dignity and respect; the opportunities we provide are open to all; we provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment; and no person experiences more or less favourable treatment on the grounds of a protected characteristic. If requested, reasonable adjustments can be made during the application process and if visiting fellow status is approved at BU.

8 Outcomes

Unsuccessful candidates and their nominators are notified of the decision and will receive feedback from the reviewers. Successful candidates and their nominators are notified of the decision. Any amendments to the application, such as cuts to requested costs, are applied here and included in the offer letter for funding. HR will carry-out immigration checks as appropriate. RDS will inform the Faculty Dean, Heads of Department/SIA leads, the nominator, and HR in order to make arrangements for the Fellows visit to BU.

Global Visiting Fellows will be expected to start on the 1 August of the year the application is submitted.

9 Visa requirements:

Global Visiting Fellows may be required to obtain a visa prior to entry into the United Kingdom for the purpose of the visit. More information can be obtained from the [UK Visas and Immigration \(UKVI\) website](#).

10 Application form and deadline

The application form for the BU Global Visiting Fellowship scheme can be found [here](#) (available to internal staff only). The closing date for 2022 is: **18 March 2022**. There will be one further round in 2023.

Further information

[University website](#). If requested, we can make the guidance available in particular formats to facilitate access².
[Internal site](#) (BU staff only)

Contact

If you are from one of our international priority partner institutes, your research aligns with one of our strategic investment areas, and you would like an introduction to a BU academic to collaborate with, please contact: researchfellowships@bournemouth.ac.uk

² The scheme complies with BU's commitment to equality of opportunity for all, compliance with relevant equality legislation and consistent and fair application of the processes and procedures; and ensures that BU's Diversity and Equality policy is clearly, and encouragingly, signposted.

Annex 1

Bournemouth University Strategic Investment Areas

This scheme aims to support excellent and high potential future research leaders in the following strategic investment areas:

Sustainability, Low-Carbon Technology & Materials Science

Scope:

- Environmental, social, economic and cultural sustainability including historic environment
- Conservation, ecology, and ecosystems modelling
- Sustainability policy including legal, computing and data privacy, environmental, conservation, materials development and use (including circular economy), science and energy policy
- Computing, Geographic Information Systems and remote sensing modelling and applications
- Materials science and applications
- Energy science, low-carbon technology and energy network development

Assistive Technology

Scope:

- Personalisation/accessibility/inclusivity of pedagogy, learning content and learning support/coaching
- Digitalisation and personalisation of secure connected health and medical services
- Design, sensory (cognitive modelling) and remote-sensing developments with visualisation, simulation and application for assistive technology
- Data analytics and adaptive AI for autonomous, interactive and assistive technology
- Robotics, nano-technology, control systems and cybernetics
- Materials science and additive manufacturing applications for assistive technology

Medical Science

Scope:

- Physician Associate (PG), Genetic Counselling (PG) and Anatomy, Pathology, Physiology, and Epidemiology through Medical Science (UG)/Medical programmes
- Digitalisation and personalisation of health and medical products, services and systems; and their impact on patient resilience/autonomy and on public health
- Life Sciences: forensic and pharmaceutical science, biomedical science and gene-editing
- Data science, AI, medical visualisation/imaging and simulation
- Musculo-skeletal science, bioengineering, (nano-)robotics, cybernetics and prosthetics
- Institute of Medical Imaging & Visualisation in medical digital imaging and simulation, including for prosthetics and cybernetics [leading to larger medical infrastructure development]

Animation, Simulation & Visualisation

Scope:

- Technical research, development and applications in Computer Animation, VFX, Games Technology and Film
- Visualisation, simulation and modelling of learning content across all core Fusion Themes
- Personalisation of health and medical services
- Animation, visualisation and simulation of design for assistive technology
- Conservation, heritage, ecology and ecosystems modelling integrating Geographic Information Systems and remote sensing modelling and applications
- Data analytics, visualisation, augmented reality and modelling of medical technology and applications

Annex 2

Bournemouth University International Priority Partner Institutions

Applications for a Global Visiting Fellows will only be accepted from those employed by a BU priority partner institution. The full list of priority partners is shown below.

Africa		
South Africa: University of Cape Town		
Americas		
Brazil: Universidade de Sao Paulo Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul	Canada: University of British Colombia Simon Fraser University University of Saskatchewan University of Victoria	USA: University of California at San Diego Texas A&M University University of Delaware University of Florida University of Michigan University of Texas at Austin
Asia & Australia		
Australia: Monash University University of Melbourne University of Queensland University of Sydney	China: Beihang University Dalian University of Technology Hong Kong Baptist University Northeastern University of China Tsinghua University Xi'an Jiaotong University Zhejiang University	India: Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research
Japan: University of Tokyo	Malaysia: Universiti Sains Malaysia	Singapore: National University of Singapore
Europe		
Cyprus : University of Cyprus	Denmark: University of Copenhagen	Finland: University of Helsinki
France: ENIB Universities and Institutions Paris-Saclay	Italy: University of Genoa University of Sassari	Netherlands: University of Amsterdam Erasmus University Rotterdam
Portugal: University of Lisbon		

Annex 3

BU Global Visiting Fellowship Assessment Criteria:

Successful applicants will demonstrate several of the following elements:

- a proposed Fellow with a strong international profile, at the mid-career stage in the targeted research areas
- clear potential to raise the profile of BU
- a new activity or an element of additionality to the targeted research areas
- the involvement of junior colleagues, particularly early career researchers
- at least one proposed event/activity aimed at early career researchers and one public outreach event, such as a public lecture; these events/activities should also look to engage students in research

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

i. **Quality of the proposed Global Visiting Fellow**

Applications that provide evidence of the proposed Fellow's strong academic track record, including influential publications, leadership on grants and projects, impact on policy and society and membership of prestigious organisations, will be ranked highly.

ii. **Quality and strategic fit of the proposed Global Visiting Fellow's home institution**

Applicants must be employed at one of the University's priority partner institutions.

iii. **Objectives and anticipated outcomes and benefits for the individuals, group(s) and institutions**

It is expected that the objectives of the Global Visiting Fellowship will be ambitious yet achievable. Applications will be ranked highly for demonstrating that the activity and the broader relationship will be of far-reaching benefit to the universities, the individuals and the research area. The Panel will look for direct and indirect measures of success.

These measures should include **quantitative outputs**, such as:

- Publications (including the Fellow and/or the host team as named authors providing BU is acknowledged)
- Conference papers (including the Fellow and/or the host team as named contributors providing BU is acknowledged)
- Funding bids (both unilateral bids submitted by the host group as a consequence of the fellowship or bilateral / multilateral bids including the Global Visiting Fellow and their home university as a named collaborator)
- Learning and teaching collaborations (including plans for undergraduate exchange, joint PhDs, summer schools, e-learning initiatives, shared resources)
- Product development and patents (where an intellectual property agreement is in place)
- Changes to policy or the creation of new policies

These measures should also include **qualitative outcomes**, such as:

- Enhancing the international research environment on campus and for the wider community (where travel is restricted, creative online activities can be proposed as an alternative)
- Initiating a long-term partnership
- Furthering a significant area of interdisciplinary research
- Contributing to the professional development of the individuals involved

The application needs to demonstrate that the Fellowship is the best vehicle to fulfil the given objectives.

iv. **Quality, ambition and strategic fit of the proposed research collaboration facilitated by the Fellowship**

Applications proposing activity supportive of world-leading research in terms of originality, significance and rigour that also supports the strategic aims of BU will achieve the highest score.

v. **Proposed programme of collaborative activities**

Applications will be scored highly if they demonstrate how they are able to contribute to the richness of the local intellectual landscape within and outside of BU. This could be, for example, via public lectures and other events, engagement with doctoral projects and guest lectures on masters and undergraduate level courses. Online activities will be considered.

vi. **Sustainability of the relationship**

Applications which outline a proposed plan of continued engagement will be treated most favourably. This might include details of the potential of the groups to collaboratively leverage external funding, to publish jointly, to cooperate in learning and teaching initiatives or student exchange and to pursue continued joint research of some nature.

The review panel will take into account time spent outside an active research or innovation environment, whether through career breaks, flexible working or as a consequence of working in other roles. In line with BU2025, we will positively encourage applications for fellows from under-represented groups. The panel reserve the right to apply a quota to the funding available for a minimum of one female GVF to be funded per round.