Research Services News: 27 Apr 2017

Co-ordinated University bids
  UK Regenerative Medicine Platform (deadline: noon, 12 May 2017)
  Higher Education Innovation Funding: Connecting Capability Fund (deadline: 17 May 2017)

Workshops, training and information sessions
  Research involving healthy human participants, their tissue and/or personal data, 11 May 2017
  Symplectic Elements (SE) at Oxford Users Forum, 12 May 2017
  Research Professional training session, 26 May 2017

Internal funding opportunities
  Wellcome ISSF PER Seed Fund (deadline: 22 May 2017)
  Oxford-Burma Visiting Funds (deadline: 5 June 2017)

Open Access
  Act on Acceptance – one year on

Other news
  Humanities Innovation Challenge Competition (deadline: 8 May 2017)
  Je-S Grant Maintenance Requests for change of PI
  Research funding metrics: sector comparison – success rates
  New on Funding Insight: Heart Research UK, the Cern fellowship programme, and multidisciplinary team-building

Funder-specific news
  EC/Horizon 2020 news, Brexit round-up, consultations, events and deadlines: see Oxford Gateway to Europe
  HEFCE: Executive Chair Designate of Research England
  HEFCE: guide to funding 2017-18
  HEFCE: Interdisciplinary Research Advisory Panel announced
  MRC: new mental health strategy
  NERC: response to the industrial strategy consultation
  RCUK: Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund investments announced
  RCUK: funding for embedding public engagement
  RCUK: second GCRF collective fund to be launched in later summer 2017
  More news from funders on Research Professional

Co-ordinated University bids
UK Regenerative Medicine Platform (deadline: noon, 12 May 2017)

The UK Regenerative Medicine Platform has announced a call for proposals for interdisciplinary research hubs to address strategically important, tractable challenges on the path towards translation. It is anticipated that one award will be made in each thematic area: Pluripotent Stem Cells and Engineered Cells; The Engineered Cell Environment; Acellular/Smart Materials – 3D architecture.

Only one proposal as hub lead is permitted per applicant institution. If you are interested in making an application please complete an expression of interest form and return it to Leila Whitworth by noon on Friday 12 May.

For more information see the co-ordinated bids page.

Higher Education Innovation Funding: Connecting Capability Fund (deadline: 17 May 2017)

The Connecting Capability Fund is a competitive £85m fund for university collaboration in research commercialisation to contribute to the delivery of the government’s Industrial Strategy. Bids are invited for £3m–5m, three-year projects, with funds to be spent by March 2021.

Final decisions on which bids the University will submit will be made by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation). The internal University deadline for proposals is Wednesday 17 May. If you are interested in submitting a bid, please contact Phil Clare in the first instance.

For more information see the co-ordinated bids page.

Workshops, training and information sessions

Research involving healthy human participants, their tissue and/or personal data, 11 May 2017

A talk on ‘Research involving healthy human participants, their tissue and/or personal data - is ethics approval required, and how is it applied for?’ by Dr Helen Barnby-Porritt, Research Ethics Manager (Medical Sciences), will take place at the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, EPA Seminar Room, on Wednesday 11 May, 3–4pm.

No booking required.

Symplectic Elements (SE) at Oxford Users Forum, 12 May 2017

The Symplectic Elements (SE) at Oxford Users Forum for Trinity term will take place on Friday 12 May, 10am–noon, in Room 3C, Wellington Square.

Symplectic Elements is the University’s tool to record bibliographic and other information about research output. The SE Users Forum is an opportunity for SE users to give their feedback to the SE Helpdesk. All users are welcome.

To RSVP or if you have any queries email symplectic@admin.ox.ac.uk. More information can be found on the SE Users Forum page.

Research Professional training session, 26 May 2017

A Research Professional hands-on training session will take place on Friday 26 May, 9.15–11am, at IT Services, 13 Banbury Road. The session provides a full introduction to the funding information database, including how best to search for research funding and how to access news and Funding Insight content.

Book online

Internal funding opportunities

Wellcome ISSF PER Seed Fund (deadline: 22 May 2017)
The Wellcome ISSF PER Seed Fund is an internal grant scheme to support high quality public engagement with research activities that fall within Wellcome’s areas of research interest. This includes: biomedical science, population health, humanities and social sciences.

The deadline for applications is noon on Monday 22 May. For more information and details of how to apply, please see the Medical Sciences Division website.

**Oxford-Burma Visiting Funds (deadline: 5 June 2017)**

The Oxford-Burma Visiting Funds support staff and postgraduate research students visiting the University of Yangon and potentially other Burma/Myanmar institutions to take part in guest teaching, supervision, joint research, staff training and curriculum development activities.

Full details of the types of applications that the fund supports, the application procedure, and requirements of grant recipients can be found on the **Oxford-Burma Visiting Funds page**.

The next deadline for applications is 5pm on Monday 5 June.

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**Open Access**

**Act on Acceptance - one year on**

It has been a year since the start of HEFCE’s open access policy requiring that journal articles and conference papers are deposited in an open access repository within three months of acceptance for publication to be eligible for the next Research Excellence Framework. In this first year a total of 13,106 items were deposited into ORA via Symplectic, including 6,760 author accepted manuscripts (AAMs) by 2,807 researchers.

For more information and tips for researchers see the **Open Access website**.

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**Other news**

**Humanities Innovation Challenge Competition (deadline: 8 May 2017)**

Oxford University Innovation and TORCH are seeking innovative and entrepreneurial ideas from researchers in humanities disciplines (affiliated to any department or faculty) which they would like to bring to a wider audience. On offer is a first prize of £1,000 cash along with £5,000 of in-kind support, and second and third prizes of in-kind mentor support.

For more information see the **competition website**. The deadline for entries is Monday 8 May.

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**Je-S Grant Maintenance Requests for change of PI**

During the recent Researchfish collection there were a few cases where a grant holder (PI) had changed, but the funder had not been formally notified. This is a reminder that if there is a change of PI a Grant Maintenance Request will need to be submitted to the relevant research council through Je-S.

For further information please see the **Je-S Handbook**.

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**Research funding metrics: sector comparison - success rates**

The Wellcome Trust recently released the number of awards, value of awards and award rates for the 31 UK organisations that held more than £10m in current grant funding in 2016. This data has now been incorporated into the **Sector comparison – success rates** report which forms part of the **research funding metrics** suite of reports. These reports can be access by anyone within the University with a Research BI account. If you do not currently have access to BI and have a requirement to view these reports, please see the **Managing access to BI page** where you can request access.

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**New on Funding Insight:** Heart Research UK, the Cern fellowship programme, and
multidisciplinary team-building

Recent Funding Insight articles on Research Professional include:

- Helen Wilson, Heart Research UK's research manager, on [the research the charity is seeking to fund](#)
- Cern senior fellow Alexander Lunt on [making a successful application to the Cern fellowship programme](#)
- Tim Jackson, director of the University of Surrey's Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity, on [building multidisciplinary teams](#)

Funder-specific news

EC/Horizon 2020 news, Brexit round-up, consultations, events and deadlines: see Oxford Gateway to Europe

For any EC, FP7 and Horizon 2020-related [news / consultations, events and deadlines](#), including factsheets specifically aimed at Oxford researchers and research support staff, please see the [Oxford Gateway to Europe website](#). The website is also regularly updated with the latest about Brexit.

HEFCE: Executive Chair Designate of Research England

David Sweeney, HEFCE's Director of Research, Education and Knowledge Exchange, has been appointed Executive Chair Designate of Research England.

More information can be found [on the HEFCE website](#).

HEFCE: guide to funding 2017-18

HEFCE has published a [guide](#) to how its funding is allocated to higher education institutions.

More information can be found [on the HEFCE website](#).

HEFCE: Interdisciplinary Research Advisory Panel announced

Professor Dame Athene Donald will chair the Research Excellence Framework Interdisciplinary Research Advisory Panel.

For more information see [the HEFCE website](#).

MRC: new mental health strategy

The Medical Research Council's neuroscience and mental health board has launched an updated [mental health strategy](#) to drive forward discovery science in the field.

More information can be found [on the MRC website](#).

NERC: response to the industrial strategy consultation

NERC has published its [response](#) to the government's consultation on its green paper Building our industrial strategy.

More information can be found [on the NERC website](#).

RCUK: Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund investments announced

Business Secretary Greg Clark has announced that the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund would provide £1bn funding over the next four years, focusing on six areas: healthcare and medicine; robotics and artificial intelligence; batteries for clean and flexible energy storage; self-driving vehicles; manufacturing and materials of the future; and satellites and space technology.
For more information see the RCUK website.

**RCUK: funding for embedding public engagement**

RCUK will be launching a funding call to help better embed support for public engagement with research in higher education institutions this spring.

For more information see the RCUK website.

**RCUK: second GCRF collective fund to be launched in later summer 2017**

RCUK has announced that a second GCRF collective fund call will be launched in late summer 2017. This will establish a cohort of large-scale Global Challenges Interdisciplinary Research Hubs to deliver integrated and innovative international research programmes meeting the aims of Official Development Assistance (ODA).

More information can be found on the RCUK website.

**More news from funders on Research Professional**

You can find more news from top research funders on Research Professional.