

Visiting Research Fellowships 2016-17

APPLICATION PACKAGE

Thank you for your enquiry about the Visiting Research Fellowships for the period October 2016 – March 2017.

The Centre of African Studies, with the generous assistance of the A.G. Leventis Foundation, is pleased to announce two Visiting Research Fellowships to be held at the University of Cambridge.

Applications are invited for Visiting Research Fellowships to take effect from October 2016. The maximum duration of a Fellowship is six months and is non-renewable.

Fellows will have access, by agreement, to the holdings of Faculty and Departmental libraries, to the library of the Centre of African Studies and to the University Library, which houses the extensive collection of materials relating to the history of the Commonwealth formerly housed in the Royal Commonwealth Society Library in London.

Each award is worth up to £14,000, out of which travel, college accommodation, maintenance costs and medical insurance will be paid by the Centre on behalf of the fellow. The Centre is not able to provide additional sums for the travel and living expenses of anyone accompanying the Fellow to Cambridge. The sum is not subject to tax in the UK.

The aim of the Fellowships is to enable the fellows to focus on a period of research and writing in Cambridge.

Applications are invited from candidates in all the disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. Applicants are expected to have completed a doctoral degree before the Fellowship start date. Preference will be given to candidates with a distinguished research profile commensurate with their academic rank. Early- to mid-career researchers are particularly encouraged to apply. Offers are normally made to applicants who are permanent residents in Africa. It is expected that applicants would be intending to come to Cambridge to work on a project building on existing research for which a period of residence in Cambridge is demonstrably appropriate. They should present a clear and feasible plan for preparing one or more pieces of work for publication. The initiation of a new research project will not be ruled out where there is a realistic expectation that it could be substantially advanced by the end of the tenure of the Fellowship.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to submit a substantial piece of written work as part of their application.

All documents must be written in English

In order to apply for a Fellowship you will need to submit an application to the Centre of African Studies, University of Cambridge, by **15 January 2016** and to arrange for your references to arrive at the Centre **by the same date**. The Centre is not able to consider applications that are not complete.

This application package contains the following:

- a copy of the notice of award;
- guidance on the information required in your curriculum vitae;
- guidance on the type of project details required;
- guidance for you to pass to your referees.

Your application must include the following:

- your curriculum vitae including details of publications;
- your project details;
- a photocopy of your PhD certificate (if applicable);
- a photocopy of your passport;
- two references to be sent directly by your referees to the Director, University of Cambridge, Centre of African Studies, Alison Richard Building, 7 West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DT, UK. E-mail: centre@african.cam.ac.uk

Completed applications must be sent either by e-mail or in hard copy to:

E-mail: centre@african.cam.ac.uk

**University of Cambridge
Centre of African Studies
Alison Richard Building
7 West Road
Cambridge CB3 9DT
UK**

no later than 15 January 2016

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Applicants should note that applications and references can be sent by email or in hard copy. Applicants are not required to submit their applications by email. The closing date for all completed applications is 15 January 2016. Applications received after this date will be declined.

The University follows an equal opportunities policy and does not discriminate according to race, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

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GUIDANCE ON THE INFORMATION REQUIRED IN YOUR CURRICULUM VITAE

Please ensure that your curriculum vitae contains the following information in addition to the other information you will wish to present:

- your full name and title;
- your date of birth;
- your gender;
- your nationality;
- your correspondence address until September 2016;
- your occupation in the academic year 2015-2016;
- your email address;
- the titles, dates and places of any Fellowships or awards you have held since completing your PhD (if applicable), or will have held before October 2016;
- the names and addresses of the people you have asked to be your referees.

You should particularly note that you should, yourself, ask your referees to write in support of your application. You should ensure that you provide your referees with a copy of your curriculum vitae and project proposal.

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GUIDANCE ON THE PROJECT PROPOSAL

Please ensure that your project proposal includes the following:

- a note as to why residence in *Cambridge* is particularly appropriate for your topic. You might mention relevant library resources or sources or particular academic staff whom you would hope to consult;
- a note of the aims and range of work you would hope to complete in the six months in Cambridge. The Centre expects that many applicants will be continuing or completing research they have already begun. If you intend to begin a new area of research please explain how much of the topic you would be able to cover and how you would complete the work once back in your home country;
- a plan for preparing publications during your fellowship in Cambridge, for instance the completion of a manuscript, submission of articles etc.

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GUIDANCE TO REFEREES

You have been asked by the applicant to write a confidential reference to the Director of the Centre of African Studies for a Visiting Research Fellowship in 2016/17. The Director wishes to thank you in advance for your assistance which is crucial in maintaining the standard of the competition. The Director would be particularly grateful if you were good enough to include in your reference your advice on the areas given below:

- the quality of the applicant's work to date;
- the applicant's suitability for the proposed area of research;
- the extent to which the project proposal prepared by the applicant would benefit from residence in *Cambridge* as opposed to any other location;
- the importance of the proposed research;
- the extent to which the applicant will be able to meet their aims in the period available to them in Cambridge.

All documents must be written in English

References can be sent by email or in hard copy and must be received by the closing date of 15 January 2016.

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