

**FBMH - Research Impact Scholarships**

**Call for PhD Projects and Candidates**

**2020/21**

The Division of Development and Alumni Relations supports the recruitment of PhD students via Research Impact Scholarships (RIS). The Doctoral Academy Management Group has agreed to supplement these funds in order to offer three fully-funded PhD studentships, commencing September 2020. The studentships will cover UK/EU tuition fees, RCUK level stipend and consumables support (£3k/year) for 3 years and **must** be related to one of the themes outlined on the final page of this document.

The scheme will allow supervisors to put forward a project *and* student at the same time. Primary Supervisors who were unsuccessful in securing a studentship via funded programmes during the current recruitment round, but may have an excellent student who is still interested in undertaking a PhD with them, are encouraged to apply.

Completed project proposals and student nominations will be reviewed by School PGR Committees (PGRCs). Each School PGRC will nominate their top three candidates to the Doctoral Academy. An interview process chaired by Jeff Penny (Associate Dean for Postgraduate Research) and including School PGR Directors will be established to select the top candidate in each school to be awarded a scholarship.

**Criteria**

The student must meet the criteria set by the RIS. They must:

* hold (or are about to obtain) a minimum 2:1 Honours undergraduate degree from a reputable HEI
* be interested in acting as an Ambassador for the University and the Division of Development and Alumni Relations and be aware of the importance of donor funding at the University
* be willing to complete a nomination form outlining their interest in being a RIS awardee

All proposals are expected to meet the University’s requirements for PhD supervision, summarised as:

*Members of the supervisory team will have a proven track record of undertaking research at internationally recognised levels of excellence and regularly publish the results in leading outlets, in addition to supervising research students through to timely and successful completion of their degrees.*

Following submission of your project; the following approvals will take place:

**Stage One approval**

Sign-off by School PGR Director (FBMH). Criteria for approval will include checking that the Primary Supervisor:

* has submission rates exceeding 90% of previously completed PGR students, after accounting for any late submissions due to ill health / maternity / insufficient academic progression etc.
* has a good track record of eProg engagement

**Stage Two approval**

Sign-off by Head of Division (FBMH) with line management responsibility for Primary Supervisor. Criteria for approval will include checking the following:

Primary Supervisor (including [Early-Career Researchers](https://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/bmh/research/pgr-supervisors/pgr-activities/pgr-regulations/))

* meets the eligibility criteria as set out in section 3 of the [Supervision Policy](http://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/services/rbess/graduate/code/supervision/)
* can provide a vibrant research environment
* has evidence of significant publications
* currently holds an externally-funded studentship awarded in open competition (e.g. from charitable/industrial sources) ***or*** is actively seeking external/self-funded students via self-funded project advert(s)
* has overall responsibility for leading on the project

Additional Early-Career Researcher (ECR) consideration:

* Staff supporting an ECR can also submit their ‘own’ DTP project

Supervisory Team

* At least one member of the supervisory team has active research grant support (at the start date of the studentship, ie September 2020). All members of the supervisory team must have relevant expertise and details of their contribution to the project must be included on the form. All supervisors are expected to hold a minimum 20% share of the supervisory load.
* The relevant Head of Division (FBMH) will review the suitability of supervisory teams.

Primary Supervisors should complete the following proforma, in conjunction with their nominated student, and return this to the FBMH Doctoral Academy Office ([admissions.doctoralacademy@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:admissions.doctoralacademy@manchester.ac.uk)) with ‘Research Impact Scholarship’ in the subject line. The deadline for submission is **Friday 24 April 2020**.

All queries should be directed to [Tasleem Hanif](mailto:tasleem.hanif@manchester.ac.uk), PGR Recruitment Manager, FBMH Doctoral Academy.

**FBMH - Research Impact Scholarships**

**Supervisory Team and Project Details**

**Supervisory Team**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Supervisory Team** (add rows for additional co-supervisors if necessary) | |
| **Primary Supervisor Name** |  |
| Faculty/School/Division |  |
| Email |  |
| % split of supervision (0-100%) |  |
| Funded by *(i.e. HEFCE, Res Fellow)* |  |
| Position | **Confirmed / Probationary** (delete one) |
| Are you an Early Career Researcher (lecturer or independently (externally) funded fellow within 10 years of receiving your doctoral degree | **Yes / No** (delete one) |
| Does your contract extend beyond the student’s expected registration period (i.e. September 2024) | **Yes / No** (delete one) |
| Number of currently registered PGR students (as Primary Supervisor) |  |
| Number of currently registered PGR students (as co-Supervisor) |  |
| **Submission rates** (for the past 5 years 2010, 2011, 2012,2013, 2014 entry, Manchester based)  This data will be provided to and checked by the Doctoral Academy/Graduate Office for individual supervisors; you are not required to provide your submission rates. However, please indicate here any issues (ie mitigating circumstances) you wish to highlight regarding particular cases of late (beyond 4 years) or non-submitted students: | |
|  | |

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| --- | --- |
| **Please ensure the expected contribution for each Co-Supervisor to justify their inclusion within the Supervisory Team is stated** | |
| **Co-Supervisor 1 Name** |  |
| Faculty/School/Division |  |
| Email |  |
| % split of supervision (0-100%) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Co-Supervisor 2 Name** | if applicable |
| School/Division |  |
| Email |  |
| % split of supervision (0-100%) |  |

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| --- | --- |
| **Finance** | |
| Outline active research grants (as at 01/10/20) awarded to the Supervisory Team   * Include start/end dates and value, credit split between PI and co-I for each grant |  |
| List *externally* funded studentships awarded to the Primary Supervisor since 01/10/18.  Awards secured through Research Council/charity schemes managed by the University should *not* be included. |  |
| Does the Primary Supervisor have a PhD project advertised online via FindAPhD (or similar) to attract self-financed or sponsored students? | Yes / No |

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| **Publications** |
| List the supervisory team’s five most **RECENT** (2017 onwards) AND **RELEVANT** peer reviewed publications. Please state author(s); title; journal name; date of publication. |
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**Project details**

**Projects must be related to one of the University’s philanthropic themes.** See: <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/collaborate/give/cause/>

Select the most relevant theme this project aligns to – also see final page for summary of each theme.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Energy and Sustainability** |
|  | **Graphene and Enterprise** |
|  | **Global Inequalities** |
|  | **Healthy Futures** |
|  | **Discovery** |

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| --- | --- |
| **Project title** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Was this project submitted for a recent DTP call?  If yes, indicate which call | No / Yes  ie BBSRC, MRC |

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| **Project Outline** |
| **Provide details on the project, outlining the objectives, methods, potential outcomes, the training provided** (1 page maximum) |
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**Student Details**

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| --- | --- |
| **Student Name** |  |
| Summary of academic background |  |
| Summary of student’s relevant research experience |  |
| Describe the level of interaction between supervisor/student to date  (ie met in person, skype, visited lab/group, interviewed formally) |  |
| Has the student made an online application recently to one of the funded programmes? | Yes / No |
| Student Email address |  |

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| **Supervisor to write a short supporting to explain why this student has been selected** (approx. 250 words)\* |
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| **Student to write a short supporting statement outlining why they are interested in undertaking this PhD and how they feel donor funding will impact their research** (approx. 250 words)\* |
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**\***more detailed information will be required should the student be successfully awarded a studentship, but these statements will form the basis of the final nomination documentation that is submitted to the Division of Development and Alumni Relations

**Timeframe**

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| --- | --- |
| Deadline for submission of proposals/student | Friday 24 April 2020 |
| Review by School PGRCs | End-May 2020 |
| Doctoral Academy review of nominations | w/c 1 June 2020 |
| Interviews by panel | w/c 15 June 2020 |
| Final decision and nomination of student | By July 2020 |

**Theme summaries**

**Theme 1 : Energy and Sustainability**

New interdisciplinary approaches are urgently needed to prevent the anticipated national and global energy crisis. The University of Manchester is finding solutions to some of the biggest energy challenges we face, from the sustainability of sources to the social factors around inequalities in access to power. The generation of nuclear power is on the increase and is set to double by 2035 in order to meet the global demand for low-carbon energy. One of today’s greatest challenges is to identify and produce secure, affordable and low-carbon energy supply for the future, while also managing the risk and impact of climate change.

Manchester is also at the forefront of the bio-industrial revolution, and our pioneering work into next-generation chemicals for industrial needs is changing how we produce vital materials and have the potential to provide sources of renewable energy.

Strong topics under this theme would include: new technologies to maximise efficient and low carbon energy extraction; smarter engineering to minimise energy wastage; innovative strategies straddling technology and social sciences to encourage low-energy behaviours; techniques to produce reliable, sustainable and smarter chemicals and biofuels.

Projects which might be of particular interest include: Nuclear Science; Bioenergy and Biofuel Research; Energy Demand Management; Climate Change Policy; Energy in Cities

This theme is incorporated within the **Energy** and **Industrial Biotechnology** Research Beacons.

**Theme 2 : Graphene & Enterprise**

Throughout our history, the University has been a hotbed of technological innovation and brilliant original thinking. The encouragement of Enterprise – both through new business development and innovation within organisations - will be vital as a future economic driver for the national and global economy. As the University continues to commercialise the application of Graphene, research in this area would be of particular interest for future Research Impact Scholarship nominations.

The formative years spent at University present an ideal opportunity to support and inspire some of the brightest young thinkers and dynamic new business leaders of the future. The potential is especially strong at learning centres which are home to nationally-leading science and technology, where students are surrounded by successful, entrepreneurial academics and benefit from an environment which has supported a wide range of successful start-up companies, with outstanding business incubator facilities.

Examples of areas of excellence within this theme include: Graphene at the National Graphene Institute; Commercialisation and Entrepreneurship at the Alliance Manchester Business School and beyond; work at the Manchester Institute of Innovation Research (MIoIR).

This theme is incorporated within the **Advanced Materials** Research Beacon.

**Theme 3 : Global Inequalities**

As the world considers progress against the Sustainable Development Goals (put in place September 2015), Manchester is at the forefront in influencing international governmental policies, along with supporting local communities to tackle poverty, and improving emergency response when natural disasters strike.

As the head of global consortium of research and policy experts, we’re pioneering new, more effective anti-poverty strategies, and working with governments to implement them. At the same time we are becoming the UK’s leading specialists in international humanitarian rescue missions. The challenge is to implement progress against poverty in Africa and spread best practice to other nations struggling with poverty. New approaches are urgently needed to improve preparedness for disasters and to better plan and implement the international community’s medical and humanitarian response when they strike.

The Division are keen to show projects within this theme that are part of the Global Development Institute (GDI) and the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI).

This theme is incorporated within the **Addressing Global Inequalities** Research Beacon.

**Theme 4 : Healthy Futures**

Thanks to breakthroughs in medical science, the possibility of preventing disease is within our sights. The University of Manchester is delivering a comprehensive research programme to bring about change *before* people get ill, to make lasting impact for people in Manchester, the UK and across the world.

As a result of advances in research, we now know a vast amount about diseases, our bodies and our genes. There has been a huge investment in developing new drugs and surgical methods to save lives. Prevention and screening research has the opportunity to find solutions to major health problems before people become seriously ill and before lives are lost unnecessarily.

Research areas which might be of particular interest include: Heart Disease; Maternal and Neonatal Health; Cancer; Behavioural Change; Understanding Disease.

This theme is incorporated within the **Cancer** Research Beacon.

**Theme 5 : Discovery**

Much of our research is focused on achieving clear-cut objectives, often within specific time frames. But, like any great university, we’re also excited and engaged by the bigger challenge of pushing back the boundaries of human knowledge. We want to allow the curiosity of our world-class minds to roam freely, in search of discoveries that could unlock great benefit to society.

Projects for this theme aim to support research into areas of exploration, such as the hidden ideas and knowledge within our Special Collections, blue sky biology to understand the mechanisms that govern human life, or improving our knowledge of the dark universe.

The theme is incorporated within **any of the Research Beacons**, dependent on the specific project.