

Leverhulme Research Centres

Call Opens: January 2021
Leverhulme Deadline: 16 April 2021, 4pm
Internal EOI Deadline: Monday 25 January

Please submit your EOI to
researchservices@rhul.ac.uk
by midnight on Monday 25
January

<https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/leverhulme-research-centres>

(NB: pre-call stage at the moment - details of the Leverhulme's application content and process are being reviewed and may change)

For UK universities to set up a Leverhulme Research Centre for outstanding original research aspiring to achieve a step-change in scholarship
The Trust's aim is to encourage new approaches that may establish or reshape a field of study and so transform our understanding of a significant contemporary topic.

Value: Up to £1 million per year; £10 million maximum.

Duration: Between 5 and 10 years.

Costs covered: Salaries for research staff (75% min) and associated research costs (25% max)

Eligibility

- Eligible institutions are universities in the UK.
- A Leverhulme Research Centre may be single-site (one higher education institution) or multi-site ('hub and spoke/s').
- Each **UK university is permitted to make only one bid as the principal applicant ('hub')**.
- Additional involvement in partnership(s) with other universities is permitted (as 'spoke').
- The participation of non-UK international institutions is encouraged, where this is relevant to the Centre's research focus, but this is not a requirement.

What the Trust is looking for

*The Leverhulme Trust invites applications for Research Centres that will **not only conduct research of outstanding originality but also aspire to achieve a significant step-change in scholarship**. The Trust's aim is to encourage new approaches that may establish or reshape a field of study and so transform our understanding of a significant contemporary topic. Applicants are therefore invited to be bold in compiling their bids.*

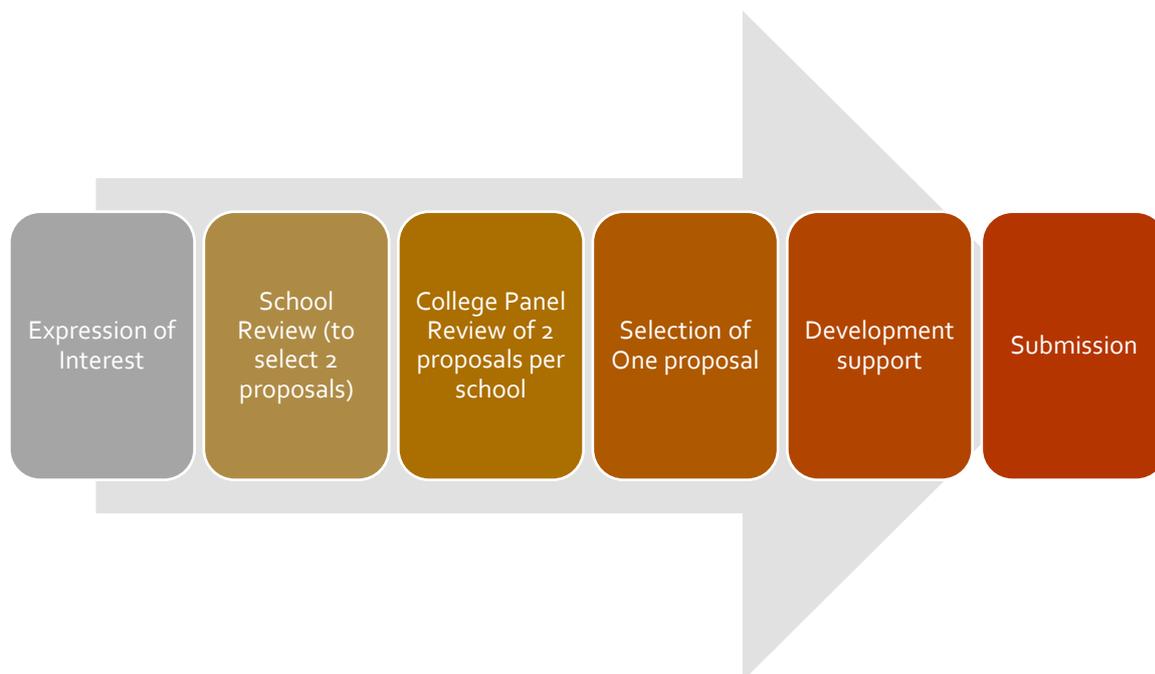
*The Trust has a reputation for encouraging higher-risk research which is often therefore fundamental or curiosity-driven – so-called 'blue skies' – and pan-disciplinary. **The expectation is that Centres will draw upon a range of disciplinary perspectives and expertise, perhaps bringing new disciplinary mixes to bear on a particular topic**. The hope is for bids that fold the social sciences and humanities authentically into the mix, rather than being framed primarily in physical and life science terms.*

*The Centres should have the **capacity to become recognised internationally** for excellence in their chosen area.*

*The chosen area should be **sufficiently large-scale to support an ambitious but realistic research agenda**, for between five and ten years.*

*Leverhulme Research Centres **should not duplicate** existing activity at a comparable scale, whether in Research Council-funded or university research centres.*

The Trust wishes to support research activity where it can be confident that the work will have substantial added-value compared to smaller initiatives in the same area of research.



This competition is only for applications that Royal Holloway is leading

Expression of Interest requires:

1. Short CV (max 2 pages) for the proposed PI and key team and
2. if a “hub and spoke” model, the other Institutions involved and
3. a maximum 2 pages of A4 covering the following:
 - a. The research vision and programme for the Centre
 - i. the reasons why this is important and interesting
 - ii. the key research questions to be addressed
 - iii. how the Centre will create a step change in the subject area
 - b. How the Centre will address the interdisciplinary expectation described by LH (see above)

Please submit your EOI to researchservices@rhul.ac.uk by midnight on **Monday 25 January**

Review and Selection

If more than 2 applications are received with the lead from the same School, the School will select 2 EOIs to be considered by the panel

The College Panel will meet early February and make a decision on which bid to support (only one bid can be submitted by the College as lead).

See links below to Centres funded in 2015 and 2018

Appendix: Centres funded in 2015 and 2018

Leverhulme Centre for Wildfires, Environment and Society <https://centreforwildfires.org/>

Dr Apostolos Voulgarakis

Imperial College London

Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science (LCDS) <https://www.demographicsscience.ox.ac.uk/>

Professor Melinda Mills

University of Oxford

Leverhulme Centre for Anthropocene Biodiversity <https://www.york.ac.uk/anthropocene-biodiversity/>

Professor Chris Thomas

University of York

Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence <http://lcfi.ac.uk/>

Professor Huw Price

University of Cambridge

Leverhulme Centre for Forensic Science <https://www.dundee.ac.uk/leverhulme/>

Professor Niamh Nic Daeid

University of Dundee

Leverhulme Centre for Functional Materials Design <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/leverhulme-research-centre/>

Professor Andrew Cooper

University of Liverpool

Leverhulme Centre for Climate Change Mitigation <http://lc3m.org/>

Professor David Beerling

University of Sheffield