



THE ROYAL
SOCIETY
OF EDINBURGH

Providing public benefit in today's Scotland

Colleen Tait

Tuesday 15 December 2015

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What is the RSE?

**An independent charitable organisation
established by Royal Charter in 1783**

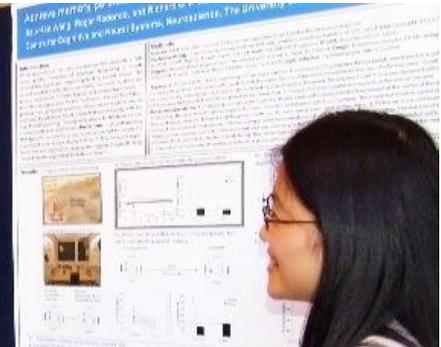
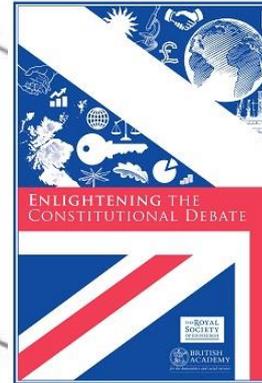
**Scotland's National Academy of
Science and Letters**

**For the "*Advancement of Learning and
Useful Knowledge*"**

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What does the RSE do?



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What is the Fellowship?

Peer-elected, multi-disciplinary group of 1,500 men and women expert in their fields

Highly eminent past and present fellows

Charles Darwin

Adam Smith

J.K. Rowling

Sir Walter Scott

Lord Kelvin

Sir David Attenborough

James Clerk Maxwell





Funding Opportunities for Physicists

- RSE Personal Research Fellowships
- RSE/STFC Enterprise Fellowships
- International Programme
- Lessells Travel Scholarships



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Postdoctoral Personal Research Fellowships

Three funders



ALTERNATE YEARS
(2016/2018...) in:

- Mechanical Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Control Engineering
- Solid State Sciences
- Information Technology
- Geological Sciences
- Chemistry

(nonbiological)



The Scottish
Government

Awarded annually in
all subjects



Awarded annually in
biomedical sciences



Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

- Duration: Up to 5 years
- 2-6 years postdoctoral research experience
- Based in a Scottish HEI or Research Institute
- Salary - £24k-£37k approx. (may rise to £44k in exceptional circumstances)
- Support funds of up to £10k per year
- Disciplines: Fellowships may be in any discipline, except Arts & Humanities, including inter-disciplinary areas. Funding source depends on your subject area
- **Closing date: 15 February 2016**
- Preference will be given to research likely to *enhance the transfer of ideas and technology from the research community into increasing sustainable economic growth for all*. The research projects proposed must align to one or more of the Scottish Government's 15 National Outcomes:



Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

Scottish Government's 15 National Outcomes:-

- 1) We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- 2) We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 3) We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people.
- 4) We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need.
- 5) **We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation.**
- 6) We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 7) Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

- 8) We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- 9) Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.
- 10) We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity.
- 11) We live longer, healthier lives.
- 12) We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.
- 13) We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society.
- 14) Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.
- 15) We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.

Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

What is the Selection Committee looking for?

- People with very strong academic performance and strong CV
- Strong publication record
- People with the potential to become independent researchers
- People with leadership potential
- People who will be excellent ambassadors for the RSE
- Projects which are not purely an extension of previous research
- Strong referee support

Decisions are based on the written application and the presentation at interview

Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

What makes a strong application?

- Answer the questions!
- Write the summary in layman's terms and keep to the word-count
- Use 3-page proposal for details:
 - Objectives of the project
 - Timeline – provide milestones for each year
- Expected outputs
- Expected outcomes– for you and society at large
- Expected impact
- How will you disseminate your results – public engagement activities, use of social media, science festivals, conferences?
- Scottish Govt National Outcomes – how will your project align to one or more of these?
- Use spell check!



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ENTERPRISE FELLOWSHIPS

For researchers of graduate-level or higher with:

- A technology-based business idea
- An interest in building a successful company
- The energy and motivation to help the business reach its potential

STFC eligible areas



STFC welcomes applications from individuals who have been connected to research previously funded by STFC, PPARC, CERN and the EPSRC Nuclear Physics programme.

Applicants do not have to be the lead on a previous STFC- funded projects but must have played some part in the research team.

Can be held in any UK Higher Education Institution



Science & Technology
Facilities Council

The programme



Supports researchers with entrepreneurial ambition by providing:

- 12 month salary
- Business training
- Business mentors
- Access to professional financial/entrepreneurial networks
- Business development funding (£5k-10k)

Strong record of success



The RSE Enterprise Fellowship scheme has operated over the past 18 years and supported over 180 fellowships.

Independent reviews carried out in 2007 by Ernst & Young and Oxford Economics, and by Frontline in 2013, show:

- More than 80 high technology businesses formed
- Of which at least 60 are still trading
- They have raised +£70m follow-on investment
- 90% of that investment is from the private sector

The application form



Six signatures are required:

1. Inventor or PI of the idea
2. Head of Department
3. The applicant
4. IPR Owner (background)
5. Host Institution (foreground IP)
6. Commercialisation Office Representative

Plus:

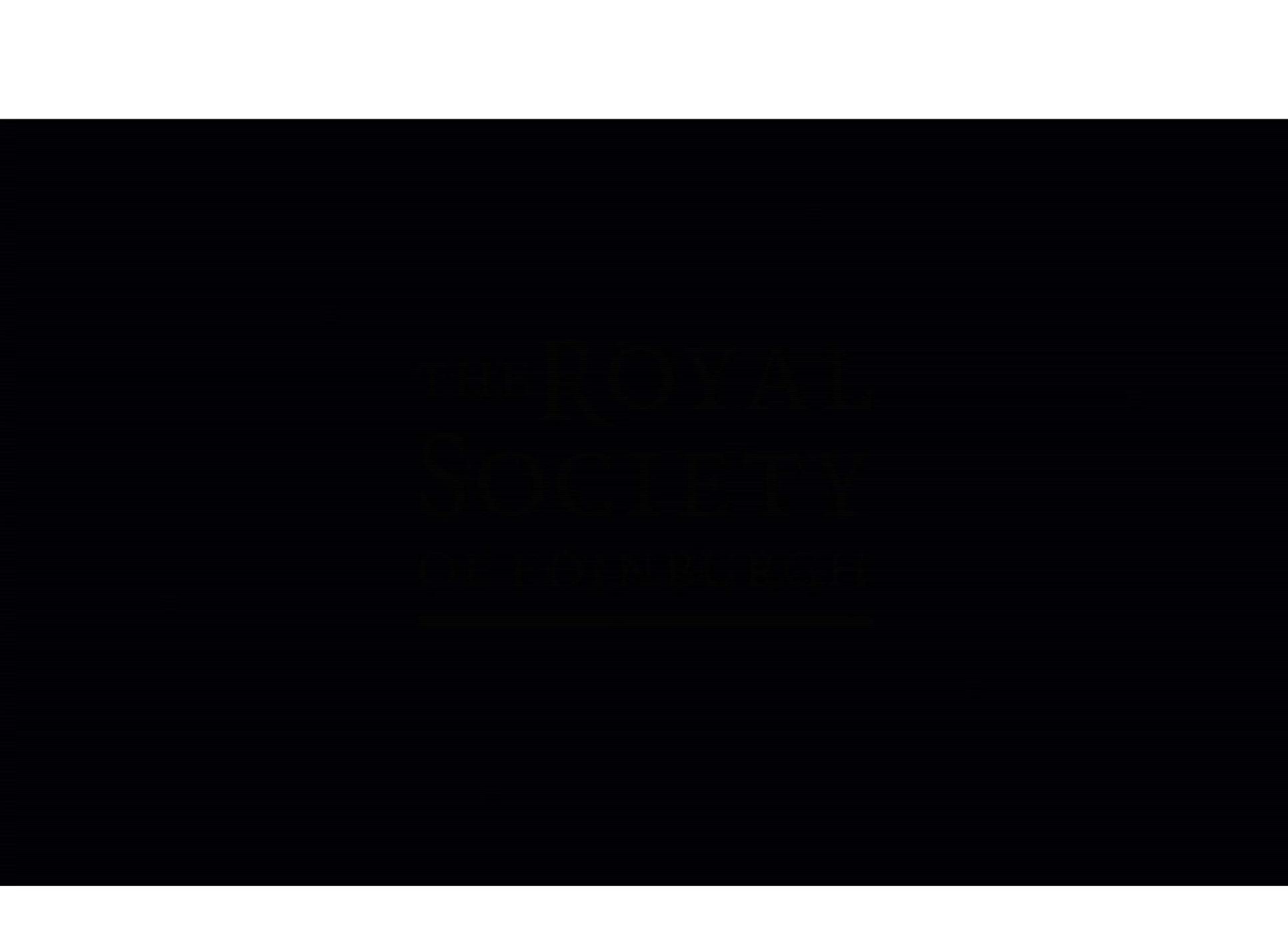
- two Referees' Reports and Declaration of Interest forms
- Inventor/PI report (if not the applicant)
- PoC form (to be completed by Commercialisation Officer of Institution leading on the PoC project)

Selection committee



The selection committee is looking for:

- Effectiveness of technology – what is it and does it work?
- Market potential – what problem are you providing a solution for?
- Commercialisation – how will you commercialise your technology, what business model will you use?
- Success in business – do you have the drive and ambition to succeed?



If you are interested



Next closing date: 4 May 2016 for Fellowships starting 1 October 2016

For further information, please contact:

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RSE website: www.royalsoced.org.uk/enterprise fellowships



International Programme

Two types of awards:

1) **Bilateral Exchanges** stimulate collaboration through bilateral agreements

2) The **Joint Project Schemes** are programmes of 2-year projects. Currently with the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and MoST (Ministry of Science and Technology, Taiwan).



International Bilateral Exchanges

- Programme of two-way international exchanges
- Raises the awareness of Scottish research talent overseas
- Stimulates collaboration through bilateral agreements
- The International Programme is funded by the Scottish Government
- Deadlines: 28 Feb, 31 May, 31 Aug and 30 Nov each year

International Bilateral Exchanges

To support and encourage international links, the RSE has MoUs with national academies worldwide:

Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei (Italy)

Polish Academy of Sciences (Warsaw)

Slovak Academy of Sciences

Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Ministry of Science and Technology, Taiwan

Indian National Science Academy

Pakistan Academy of Sciences

Academy of Sciences Malaysia

Chinese Academy of Sciences (not currently available)

National Natural Science Foundation of China (not currently available)

Chinese Academy of Social Sciences(not currently available)



International Joint Projects

- Programme of 2-year Joint Projects
- Scottish-based post-doctoral researchers can collaborate with Chinese colleagues
- Currently with NSFC, CASS and MoST (Taiwan)
Workshops held in Scotland, China and Taiwan to stimulate collaborations
- Awards in different disciplines each year (e.g. NSFC 2015 topic was *Sensors and Imaging Systems*)
- Deadlines:
 - CASS : **April/May 2016 (tbc)**
 - MoST (Taiwan): **29 January 2016**
 - NSFC : **late 2016 (tbc)**



J M Lessells Travel Scholarships

- Travel scholarships
- Graduates of Scottish Universities in Engineering subjects or who are currently pursuing a postgraduate degree in engineering at a Scottish University
- 2-5 months outside the UK
- Can visit academic institutions or industry
- To develop career and benefit UK
- 5 to 8 awards each year approximately
- Deadline: **April 2016**



Cormack Vacation Research Scholarships

- Undergraduate Vacation Research Scholarships in the field of Astronomy
- Applicants must be full-time undergraduates, normally up to and including the Summer before final year
- Duration of six weeks at £120 a week
- Applications with a clear link to mountain-top observing/data may be considered for the Piazzini Smyth Bequest Award valued at £145 a week
- Deadline: **March 2016**

RSE Awards Team

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