

IAS Bulletin

Professor Stuart Croft, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research (Arts and Social Sciences), welcomes a record number of research fellows to the IAS. Over the last three months the IAS has appointed thirty fellows.



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Autumn 2012

Welcome to the IAS Global Research Fellows, Early Career Fellows and Research Fellows!

On Thursday 4 October, Professor Stuart Croft welcomed a record number of research fellows to the Institute of Advanced Study. This included thirteen Global Research Fellows who have been appointed for up to five years. The purpose of this fellowship scheme is to attract postdoctoral researchers of the very highest calibre and to accelerate their careers. The fellows represent all four faculties of the University and embody the commitment of the IAS to inter-disciplinarity and international research. These prestigious appointments will combine extended time to pursue the best research and advanced career training, together with the resources to achieve global mobility. Fellows will visit global partners and convene major symposia that will allow them to engage with the international academic community.

Professor Croft said: "The Warwick Global Research Fellows will be future research leaders and the IAS will work with them to ensure that they enjoy the support they require to develop as world-leading scholars". Fellows will join a vibrant interdisciplinary research community in the IAS and will also benefit from advanced training delivered through the IAS Academic Careers and Employment programme.

More details of the ACE programme are available at: http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/ias/current/ace/

The IAS has also appointed a record number of Early Career Fellows and Early Career Fellows in Science.

Global Research Fellows: Anne-Marie Broomhall, Physics; Paul Chleboun, Maths; Madeleine Fagan, PAIS; Vaibhav Gadre, Maths; Jason Mast, Sociology; John Meadows, WMS; Femke Molekamp, Renaissance; Chris Moores, History; Graham Pattison, Chemistry; Jacomien Prins, Philosophy; Tara Puri, English; Julie Walsh, Sociology; Xiaowei Zhao, Engineering.

Early Career Fellows: Michelle Kempson, Sociology/Women & Gender; David Hitchcock, History; Kate Scarth, English; David Doddington, History; Gregory Frame, Film; Simone Brioni, Italian; Caterina Sinibaldi, Italian; Serena Bassi, Italian; Dominic Holdaway, Italian.

Early Career Fellows in Science: Isolda Romero, Chemistry; Elizabeth Widman, Systems Biology; Jonathan Foss, Computer Science; Adnan Ali, Complexity Science.

The IAS is also pleased to welcome four new IAS Research Fellows starting this term: Emma Bond, Charlotte Mathieson, Hannah Grainger-Clemson and April Galloway. Emma has a three-year fellowship, co-hosted with the Italian department, which will focus on the research project 'Bodies in Motion'. Charlotte and Hannah will be working with the Wolfson Research Exchange to advance the postdoctoral programme, professionalising and extending the existing Academic Careers and Employability Programme. They will also organise a one-day book festival and edit a new open-access journal. April is working on the University Oral History Project as well as pursuing her own research. She will interview former students and staff who have been at Warwick over the nearly 50 years since the University was founded.

The World of 2020 & Beyond

(symposium held on 10 October 2012)



This exciting one-day symposium was organised by IAS Early Career Fellow Emilio Jimenez and provided a unique glimpse of the past, present and future of our societies. The event brought together specialists from a wide range of different disciplines and also featured speakers from the world of academia and the realm of the practitioner. The speakers reminded us that we live in uncertain times. The staggering pace of change in the so-called information era shows that nothing can be taken for granted. Global economic recession, ecological destruction, relocation of industries, emerging markets, increase of energy consumption and the shifts in the world's geopolitical tectonic plates define a future difficult to imagine.

The seminar kicked off with a review of the real state and commodities cycles by Phil Anderson. Phil gave us a personal narrative of his experiences in previous recessions, offering us his recollections of their impact on a major business in Australia. He then reviewed the orthodox accounts of the factors that create a downturn and argued that these boom and bust cycles must repeat themselves in the future. Phil offered an alternative view of what drives these cycles based on property speculation. His work on a mountain of records in the Library of Congress suggested that this allowed us to identify an eighteen year cycle that had been present since 1808. We were warned about the coming downturn of 2026!

David Murrin took the audience on an exciting walkabout to explore the past, present and future of socio-cultural empires. As we travelled through the history of empires, David outlined their patterns and stages. He insisted that the world of empire was still alive and well and reviewed the present and the future in the light of such cycles. Looking forward to future of rising powers he made some predictions on the world of 2020 and beyond.

Coffee time made us think of commodities and climate change. The speakers reminded us that a growing population and continuous industrialisation will bring added pressure on food production and ecosystems. Professor Brian Thomas' talk revealed how food demand will accelerate rapidly over the next decades perhaps promoting violent conflict. He also showed some new techniques that can contribute to increase food and energy production.

Professor Richard Aldrich, Director of the Institute of Advanced Study, launched the afternoon session. He unveiled how the digital era is changing the concepts of privacy and government intelligence. He looked forward to 2020, perhaps 2030, when we will have seamless computer-brain interface. By this time we will send an email by thinking and then blinking. Every moment of our lives will be recorded on the web with enormous consequences for privacy and surveillance. Indeed, it was suggested that by 2030 privacy will be non-existent. There was some active debate as to whether this represented a utopia or a dystopia.

The seminar concluded with Ian Mason, the Head of Law and Economics at the School of Economic Science. He presented a unique view on how countries that tax land usage have more resilient economics and prosper better than countries that tax capital and labour. This was an optimistic note on which to end an exciting day of discussions and offered us all hope of a better future in 2020.

The Warwick Oral History Network

In Spring 2012, the Warwick Oral History Network – generously supported by the Institute of Advanced Study – celebrated its first anniversary. Founded by Dr Angela Davis and Dr Andrea Hajek in June 2011, the OHN aims at developing a network of researchers - located both in and outside the University of Warwick - from a variety of disciplines, who are engaged or interested in oral history research. We started the academic year with a general seminar, led by Anna Davin from the History Workshop Journal, about the benefits and pitfalls of oral history research in historical research ('What is Oral History?'). In November 2011 we organised – thanks also to the Roberts' Fund for Researchers – an interdisciplinary conference on 'Gender, Subjectivity and Oral History'. Although the conference was more theoretically oriented, it (again) proved an excellent occasion for the sharing of experiences and ideas.

But the OHN also wishes to look beyond academia and promote a dialogue between students and scholars, on the one hand, and oral history practitioners outside the academy, on the other. Thus, in July 2012 we invited representatives from the East Midlands Oral History Archive, the Modern Records Centre at Warwick University and the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum in Coventry to talk about their oral history projects ('Oral History and the Community'). The seminar revealed how differently museums and other institutions engage with oral history material than academics, seeing it more as an end product than as a means to obtain information.

For the next academic year, we are putting together a new series of advanced training sessions to be delivered by scholars and practitioners in the field of oral history and interview-based research. Another major conference will be held during the Spring Term, and we will be hosting several smaller discussion forums as well as book and journal presentations. We also hope to continue the discussion about the interaction between universities and local communities which is one of the themes of the 'Voice of the University' project (see below).

To stay up-to-date or join the network, email Angela Davis (angela.davis@warwick.ac.uk) or Andrea Hajek (andreahajek@gmail.com), or check out our website: go.warwick.ac.uk/oralhistorynetwork.

Voices of the University: Memories of Warwick, 1965 – 2015

In anticipation of Warwick's fifty-year anniversary in 2015, the IAS is embarking on an ambitious oral history project to capture the voices of those who have studied, worked and lived near the University since its creation in 1965. Dr April Gallwey is the Research Fellow leading the project, which will involve the training of a select team of Warwick's undergraduate and postgraduate students, to conduct 200 life history interviews. This unique bank of oral history interviews will be archived at Warwick's Modern Records Centre (MRC) and offer a rich source of data for future researchers and students. Helen Ford, archivist at the MRC, has said: "We are very excited about this project. It will be the first oral history collection to enter the University's archives." Alongside the MRC, the IAS is working closely with the University's Communications Team and Alumni and Development Office, to reach across the generations and gather memories of the people who have made up the history of one of the UK's leading post-war universities.

If you would like to be interviewed, or are a student interested in conducting interviews, please contact Dr April Gallwey:

A.Gallwey@Warwick.ac.uk.

IAS Current Award Schemes and Deadlines at a glance

For full details go to http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/ias/funding_opportunities/

RESEARCH GRANT ACCELERATION AWARD ***new scheme*** Round One: 4 February 2013 (for the Autumn Term 2013) and Round Two: 1 July 2013 (for the Spring Term 2014)

Research Grant Acceleration Awards are intended to support proposal development expenses relating to large grants or prestigious awards, typically over £300k. Awards will usually be spent on teaching replacement, research assistance or proof of concept. Interdisciplinary applications are particularly encouraged.

The normal maximum sum per Research Grant Acceleration award is £5,000.

VACATION SCHOOLS AND CONFERENCES - 22 October 2012

This programme is designed to fund or co-fund research-orientated residential workshops or conferences at Warwick or Warwick's conference location in Venice. The events are geared toward early career (PhD and/or recent postdoctoral) researchers. Funded projects should be focused on specific research questions, methodologies and themes and normally extend over 5 days. The event should range intellectually beyond a single discipline or Warwick department. Successful proposals will allow Warwick-based PhD students and postdoctoral fellows as well as early career researchers drawn from a wider national or international pool to gain new understanding of emerging fields of scholarly analysis in dialogue with more senior researchers and presenters. The ceiling for bids for under this category is £22,000 (based in Warwick) or £25,000 (based in Venice).

EUROPEAN FRONTIERS Round One: 12 November 2012 and Round Two: 20 May 2013

The European Frontiers Scheme is intended to support the development of bids to a wide range of European schemes, including but not limited to: Framework programmes, European Science Foundation grants, bilateral schemes between European and UK Research Councils, and network grants. This scheme is designed to facilitate meetings between Warwick researchers and potential European partners with a view to evolving new programmes of research and/or research networks, and developing funding applications. The ceiling for bids for under this category is £4,000.

EARLY CAREER FELLOWSHIPS 14 January 2013 (2012-13 Round 2) and 17 June (2013-14 Round 1)

This programme supports Warwick doctoral candidates in the transition phase as they move towards postdoctoral careers. Fellows are expected to write research publications, conference papers, job applications and postdoctoral fellowship/grant proposals - while engaging with the interdisciplinary activities of IAS. During their 6 months at IAS, Early Career Fellows are asked to run a symposium or workshop on campus. Autumn Fellowships are potentially extendable to ten months conditional upon satisfactory progress. The Fellowships are available on a part-time basis and many are held in conjunction with part-time employment within or outside the University.

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS – 31 January 2013

Postdoctoral Research Fellowships aim to provide career development opportunities for scholars at a relatively early stage of their careers (normally within 3 years of completing their PhD), but who already show potential to develop a record of research activity

and publications. During the tenure of each post, which can be for up to 3 years, the successful candidates are expected to produce articles for publication, attend and present at conferences, develop internal and external research networks and be involved in the research culture of the IAS and their nominating department.

There are 5 Fellowships on offer, with a starting salary of £27,578.

VISITING FELLOWSHIPS

18 February 2013

The Visiting Fellowship scheme offers excellent opportunities for departments to enhance Impact for REF. We are especially keen to attract Fellows who can assist with Impact-related projects and additional resource will be available for this on a discretionary basis. The primary aim of this scheme is to promote visits by highly distinguished researchers and intellectuals to Warwick. This includes policy makers, representatives of the arts, business, government and industry, artists and writers who will enrich the research landscape across the disciplines at Warwick and contribute to the University's international reputation as a centre of research excellence and innovation.

INCUBATION AWARDS

20 May 2013

Incubation Awards are intended to provide initial funds for identifying and pump-priming new, Warwick-based collaborative research networks that are interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary in their methodology, agenda and personnel. Incubation Awards are designed to expedite scoping activities for collaborative research networks, not to sustain such networks beyond this start-up phase. Applications involve researchers from more than one department and are often deployed to bring researchers from other institutions, including international visitors, to the University to explore collaborative links with Warwick researchers. The ceiling for bids for under this category is £4,000.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AWARDS

Rolling deadline

The IAS Public engagement scheme promotes Warwick-based public engagement activities and is focused on the Research Excellence Framework (REF). The funding councils also highlight economic, social and cultural public engagement as a key research outcome for grant applications. Public engagement events may occur at Warwick, however we are especially keen to promote activities that engage with non-academic partners and which showcase Warwick research in London or other centres where there is ease of access for user-communities. Achieving public engagement is challenging and IAS is happy to advise on engagement with the Third Sector, with think tanks and the world of Whitehall, Westminster and beyond. The ceiling for bids for under this category is £3,000.

RESEARCH NETWORK AWARDS

Rolling deadline

The IAS and the Wolfson Research Exchange are working together to expand the range and variety of cross-campus research networks. IAS plays an important role in assisting with collaborative, interdisciplinary networks, not only financially through Incubation awards, but also with resources such as the IAS Seminar Room in Millburn House and the IAS website where cross-disciplinary networks can be housed on a neutral IAS website rather than on any one department's pages. Modest funding is available for one-day workshops and meetings for established networks.

SPECULATIVE LUNCHES

Rolling deadline

Speculative lunches are intended to offer a forum for informal discussion, enabling Warwick staff to discuss research ideas at an early stage of formulation, with a view to potentially establishing research collaborations around particular themes. The IAS will host up to two of these 'blue skies' events each term around the table of the IAS seminar room in Millburn House. They are open to all members of staff, as well as postdoctoral fellows and postgraduate students, across all faculties, departments and research centres. Co-ordinators are free to structure discussion as they wish and to set their own agenda. They are often used as a forum to respond to the specific thematic calls issued by UK Research Councils.

Summary of IAS awards and deadlines

Vacation Schools and Conferences	Monday 22 October 2012
European Frontiers	Round One: Monday 12 November 2012 Round Two: Monday 20 May 2013
Early Career Fellowships and Early Career Fellowships in Science	Monday 14 January 2013 (2012-13 Round 2) Monday 17 June (2013-14 Round 1)
Research Grant Acceleration Award	Round One: Monday 4 February 2013 (for the Autumn Term 2013) Round Two: Monday 1 July 2013 (for the Spring Term 2014)
Postdoctoral Research Fellowships	Thursday 31 January 2013
Visiting Fellowships 2013-14	Monday 18 February 2013
Incubation Awards	Monday 20 May 2013
Public Engagement Awards	Rolling deadline
Research Networks awards	Rolling deadline
Speculative Lunches	Rolling deadline