

### Reasons to engage with the Institute of Advanced Study (IAS), Durham University

Do you have an ambitious interdisciplinary research idea? Would it help to have buyout to give relief from teaching, along with various other support, and the opportunity to bring world-leading academics to Durham as IAS Fellows to participate in your project? If so, we at the IAS would like to hear from you.

Durham's Institute of Advanced Study (IAS) is a home for growing big ideas. We support a broad and inclusive interdisciplinary community from across the full spectrum of Durham academics, where different perspectives are brought together to develop creative approaches to interesting and important problems. We welcome world-leading researchers to Durham, providing the time and space to work on projects and build future collaborations.

- The IAS nurtures big, creative, and interdisciplinary ideas into research projects by providing invaluable **time, space, networks and community**.
- The IAS and its directorate provide support to help grow these ideas, and connects colleagues to RIS and relevant staff across all four Faculties and to networks linked to research projects within and beyond the university.
- The IAS supports up to 20 visiting fellows per year to work individually and collectively with each other and with Durham colleagues.
- The IAS community is underpinned by a wide network of **Associate Fellows** across Durham University.
- The IAS provides hotdesking facilities for its project PIs and its Associate Fellows.
- Through its websites and newsletter *Transformations*, the Institute connects with a global college of fellows.
- The IAS supports research in the scoping stage as Development Projects and in the incubation stage as Major Projects.

#### IAS Major Projects

- Each project must involve **at least two disciplinary areas or departments ideally from different faculties** within the University, and be genuinely and creatively interdisciplinary.
- Each of the two PIs receive a Christopherson-Knott Fellowship for a **term's buyout** (departments receive £8000 for each PI) from all teaching and service requirements.
- Each major project has 2-4 external Fellows to support and engage with a wider team from across the full spectrum of Durham academics.
- Fellowships are offered to established, globally-recognised scholars, practitioners (such as writers, artists, policy makers etc.) and early career researchers of outstanding promise.
- Visiting Fellows participate in a wide range of events, from public lectures to seminars and workshops.
- The **total investment** in a major project is between £40k and £60k, including teaching buyout (£8000 each for 2 PIs), Fellows visits and research costs before, during and after the duration of the project. This includes project funds of up to £3500 and can cover costs such as workshops (catering; travel for participants) etc. **Fellowship costs** including travel to Durham, accommodation costs in a Durham College, an honorarium of up to £3000, and potential support for research leave (costs of up to £8000 for the three-month period where such funded research leave is not available).
- The various projects in the last few years has ranged from exploring [Threshold Worlds](#) (English, Psychology); [Landscape of Rights](#) (Archaeology, Law); [Risks of Volcanic Eruptions and Airline Industry](#) (Earth Sciences, Business); [Representing Memory](#) (Psychology, English, Anthropology), [Responsible Space Exploitation](#) (Physics, Business, Education); [Exploring Arctic Soundscapes](#) (Geography, Biosciences, Music); [Mind the Gap](#) (Education, English); Firing Up the [Epistemological Engine](#) (Education, Computer Sciences); [Politics of Credibility](#) (Anthropology, Government); Opportunities in [Pollution](#) (Sociology, Physics); [Risks to Youth and Digital Spaces](#) (Education, Marketing) among many others.

- The IAS has supported various Major projects to become larger research grants/entities.

### IAS Development Projects

- The development projects are a fantastic opportunity to start thinking through a project and establish networks with others through and within the IAS.
- The IAS supports fixed term academics to be Co-Is on Development Projects.
- The IAS offers development project fundings (**up to £1500**) for short visits by researchers external to Durham (travel and accommodation); funding for hosting conferences and workshops (travel and accommodation for key participants, catering); funding for short visits for Durham research staff to visit other key researchers.
- The development projects receive support from Co-Directors to help develop the ideas into a major project or other forms.
- Some of the recent development projects are: [Inclusive neurodiverse society](#) (Psychology); [Science and the Media](#) (Economics and Finance; Management and Marketing); [Syntax, Evolution, Mind and Culture](#) (Anthropology, Psychology); [Machine Learning and Change](#) (Geography, Computer Science); [Absence-Presence of Durham's Black History](#) (Anthropology, History, Sociology).

### The Open International Fellowships

- The open international fellowships supported by the IAS can enable Durham academics to bring their collaborators to Durham either in connection to large projects or to their own projects for a duration of three months.
- It supports Durham academics bring a collaborator to Durham to build research, filling gaps in expertise with world leading experts.
- **Fellowship costs** including travel to Durham, accommodation costs in a Durham College, an honorarium of up to £3000, and potential support for research leave (costs of up to £8000 for the three-month period where such funded research leave is not available). £500 is available for the Durham colleague hosting the fellow.

### Postgraduate Community

- The IAS is working closely with the various Doctoral Training centres to create more opportunity for the postgraduate students within the IAS. These include the global postdoctoral Addison Wheeler fellowships (every two years) for PGRs (with their doctorate confirmed) and funding for postgraduate interdisciplinary projects.
- The IAS also carries out various training with the postgraduate community including on interdisciplinarity, ethics.

### [2024/25 Call for Major Project Applications & Fellowship Nominations - Durham University.](#)

The IAS has launched its call for 24-25 Major Projects for major interdisciplinary research ideas across the University. We are inviting applications for Major Projects which should be genuinely interdisciplinary, innovative and ambitious. Contact your IAS Faculty Co-Director for further information or go to: [www.durham.ac.uk/ias](http://www.durham.ac.uk/ias) . The deadline is **midday 13 Jan 2023 for a one-page outline.**

### Addison Wheeler Fellowship

The Addison Wheeler Fellowship has been announced. The scheme is open to applicants of any nationality working in any discipline. A maximum of three fellows will be appointed in the 2022/23 competition. The fellowships are of 36 months' duration and will commence on 1 October 2023. See: [www.durham.ac.uk/research/institutes-and-centres/advanced-study/fellowships-funding/addison-wheeler-fellowship/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/research/institutes-and-centres/advanced-study/fellowships-funding/addison-wheeler-fellowship/) for details. The application deadline is **midnight on 10 January 2023.**