

## iSPER - Funding Bulletin – 17<sup>th</sup> August 2016

**RESEARCH  
WITH  
PLYMOUTH  
UNIVERSITY**  
INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL,  
POLICY & ENTERPRISE  
RESEARCH

Welcome to the second edition of the Institute for Social, Policy and Enterprise Research (iSPER) funding bulletin. In this second bulletin we have included opportunities available through the [Leverhulme Trust](#), which has a distinctive focus on supporting projects where the choice of topic and design is left to the applicant, as well as the [Wellcome Trust](#), which has a number of funding streams related to social scientific healthcare research. In addition, live opportunities relating to the [British Academy](#), [ESRC](#) and [Horizon 2020](#) are also included among others. Finally, we have included links to smaller scale research projects in the [charity and community sector](#). While these aren't necessarily aimed specifically at universities, academics may want to consider applying for some of these grant opportunities where appropriate.

If you are interested in pursuing any of the funding opportunities listed then please do get in touch with us via [FOBResearch@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:FOBResearch@plymouth.ac.uk)

### Quick Links

#### [What funding interests you?](#)

#### [Funding News](#)

#### [New Live Opportunities](#)

- [British Academy](#)
- [ESRC](#)
- [Horizon 2020](#)
- [Independent Social Research Foundation](#)
- [Institute for Small Business and Entrepreneurship](#)
- [Leverhulme Trust](#)
- [Society for Research into Higher Education](#)
- [Wellcome Trust](#)

#### [Live Opportunities from Last Bulletin \(still open\)](#)

#### [Forthcoming Opportunities](#)

- [British Academy](#)
- [Horizon 2020](#)
- [Leverhulme Trust](#)
- [Wellcome Trust](#)

#### [SWCoESA Funding and Collaboration Opportunity](#)

#### [Charity and Community Funding Sources](#)

### What funding interests you?

In order for us to ensure that future editions of the bulletin cover the full breadth of areas that you are seeking to research please do forward to us any keywords linked to your research that we should be incorporating within our searches. In addition, please let us know of any particular funding bodies (other than those listed below) which you would like us to review. Please send this information to: [FOBResearch@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:FOBResearch@plymouth.ac.uk)

As mentioned in the first bulletin we would still encourage researchers to maintain their own searches where possible and the following link provides some guidance from seeking funding from a range of sources: <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/research/support/funding/find-funding>

[Back to top](#)

## Funding News

### Government Guarantees EU Funding Beyond Date UK Leaves the EU

In light of the referendum decision to leave the EU, the government has recently confirmed that where UK organisations bid directly to the European Commission on a competitive basis for EU funding projects, while the UK is still a member of the EU, the Treasury will underwrite the payments of such awards. This will be the case even when specific projects continue beyond the UK's departure from the EU. This move will apply to organisations, including universities, bidding under such European funding streams as [Horizon 2020](#). Further information can be found on the government website by [clicking here](#).

[Back to top](#)

## Live Opportunities

### British Academy

#### British Academy Mid-Career Fellowships

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	Up to £160,000 (British Academy will contribute to full economic cost (FEC) up to this amount but there is a cap of £80,000 on its contribution to the salary)
Duration:	6 to 12 months
Application Deadline:	14 September 2016

The aim of this scheme is to allow successful applicants to obtain time freed from normal teaching and administrative commitments to commit to a major piece of research. The Academy will also look for evidence of a clear commitment to a strategy of public engagement with and communication of the results of the research during the period of the Fellowship.

#### British Academy /Leverhulme Trust Small Research Grants

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	£500 to £10,000
Duration:	Up to 2 years
Scheme opens:	1 September 2016
Application Deadline:	12 October 2016
Award Start Date(s):	1 April 2017 to 31 August 2017

Grants are available to support primary research in the humanities and social sciences. Applications for collaborative or individual projects are equally welcome under this scheme. Funds are available to facilitate initial project planning and development; to support the direct costs of research; and to enable the advancement of research through workshops or conferences, or visits by or to partner scholars.

[Back to top](#)

## Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

**New Investigator Grants**For further information [click here](#)

Value: £100,000 to £300,000 (100% of FEC)

Duration: Usually between 3 and 5 years

Application Deadline: No fixed closing date

This scheme is specifically aimed at supporting new researchers and academics at the start of their career who want to make the transition to an independent researcher through managing their first major research project. These grants replace the ESRC's Future Research Leaders Scheme. Proposals are welcome across the full disciplinary range of the social sciences and at the interface with the wider sciences, although social sciences must represent at least 50% of research focus and effort.

**Secondary Data Analysis Initiative (SDAI) Open Call**For further information [click here](#)

Value: Up to £200,000 (100% of FEC)

Duration: Up to 18 months

Application Deadline: Proposals can be submitted at any time

The SDAI aims to deliver high-quality high-impact research through the deeper exploitation of major data resources created by the ESRC and other agencies. Funding is available for around 20 proposals a year.

**RCUK-FNR Bilateral Agreement – Research Grants Scheme**For further information [click here](#)

Value: £350,000 to £1,000,000 (100% of full economic cost)

Application Deadline: 31 December 2016

Following the signing of a Statement of Intent by Research Councils UK and Fond National de la Recherche (FNR), Luxembourg, the ESRC are inviting the submission of collaborative proposals in the area of the social sciences within the remit of both ESRC and FNR. Collaboration must be with an eligible Luxembourg based partner (e.g. the University of Luxembourg, public research centres, and public bodies, departments and establishments with an authorisation to undertake research in their area of competence).

**Resilience of the UK Food System in a Global Context – Call 2**For further information [click here](#)

Value: Up to £2.8 million (80% of FEC) Please note: The call aims to support a portfolio with a good mix of both small and large scale grants.

Duration: 1 to 5 years

Application Deadline: 10 November 2016

The Global Food Security Programmes' 'Resilience of the UK food system in a global context' research programme supports interdisciplinary projects addressing one or more of the programme's three thematic priorities:

- Optimising the resilience of agricultural systems and landscape whilst enhancing productivity and sustainability.
- Optimising resilience of food supply chains locally and globally.
- Influencing food choice for health, resilience and sustainability at the individual and household level.

The programme aims to bring together researchers from biological, environmental and social sciences, with representatives from policy, industry, and other stakeholders to address these issues.

#### **Understanding the Macroeconomy Network Plus**

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	Up to £3.7 million (80% of FEC)
Duration:	48 months
Outline Application Deadline:	20 September 2016 (4.00 pm)
Full Application Deadline:	6 December 2016 (4.00 pm)
Start Date(s):	No later than 1 April 2017

Proposals are invited to lead, develop and administer a single interdisciplinary 'Network Plus' to develop the capacity needed to sustain a substantive policy-oriented research programme focused on the macroeconomy. Responding to longstanding criticisms of the economics profession following the 2008 financial crisis, the network will promote methodological innovation, explore the potential offered by new data sources and associated new research methodologies, and develop and initiate a series of small-scale pilot studies.

[Back to top](#)

#### **Horizon 2020**

Horizon 2020 is the European Union's main Research and Innovation programme with funding available over the period 2014 to 2020. As outlined above the government has recently confirmed that the Treasury will underwrite the payments of Horizon 2020 awards that are made while the UK is still a member of the EU (see [full story above](#)).

#### **European Research Council Starting Grants 2017**

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	Up to €1.5m
Duration:	Up to 5 years
Application Deadline:	18 October 2016 (5.00 pm Brussels time)

These grants are designed to help researchers make the transition from working under a supervisor to becoming independent investigators. Researchers require between two to seven years of experience since completing a PhD and a scientific track record showing great promise (e.g. having produced at least one important publication without the participation of their PhD supervisor). The grant covers up to 100% of total eligible direct costs of the research plus a contribution of 25% towards indirect costs. An additional €0.5 million (on top of the €1.5m) is also available to cover start-up costs for researchers moving from a third country.

[Back to top](#)

#### **Independent Social Research Foundation (ISRF)**

##### **ISRF Political Economy Research Fellowship Competition**

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Up to £60,000
Duration:	Up to 12 months
Application Deadline:	16 September 2016 (4.00 pm)

This is designed to support independent-minded researchers working in Political Economy, which the ISRF here extends to include the social scientific study of economies across the whole range of the social sciences. The work would be conceptually innovative, interdisciplinary, and unlikely to be funded by existing funding bodies.

The award can be used buy-out the cost of all teaching and associated administration in the applicant's home institution and to support research expenses on a matched-funding basis with the host institution.

[Back to top](#)

### Institute for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (ISBE)

#### Research and Knowledge Exchange Fund (RAKE) First Call for Applications 2016

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Up to £5000
Duration:	12 months
Application Deadline:	31 August 2016 (5.00 pm)

The aim of the RAKE initiative is to encourage and support research activities from academics, third sector organisations, consultants and practitioners with the ambition of drawing together and generating an entrepreneurial community of practice to facilitate knowledge exchange and transfer. Collaborative bids are invited which draw together any combination of third sector organisations, academic researchers, consultants and practitioners. Applications presented as pilot studies, with the aim of generating future funding from other sources, are encouraged.

[Back to top](#)

### Leverhulme Trust

The Leverhulme Trust is one of the largest all-subject providers of research funding in the UK, distributing approximately £80m a year. A distinctive feature of their approach is that for the great majority of the awards they make the choice of topic and the design of the research is left with the applicants and they do not set strategic priorities for their grant-making. For further information about Leverhulme's approach to funding please [click here](#).

Details on Leverhulme's main Research Project Grants, which can be applied to at any time, are outlined below. In addition, Leverhulme also offer a series of fellowship and studentship schemes with fixed deadlines. Where such schemes are live they are included below and there is also detail on forthcoming schemes of theirs in the [Forthcoming Opportunities](#) section.

#### Leverhulme Trust - Research Project Grants

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Up to £500,000
Duration:	Up to 5 years
Application Deadline:	Two stage application process - no fixed deadline for outline proposals

Grants are available for topics of the applicant's choice and cover salary and research costs directly associated with the project. Proposals must reflect the personal vision of the applicant and demonstrate compelling competence in the research design. The Trust favours applications that surmount traditional disciplinary academic boundaries and involve a willingness to take appropriate degrees of risk in setting research objectives. The grants provide support for the salaries of research staff engaged in the project plus associated costs directly related to the research proposed.

#### Leverhulme Trust – International Academic Fellowships

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Up to £40,000
Duration:	3 to 12 months
Scheme Opens:	5 September 2016
Application Deadline:	10 November 2016 (4.00 pm) (recurring)
Award Start Date(s):	1 June 2017 to 1 May 2018

These awards enable established researchers to spend a period of between three and 12 months in one or more research centres outside the UK in order to develop new knowledge, skills and ideas. This could, for example, involve developing new lines of research or innovations in teaching. This scheme will not fund academics who want to devote a period of time abroad entirely to a research project, as that activity is covered by the Trust's Research Fellowships Scheme.

#### Leverhulme Trust – Research Fellowships

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	Up to £50,000
Duration:	3 to 24 months
Scheme Opens:	5 September 2016
Application Deadline:	10 November 2016 (4.00 pm) (recurring)
Award Start Date(s):	1 June 2017 to 1 May 2018

Provides funding for experienced researchers to conduct a programme of research in any discipline for a period of between three and twenty-four months. The awards provide research expenses over and above normal living costs and/or provide a contribution towards reasonable replacement costs or loss of earnings.

[Back to top](#)

#### Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE)

##### SRHE – Annual Research Awards

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Scoping awards - £5,000 Member awards - £10,000 Note: Only direct costs are covered.
Application Deadline:	1 September 2016 (midnight)

The Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE) is an independent and self-supporting UK based international learned society concerned to advance understanding of higher education, especially through the insights, perspectives and knowledge offered by systematic research and scholarship. As part of the Society's programme of strategic initiatives aimed at sustaining research into higher education, the Society is offering a series of annual research awards:

- Scoping Awards: For the exploration of any new or emerging area of higher education research leading to the development of a plan for further research. These awards are open to both members and non-members of the society.
- Member Awards: For research under any aspect of higher education submitted under three overarching themes: higher education policy; higher education and society; and higher education practice. Please note that for these awards the lead applicant must be an individual member of the society.

[Back to top](#)

### Wellcome Trust

The Wellcome Trust is a global charitable foundation which supports scientists and researchers to improve health. Below is information about the Wellcome's Trust Seed Awards, however further details of Wellcome Trust applications can also be found in the [Forthcoming Opportunities](#) section.

#### Seed Awards in Humanities and Social Science

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	£25,000 to £50,000
Duration:	6 to 12 months
Application Deadline:	27 September 2016

Seed Awards help researchers develop compelling and innovative ideas in the humanities and social sciences that enrich our understanding of human and animal health and that may go on to form part of larger grant applications. Support can include research or teaching buy-out leave, research expenses (including costs for a researcher or consultant) and conference/ meeting costs. Awards cannot be used to top-up existing grants or part-fund PhD or Masters courses.

[Back to top](#)

### Live Opportunities from the Last Bulletin (still open)

#### ESRC Large Grants 2016/17

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	£1 million and £2.5 million (at 100% of FEC)
Application Deadline:	13 October 2016
Project timescales:	Between three to five years

The ESRC welcomes proposals for standard research projects, large-scale surveys, infrastructure projects, and for methodological developments in any area of the social sciences which have the potential to effect significant economic or societal impact. They actively encourage interdisciplinarity, both within and beyond the social sciences. It is expected that they will make three or four awards.

#### Global Challenges Research Fund: Building Resilience

For further information [click here](#)

Funding Bodies:	Arts & Humanities Research Council, ESRC, National Environment Research Council
Value:	Up to £200,000 (100% of FEC)
Application Deadline:	6 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 (4.00 pm)

The call is open to inter-disciplinary proposals addressing resilience to natural and man-made environmental hazards in a range of developing world contexts, using a holistic approach which encompasses environmental knowledge, socio-economics, infrastructure, governance, and the history and culture of a community or region that is affected. The focus is on how to build resilience in relation to both sudden and slow-onset environmental hazards taking into account the intersections and relationships with other contexts such as conflict and fragility, poverty and famine, urbanisation, economics and health / disease risks.

[Back to top](#)

#### **Horizon 2020 - Excellent Science - European Research Infrastructures (including e-Infrastructures)**

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	Discretionary
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Application Deadline:	20 September 2016
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Support is available for facilities, resources and services that are used by research communities to conduct research and foster innovation. In particular, grants supporting activities that foster the innovation potential of research infrastructures, for example, by reinforcing partnerships with industry, transfer of knowledge and other dissemination activities, use of research infrastructures by industrial researchers, and involvement of industrial associations in consortia or in advisory bodies.

#### **ICAS Discussion Paper and Call for Research**

For more information and to read the ICAS discussion paper [click here](#).

Funding body:	The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Scotland (ICAS)
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Value:	Up to £25,000
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Application Deadline:	30 September 2016
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The ICAS Research Centre calls for applications for projects addressing issues around performance. The proposals must address the public interest and may include, but not be confined to, the issues outlined in the ICAS discussion paper which is publicly accessible on their website ([click here](#)).

[Back to top](#)

#### **Joseph Roundtree Charitable Trust (JRCT)**

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	From a few hundred pounds to £100,000+
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Application Deadline:	5 September 2016 (12.00) (next round: 12 December 2016)
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The call for JRCT applications in the spheres of peace and security, power and accountability and rights and justice are still open. As noted in the last bulletin the Trust will not fund academic research, except as an integral part of policy and campaigning work that is central to their areas of interest. For further information please consult the previous funding bulletin or [click here](#).

#### **Newton Fund UK-China PhD Placement Programme**

For further information [click here](#)

Application Deadline:	20 September 2016 (12.00pm)
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Sponsorships for UK and Chinese PhD students and their supervisors to spend a period of study of three to 12 months (for PhD students) and up to three months (for supervisors) at higher education institutions in China or the UK. The call focuses on the following research areas: health and life sciences; food and water security; environmental technologies; energy; urbanisation; and education & creative economics for economic development and social welfare.

[Back to top](#)

#### **Newton Fund – Institutional Links Grants – July 2016**

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	£50,000 - £300,000
Application Deadline:	19 September 2016 (4:00 pm).

The programme is designed to fund new, or develop existing, research and innovation collaborations between academic groups, departments and institutions in the UK and those in Newton Fund partner countries. These institutional links should have direct relevance to social welfare and economic development and should open up opportunities for collaboration with private and third sector groups.

#### **Newton Fund – Workshop Grants – July 2016 (for Early-Career Researchers)**

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	Variable – depending on the partner country
Application Deadline:	19 September 2016 (4.00 pm)

The programme funds workshops bringing together early-career researchers from the UK with those of a partner country. Applications must be made by Leading Researchers as defined by the European Commission ([click here](#) for details).

[Back to top](#)

### **Forthcoming Opportunities**

The following are a number of funding opportunities which are either scheduled to emerge in the near future, or anticipated to on the basis of what we know from previous funding rounds. Please note that these details, and particularly the timescales, may be subject to change.

### **British Academy**

#### **British Academy / Leverhulme Trust – Senior Research Fellowships**

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	Not known
Scheme Opens:	12 October 2016
Application Deadline:	16 November 2016
Award Start Date(s):	1 September 2017 to 1 January 2018

These fellowships are intended to enable established scholars needing relief from teaching and administration to have time to bring to completion a significant piece of research through a sustained period of leave of one year.

[Back to top](#)

### **Horizon 2020**

### European Research Council – Consolidator Grants 2017

For further information [click here](#)

Value:	Up to €2million
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Duration:	Up to five years
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Scheme Opens:	20 October 2016
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Application Deadline:	9 February 2017
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These awards are designed to help young principal investigators consolidate their independence. Applicants must have 7-12 years of experience since completing their PhD, a scientific track record showing significant talent and an excellent research proposal. The grant covers up to 100% of total eligible direct costs of the research plus a contribution of 25% towards indirect costs. An additional €0.75 million (on top of the €2m) is also available to cover start-up costs for researchers coming from a third country.

[Back to top](#)

### Leverhulme Trust

#### Leverhulme Trust – Early Career Fellowships

Information on the 2017 round can be found by [clicking here](#)

Value:	50% of each Fellow's total salary to a maximum of £24,000 per annum plus expenses of up to £6000
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Scheme Opens:	1 January 2017
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Application Deadline:	2 March 2017 (4.00 pm)
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Award Start Date(s):	1 September 2017 to 1 May 2018
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This award offers 50% match-funding for the salary costs of a three-year academic research position during which it is expected that they would undertake a significant piece of published work. Applicants must have a track record of research but should not have held an established academic appointment in the UK.

[Back to top](#)

### Wellcome Trust

Applications for the Wellcome Trust awards listed below are considered twice a year and the deadline for preliminary applications for 2016 is already passed. However, details of the timescales for the first 2017 round have recently been released.

#### Collaborative awards in humanities and social science

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Normally £1 million to £1.5 million
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Duration:	Up to 5 years
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Preliminary Application Deadline:	16 January 2017
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Full Application Deadline:	20 March 2017
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These awards fund teams with a track record of working together to tackle major health-related questions in the humanities and social sciences that require a collaborative approach. The intention is to promote the development of new ideas and bring disciplines together to speed the pace of discovery. Support includes:

- Research expenses, including research assistance or PhDs.
- Research or teaching buy-out leave.

- Conference and meeting costs.

Interdisciplinary collaborations which combine the humanities and social sciences with biomedical science or product development are encouraged. Collaborations may be international, and may exist across a university or span a number of institutions.

#### **Investigator awards in humanities and social sciences**

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	From under £300,000 to £1million
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Duration:	Up to 5 years
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Preliminary Application Deadline:	16 January 2017
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Full Application Deadline:	20 March 2017
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These provide funding for researchers in established posts at all career stages working on important questions of relevance to health. Awards may be used to cover research expenses, materials and consumables, equipment, and travel and subsistence costs. Two researchers working together may apply jointly.

#### **Research fellowships in humanities and social science**

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Variable (see details below)
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Duration:	Up to 3 years
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Preliminary Application Deadline:	18 January 2017
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Full Application Deadline:	22 March 2017
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This scheme supports humanities researchers and social scientists who want to explore areas of health but do not hold established academic posts. Candidates should have a sponsor who should hold an established post and be in a position to guarantee space and facilities for the full period of the fellowship. The award provides a basic salary, research expenses, materials and consumables, equipment, and travel and subsistence.

#### **University awards in humanities and social science**

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Variable (see details below)
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Duration:	Up to five years
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Preliminary Application Deadline:	18 January 2017
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Full Application Deadline:	22 March 2017
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University Awards provide support for up to five years at lecturer, senior-lecturer or reader level. The applicant is expected to have a PhD or equivalent experience, and have built up a competitive track record in a relevant area of research. Applicants must be nominated by their prospective head of department and the head of the academic organisation must be able to guarantee a permanent academic position at the end of the award.

The award provides a full salary for three years, 50 per cent in the fourth year and 25 per cent in the fifth year. Awards also support research expenses, materials and consumables, animals, equipment, and travel and subsistence costs.

#### **Humanities and social science doctoral studentships**

For more information [click here](#)

Value:	Covers student's stipend, approved tuition fees, travel to meetings and conferences (up to £1,500) and research expenses (up to £1,500).
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Application Deadline:

22 March 2017

These enable researchers to undertake a humanities or social science doctoral degree in any area of health. Applicants should hold or expect to hold a relevant master's degree and should not already be registered for a research degree, or have received support from another funding body.

[Back to top](#)

### SWCoESA Funding and Collaboration Opportunities

The South West Centre of Excellence in Satellite Applications (SWCoESA) is looking to involve academics in developing a series of solutions for addressing the problems faced by businesses in the marine insurance industry using satellite data. The aim is to create a series of very short abstracts or mini-proposals which could be taken directly to marine insurance industry representatives, who are already engaged with SWCoESA, for their financial sponsorship. The abstracts will be shaped around 12 thematic areas which were identified by industry representatives as key issues for their businesses at a recent SWCoESA event in London, including:

1. Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Video
2. Contextualising big data and analytics
3. What is real-time?
4. Bathymetry data in ports and nearshore infrastructure
5. Concentration of assets in ports
6. of proximity between vessels
7. Distribution of near collisions
8. Emissions monitoring
9. AIS Transponder 'on/off'
10. Telemetry data and its uses
11. Insurance of autonomous vessels
12. Claims & predictive analytics/machine analytics

SWCoESA are currently in the process of seeing who would like to engage with this initiative with a view to holding a workshop for academics this autumn. If you would like to be involved, or require further information, please contact Charlie Dorr, iSPER Manager at [charles.dorr@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:charles.dorr@plymouth.ac.uk).

[Back to top](#)

### Charity and Community Funding Sources

There are a number of funding sources available to support charity and community projects. While these are not specifically designed to support university activity many of them do fund research which may involve academics, often working with community organisations. Examples of some of these potential opportunities include:

- The **Sir Halley Stewart Trust** provides grants to support innovative and pioneering social, medical and religious projects designed to enable human flourishing and prevent suffering. Grant range from one to three years in duration and up to around £60,000 per project. For more information [click here](#).
- Round 5 of the **Edge Fund** which supports grassroots groups working for justice and equality is currently open for applications. The fund provides individual awards of £40,000 for communities facing discrimination and injustice. For more information [click here](#).
- The Edge Fund have also put together a list of funding organisations which fund similar activities to their own. This can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

If you are interested in some of these opportunities but would need help in terms of approaching the funders or potential partners please contact: [FOBResearch@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:FOBResearch@plymouth.ac.uk)

[Back to top](#)