Cheney Fellowships Scheme
Faculty of Arts

Cheney Fellowships Overview

Now in its fourth year, the Cheney Fellowships Scheme, funded through the generosity of Peter and Susan Cheney, is designed to enable talented researchers to spend a period of time working on research at the University of Leeds, exploring new research ideas and building new collaborations.

It will enable you to undertake a period of research at the University of Leeds, where you can spend time thinking, talking, collaborating and developing new ideas with academic colleagues, including staff and research students.

The host: The Cultural Institute

Culture permeates all aspects of human activity, yet research on culture often takes disciplinarily narrow forms. Under the auspices of a new interdisciplinary institute (The Cultural Institute), the University is promoting a new vision of scholarly engagement with culture in all its diversity.

We are keen to receive applications from potential Cheney Fellows proposing imaginative research projects in this spirit, especially in connection with one or more of the following areas:

- Research making use of the distinctive holdings of Special Collections in the University Library;
- Research relating to partner organisations of the Cultural Institute (including, for example, Opera North, the Henry Moore Institute, the Hepworth Gallery, the Thackray Medical Museum);
- Research relating to new methods in digital humanities (for example, digital creativity);
- Research relating to new methods in the study of science, technology and culture (for example, Medical or Environmental Humanities);
- Research relating to cultural value;
• Research into cities and culture.

Further information is available through the Leeds Humanities Research Institute website at http://www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/info/20045/leeds_humanities_research_institute/.

6 Months Fixed Term – Full Time

University Grade 9 (minimum £47,801 p.a.) or Grade 10 (minimum £57,047 p.a.) depending on experience.

Fellows will typically be paid a salary, but alternatives to a salary payment for example granting visiting academic status will also be considered. Where visiting fellows continue to receive a salary from another institution, arrangements will be put in place, by agreement with the University of Leeds and the fellow, to cover travel and subsistence costs during the course of their stay.

Arrangements to access equipment and facilities and funding to cover other costs, for example, consumables, will be agreed with the University prior to commencement of the fellowship.

Fellowships will typically last for 6 months (fixed term) on a full-time basis, but alternative arrangements (for example, multiple shorter visits) may be agreed.

Application Process

As part of the application process you will be required to submit the following documents:

- An academic CV; and;
- A supporting statement describing the work you would undertake during the course of the fellowship, the research group(s) and individual academics you would envisage working with, and how your proposed activity matches the characteristics of the Cheney Fellowship scheme and addresses the assessment criteria (no more than 2 sides of A4, minimum font size 11).

Applications should be submitted to cheneyfellowships@leeds.ac.uk by 5p.m. on Sunday 12th June 2016.

Enquiries about the scheme can be emailed to cheneyfellowships@leeds.ac.uk.

Ref: ARTLH1015
Characteristics of a Cheney Fellowships

Cheney Fellowships will typically be held by senior researchers with a proven track record of internationally significant research and far reaching impact in their field. Although we do not define “senior researcher”, University Grade 9 is the career grade for Associate Professor/Senior Lecturer and University Grade 10 for Professor.

A key objective of the Cheney Fellowship scheme is to foster longer term research collaborations between the fellowship holder and the University of Leeds, a Cheney Fellow will typically have an affiliation with another institution at the time of their appointment (i.e. they will be employed by another institution), and will return to this institution on completion of their fellowship from which they can embed the collaborative activity developed during their stay. Thus, a Cheney Fellowship may be particularly suitable for a candidate wishing to undertake study leave or a sabbatical from their home institution.

Where a fellow is not returning to a home institution, they will need to demonstrate how long term collaborations will be developed in the absence of this academic base.

Typical Cheney fellowship activities include:

- Pursuing and developing relevant research;
- Promoting the integration of their own research expertise with those of the host research group or groups at the University of Leeds and with other research groups outside of Leeds as appropriate;
- Building relationships, developing a significant research network and collaborations with University of Leeds staff which are capable of continuation after the end of their fellowship;
- Introducing University of Leeds staff their own key academic contacts (which may include, for example, contacts overseas or in an industrial setting), and in so doing broaden and deepen their own network of contacts to the benefit of both all;
- Pursuing outputs as discussed at the start of the Fellowship. This may include publishing significant academic, discipline-leading outputs (journal articles, books, conference proceedings etc.), developing a funding proposal, briefing and policy documents, giving seminars and workshops;
• Taking part in knowledge transfer activities where appropriate including appropriate outreach work.

The Cheney Fellowship is expected to provide a springboard to support further work when the fellow has completed their stay in Leeds – continuing collaborations that have been established during the course of the fellowship is both encouraged and expected.

Fellows will play a key role in shaping the objectives of their fellowship, which will be agreed in more detail following appointment.

**Person Specification**

Fellows will be assessed on the extent to which they meet the following criteria (all of which are considered essential):

- Hold a PhD or have equivalent experience;
- A proven track record of activity in the research areas covered by this fellowship round. This may be in academia or in another sector and will have been gained over a significant period of time;
- Have a proven track record of significant and far reaching impact in their field. This will include high quality research outputs (for example, publications). Equivalent outputs for candidates from a non-academic setting will also be considered. *It is expected that candidates appointed at Grade 10 will include a number of world-leading outputs as part of their portfolio of activity;*
- Demonstrable capacity to develop internationally leading research either in academia or in another setting;
- Demonstrable ability to initiate, plan and deliver significant projects or pieces of research work;
- Demonstrable ability to build and maintain effective networks. *It is expected that candidates at Grade 10 will engage with significant international networks and show evidence of effective engagement with and influencing of national and international research agendas;*
- A clear and compelling plan for the fellowship.

Candidates will be shortlisted based on their CV and written statement. The University may also choose to interview candidates (normally via skype or telephone conference). A University-wide panel will make the final decision to select a number of fellows across three Cheney Fellowship areas available in 2016.
Additional Information

Details of the terms and conditions of employment for all staff at the university, including information on pensions and benefits, are available on the Human Resources web pages [http://www.leeds.ac.uk/hr/index.htm](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/hr/index.htm).

University Values

All staff are expected to operate in line with the university’s values and standards, which work as an integral part of our strategy and set out the principles of how we work together. More information about the university’s strategy and values is available at [http://www.leeds.ac.uk/comms/strategy/](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/comms/strategy/).

The Partnership

You will be expected to be aware of and work in line with The Partnership working with students as members of a learning community to provide world class education and an excellent student experience. More information about the Partnership is available at [http://partnership.leeds.ac.uk](http://partnership.leeds.ac.uk).

Disclosure and Barring Service Checks

A Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check is not required for this position. However, applicants who have unspent convictions must indicate this in the ‘other personal details’ section of the application form and send details to the Recruitment Officer.

Disabled Applicants

The posts could be located in any part of the University depending on the area of research. Disabled applicants wishing to review access to the building are invited to contact [cheneyfellowships@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:cheneyfellowships@leeds.ac.uk). Additional information may be sought from Disability Services, e-mail [disability@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disability@leeds.ac.uk) or tel + 44 (0)113 343 3927.

Disabled applicants are not obliged to inform employers of their disability but will still be covered by the Equality Act once their disability becomes known.