

## **NCeSS International Visiting Fellowships Scheme**

### **About the Fellowships Scheme**

NCeSS hosts a programme of visiting research fellowships in e-social science. The scheme allows scholars from outside of the UK to make an extended visit to the NCeSS hub at the University of Manchester or at the universities that host the nodes in order to explore how e-science might benefit their own social science research. Fellows have the assistance of the NCeSS hub team of social scientists, computer scientists and Manchester Computing specialist support staff to advise them in complementing the NCeSS research programme by investigating how Grid technologies might provide new approaches to addressing their social science research questions. Fellows resident at the nodes have the assistance of the local teams too.

### **Eligibility and Deliverables**

The Fellowship scheme is open to social and computer scientists working in universities outside of the UK, or in the private and public sectors outside of the UK, whose research might benefit from, and contribute to, the work of NCeSS. The activities undertaken during tenure of a Fellowship must focus on the application of Grid technologies to make advances in social science research or on the social shaping of e-science. Proposals that fall entirely within computer science or that have no e-science component are ineligible.

Applicants must use the Fellowship period to engage collaboratively and constructively with members of NCeSS through joint research, publications, seminars, training and capacity building activities or other ventures. All Fellows will be required to contribute at least one Working Paper to the NCeSS working papers series during the tenure of their Fellowship. Normally this will comprise an account of research undertaken during the Fellowship. In addition, Fellows must submit a final report on their Fellowship (circa 500 words) within one month of the end of their visit. This report will be subject to an evaluation process.

### **Financial and Practical Information**

Fellowships last between one and six months, comprising one continuous period of residence at the hub or nodes or a series of shorter visits totalling at least 20 working days. Visiting Fellows will become Honorary Research Fellows of the university where they are resident. For the duration of the Fellowship, NCeSS will provide a shared office, computing, internet and library facilities, and access (as required) to specialist computer services such as Access Grid, National Grid Service, MIMAS, CSAR, local HPC and high performance visualisation. Fellows will have direct access to the support staff who assist with these specialist facilities.

Financial assistance of up to £1,000 per month is available for travel to and from the university where Fellows are resident, accommodation there and research costs. All expenditure must be approved before it is incurred and it can only be reimbursed against original receipts. Travel costs are limited to the most economical fares on public transport. NCeSS will be pleased to advise about finding suitable

accommodation. It is anticipated that research costs will normally be seedcorn funding to support applications for more substantial research grants from the research councils and other funders. In exceptional cases (for example, when the Fellow is not in receipt of a salary from other sources) a modest monthly contribution to subsistence will be available, within the £1,000 per month overall maximum for financial assistance.

### **Application Procedure**

Please download and complete an application form ( 204kb) and return it by post to NCeSS, Arthur Lewis Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Oxford Road, University of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PL, or by email to [katy.middlebrough@ncess.ac.uk](mailto:katy.middlebrough@ncess.ac.uk).

The Visiting Research Fellowship scheme is a rolling programme from January 2007 - January 2010. There are four quarterly deadlines each year: 31 December, 31 March, 30 June and 30 September. All applications received in each quarter will be assessed together immediately after the quarter's deadline.

Only fully completed application forms, including the names and addresses of two referees and accompanied by a full curriculum vitae, will be considered. It is expected that decisions regarding applications will be communicated to successful applicants within 10 weeks of the end of each quarter.