

Summary

PhD students, research staff and academic staff are invited to apply for a small grant of up to £750 to deliver a public engagement activity. Awardees are expected to complete the delivery of the activity or programme within 12 months of the award, write a blog post about the outcomes of their activities and attend a follow up workshop to share experiences and learning.

Applicants

Grant applications will be accepted from any King's postgraduate research student or member of research staff. Any member of staff may be a co-applicant. Academic staff working in areas of research which fall within the remit of the Wellcome Trust (www.wellcome.ac.uk) are also eligible. If you have queries about whether your research falls within the remit of the Wellcome Trust, please contact [Jennifer Bardsley](#) to discuss your application. These grants will be supported by the Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (ISSF).

To be eligible, lead applicant must be:

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Career stage | PhD student or research staff | Academic staff |
| Research area | Any | Wellcome Trust remit only |

Aims of the scheme

- *To support staff and PhD students to develop their ability to engage audiences outside King's with research.*
- *To enable a wider community of people to interact with King's research at every stage.*

Priority will be given to projects which facilitate two-way communication (dialogue): for example, activities which enable audiences to share their views on the future direction of research in a particular area. The primary audience(s) for activities should be non-specialists, e.g. families, school children, community groups.

Training

Applications submitted by PhD students or research staff who have attended the [Centre for Doctoral Studies' public engagement training workshops](#) will be given preference over those from PhD students or research staff who have not. ISSF grants will not be subject to this priority. However all applicants are encouraged to consider who else might support them and contribute expertise to the delivery of the project.

[Jennifer Bardsley](#) and [Nigel Eady](#) are willing to have informal discussions with potential applicants about their projects.

Dissemination of learning

Once the project is delivered, awardees will be invited to attend a lunchtime follow-up workshop to discuss learning and next steps. Awardees are also expected to share their experiences, both locally within their faculty/department, and are required to write a blog post for the scheme on what happened and what they learned. This will enable activities to be tracked and recorded, and facilitate reporting to external funders.

Awardees will be supported to publicise their activities and learning through relevant communications channels.

Funding

Grants of up to £750 will be awarded. A clear budget is required in the application.

Funds can be used for:

- Equipment
- Standard class travel
- Catering
- Resources
- Stationery

Funds cannot be used for:

- Salaries

Projects are expected to deliver value for money. Funds can only be used for items that are required for the project.

Application process

Applicants must complete a short application form, which should be submitted by email to doctoraltraining@kcl.ac.uk Applications can be submitted at any time, however, the small grants panel meets twice a year, in November/April.

| Round | Deadline |
|-------|------------------|
| 1 | 27 November 2017 |
| 2 | 23 April 2018 |

Projects must:

- Be delivered within the lifetime of the applicant's contract or studentship at King's and within 12 months of the award.
- Have a clear aim and objectives.
- Have a clear budget.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the audience being targeted.
- Have a clear project plan.
- Detail the steps that will be taken to evaluate the success/impact of the activity.

The selection panel comprises members of the Centre for Doctoral Studies and public engagement experts:

- Dr Nigel Eady (Chair), Head of Researcher Training and Development
- Dr Jennifer Bardsley, Research Development Manager, Guy's Campus
- Dr Ross English, University Lead on Doctoral Student Development
- Dr Dan Glaser, Director, Science Gallery
- Dr Jenny Cook, Research Associate and Public & Community Engagement Manager, Biomedical Research Centre, Guy's & St Thomas' and King's

Example projects

1. Attitudes survey – designing and conducting a survey of public attitudes to potential developments in a particular area of research.

2. School workshop – preparing and delivering a series of science club workshops at a secondary school.
3. Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition – developing exhibits/interactive elements for a stand at the Royal Society's Summer Science Exhibition.

Useful links

- National Co-ordinating Centre for Public Engagement
www.publicengagement.ac.uk
- Involve
www.participationcompass.org
- British Science Association
www.britishtscienceassociation.org

Nigel Eady & Jennifer Bardsley, September 2016

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