



## Researcher–Led Initiatives Fund Competition 2014/15

### Guidance Notes

**PLEASE NOTE:** This initiative is intended to develop your skills for career development and **NOT** designed for funding research projects directly.

#### About the Researcher-Led Initiative Fund Competition

Applications are invited from Doctoral Researchers and Early Career Researchers only.

The Researcher-led Initiatives Fund Competition has been established to support researchers who are pro-actively identifying their own development needs and that of the research community.

Funding is available for initiatives which support personal, professional and career development for researchers. Awards are intended to enable doctoral students and early career research staff to initiate, design, manage and deliver new professional development activities for their peers which will in turn develop the skills and experience needed to progress their own careers.

Examples include:

- Create a Research Seminar Series
- Short visits to other institutions for collaboration and establish networks
- Attend Training events for you and your colleagues

The awards will support short-term, well-defined initiatives that develop and deliver transferable skills, training experiences and/or resources to the applicants' peers across departments. Collaborative applications are encouraged.

To understand the kinds of skills and attributes that this funding is aimed at supporting and developing, please refer to the [Vitae Researcher Development Statement](#) which is a national document derived from the Researcher Development Framework. It is endorsed by all UK Research Councils and other major funding bodies.

#### Award Amount

Awards up to **£2,500** are available

#### ELIGIBILITY

##### Applicants must be:

- Be second year/ third year doctoral students or part-time equivalent

OR

- Be Early Career Researchers in one of the following categories:

- 1) Post-doctoral researchers within five years of receiving their PhD qualification who hold a current contract of employment to conduct research at Edinburgh Napier University **and have received less than £20,000 of external research funding during their research career to date.**

**OR**

- 2) Hold a current contract of employment as a member of academic staff at Edinburgh Napier University and are **engaging in research for the first time.**

## **CRITERIA**

- You must be able to manage your normal study/research/work-load when undertaking the additional activity for which you have applied.
- You will be required to write a report at the end of the project. The report should detail where possible the impact of the event together with your experiences of managing the project. A template for the final report will be sent to successful applicants.
- The initiatives **must be completed by 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015.**
- The application must be signed off by the Head of School and also have the support of the immediate Supervisor/PI/Line Manager.
- An individual may lead on only one application; however, s/he may also take part in a consortium/joint application (but should not be the named lead).

## **Application Process**

Completed application forms should be emailed to Elaine Lambie, Administrator, Research Integrity and Development, [E.Lambie@napier.ac.uk](mailto:E.Lambie@napier.ac.uk), **by 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014.**

## **Selection Process**

Applications will be assessed by a panel chaired by the University's Research Developer and will include the Director of Research Strategy, the Research Degrees Coordinator as well as the relevant faculty Assistant Dean/Director of Research and a representative from Professional Services.

The Panel reserves the right to consider the distribution of the Researcher-led Initiative Fund across the University. The Panel also reserves the right to offer partial funding for applications, and may seek expert advice on any aspect of the application. Applicants may be asked for further information, or to amend their application. The decision of the panel is final. However, you are encouraged to seek feedback on your application.

## **Further Information**

For further information and questions, please contact Elaine Lambie, Administrator, Research Integrity and Development, [E.Lambie@napier.ac.uk](mailto:E.Lambie@napier.ac.uk), ext. 6366.