



Public Policy Secondment Competition Further Details

Background

The new University-wide Public Policy Initiative is seeking to encourage academic staff with a research/knowledge exchange focus on any area of public policy, to apply for a secondment to work part-time in the Centre for a period typically of up to a year typically starting in September 2013-14 (but could be later by agreement).

Public Policy is the University's new initiative promoting research and knowledge exchange in a wide range of substantive areas. Primarily in the social sciences, the Centre seeks to conduct interdisciplinary as well as cutting edge disciplinary research, events, public engagement and policy influencing. We seek to promote and advance existing research strengths in the University and build new areas, too. We want to increase the synergies, potential or actual, between our different policy-related strengths. The initiative seeks to make an impact at local, Scottish, UK and international levels/policy arenas. The Centre is associated with and seeks to complement and enhance existing policy-oriented research organisations in the University, including:

- Adam Smith Research Foundation
- Centre for Cultural Policy Research
- Centre for Research on Racism, Ethnicity and Nationalism
- CREATE (Creativity, Regulation, Enterprise and Technology)
- GRAMNET and Human Rights Network
- Institute of Health and Well-Being
- Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research
- Solway Centre for Environment and Culture
- Strathclyde Centre for Disability Research

Successful applicants will be expected to spend significant time working with the public policy initiative, participating in its activities, presenting at events and seminar series, contributing to a range of dissemination and social media work. They will be expected to complete a short post-secondment report. Initiative management will monitor performance against the initial proposal objectives. There will be dedicated office space for the secondees on campus and access to support staff.

The initiative is directed by Kenneth Gibb (ken.gibb@glasgow.ac.uk) and its knowledge exchange function is led by Des McNulty (des.mculty@glasgow.ac.uk). Located in the School of Social and Political Sciences, the initiative is supported by the College of Social Sciences but is a University-wide project to further all aspects of engagement with public policy and the University KE contribution. Either Ken or Des would be happy to provide more information about the ambitions and plans going forward. It will be

formally launched later in the academic year but will be developing a series of events and activities from the beginning of March. A small budget for travel costs will be made available to support the secondment.

The Internal Competition

Permanent academic staff (anyone from lecturer to professor) are warmly encouraged to apply if they wish a role in driving forward our public policy research and knowledge exchange. We invite applications for the secondment competition, along with a research proposal detailing the public policy research that they will carry out. The period of secondment will be for a minimum of 6 months and maximum of 12 months. It is expected to cover no more than 50% of the proposer's time. Teaching and administration costs will be remunerated to the successful applicant's school. The programme is due to start with the new academic session 2013-14. We will also consider those staff who wish to use part or all of their study leave period within the secondment. The competition will support up to three appointments in what we anticipate will be an annual competition.

We especially encourage proposals in the following areas (though we welcome proposals regardless of theme) – aspects of the 2014 referendum; the policy process; 'wicked' problems¹ and their solutions and topics related to your College's strategic research priority themes.

Key Features of the Competition

1. Applications should include a letter of support from the head of school (or other line manager) indicating that they have acceptable arrangements in place or planned for cover for the applicant, and that the school supports the research/knowledge exchange proposal as part of the application.
2. Applicants should detail the time period and the extent of the secondment (we expect the FTE share to be 50% for a period no less than 6 months, and no more than 12 months).
3. Applicants should detail in no more than 4 sides of A4 (12 font), a clear outline of their proposal. This should include:
 - Title and summary of the proposal
 - Brief literature review and identification of policy relevance and fit with relevant University and College/School strategic research themes
 - Outline of proposed research methods
 - Succinctly explain why this research is timely, significant and will contribute to your personal and wider University objectives.

¹ Complex policy problems that are difficult to tackle - often multi-causal and requiring holistic, multi-sector solutions e.g. public health inequalities, multiple deprivation or climate change.



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- In line with our goal to increase cross-disciplinary synergies and build capacity, applicants should state with whom they intend to work and what links to other areas they will build.
 - Intended academic and research user outcomes, dissemination, KE activities and expected impacts, and a plan for how this impact will be achieved and evidenced.
 - How the secondment project will develop new externally funded research or knowledge exchange proposals
 - Timeline for activities should be clearly laid out and justified.
 - Evidence of any relevant co-funding, links to future or carry-on research funding either sought or achieved
4. The selection of the successful candidate(s) will be made by Kenneth Gibb, Des McNulty and the Dean for Research of the College of Social Sciences.
 5. The closing date for applications will be **Sunday April 7 2013** with a decision on successful applications communicated by the third week of April.
 6. Please send completed applications (including Head of School letters of support) to Emma Smith, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Glasgow, 25 Bute Gardens Glasgow G12 8RS (or Emma.Smith.2@Glasgow.ac.uk).

Professor Kenneth Gibb
Director, Public Policy Initiative