

2023 – 2024 | TORCH - Brookes Creative Industries Collaboration

Guidance Notes

Oxford Brookes University and the **University of Oxford** have launched a collaboration to work together with a partner from the Creative Industries. As Universities in the region, we are collaborating to create a space for a mutually beneficial research and innovation project working with organisations locally, nationally and internationally.

We welcome applications from **University of Oxford Humanities** researchers to work with researchers from **Oxford Brookes University** as part of this new Creative Industries collaboration.

This open-call will fund a 12-month project between a researcher from the University of Oxford Humanities Division and a researcher from Oxford Brookes, with an organisation from the Creative Industries.

For this application you will need to have identified a researcher at the partner university (i.e. someone at the University of Oxford if you are at Brookes, and someone at Brookes if you are at the University of Oxford) along with an external partner (a creative industries organisation). We will host an online networking session to give researchers from both universities an opportunity to meet one another (date and time TBC). As a starting point, we encourage University of Oxford researchers to look through the Oxford Brookes [Creative Industries Research and Innovation network](#) webpage to get a sense of ongoing clusters and projects that might be of interest.

This opportunity is open to existing collaborations looking to develop further, and also for colleagues looking to develop a new relationship in this collaborative space. If you would like help identifying a collaborator in either University or an organisation in the Creative Industries, please feel free to get in touch with Tasha Patel (Creative Industries Officer, University of Oxford; tasha.patel@humanities.ox.ac.uk) in the first instance.

Timeline

➔ For this call round, funds must be spent by 20 July 2023 the latest.

Call opening	HT 2023 Week 11	Monday	03 April 2023	17:00 (BST)
Call closing	TT 2023 Week 6	Thursday	01 June 2023	12:00 noon (BST)
Outcome	TT 2023 Week 9	Friday	23 June 2023	
Project time	Between		01 August 2023	- 31 July 2024
Report	By		31 August 2024	

Faculty/Department Approval

All applications will need Faculty/Department approval **before** the call final deadline. Typically, this is a week before the final deadline. We therefore strongly advise to discuss your application with your Faculty/Department Research Facilitator well before the deadline.

Eligibility

All applicants must either be postholders with an employment contract containing a research mandate or an Early Career Researcher (ECR)/Junior Research Fellow (JRF). The academic post must last until at least to the end of the project collaboration (from the agreed start date to 31 July 2024). Applicants **MUST** have the support of their faculty **AND** in the case of ECR/JRF applicants, agreement from their line-manager or Senior Tutor to be released from their current post to undertake the project collaboration. To qualify as an ECR/JRF, you must have submitted

your doctoral thesis not more than five years prior to the start of the project collaboration (pro-rata for career breaks and/or work part-time).

Purpose and aim of fund

This fund is set up to support a collaboration between researchers in the Humanities Division of the University of Oxford and those at Oxford Brookes, particularly those in the Creative Industries Research and Innovation Network. It offers funding for strategic projects that use innovative research approaches and practice. It is essential that projects must work in a mutually beneficial way with the external partner and the researchers at the two Universities.

We hope that projects will:

- Develop new, and build on existing, research-led relationships and mutually beneficial projects between Oxford researchers and the creative industries external partner.
- Connect with the external partner on their priority research and development areas.
- Illustrate innovative and entrepreneurial practices within Humanities research engagement and collaboration.
- Provide an opportunity for researchers to trial and experiment ideas, develop collaborative projects and demonstrate the breadth of collaborative opportunities across different disciplines.

What do we mean by Creative Industries?

The Creative Industries represent one of the fastest growing areas of the UK economy – contributing £115.9bn in gross value added (GVA) in 2019 alone. The Creative Industries include (but are not strictly limited to):

- Advertising and marketing
- Animations and visual effects (VFX)
- Art
- Virtual Reality (VR)
- Augmented Reality (AR)
- Video games
- Architecture
- Crafts
- Design (product, graphic, fashion)
- Film, TV, video, radio and photography
- IT, software and computer services
- Publishing
- Museums, galleries and libraries
- Music and sound arts
- Heritage
- Theatre, Performance and Dance

Funding available

TOTAL budget for this scheme: £24,000 (Jointly funded by the 2 Universities)

Funding available to support each researcher

Mid- to Late-career: This may include buyout of teaching, either as one term or pro rata across several terms, and/or hourly paid research or teaching assistance (up to £9,000).

Early-career: An early-career option is also available for those who submitted their thesis no more than five years (not including any breaks) prior to the start of the project. The early-career route will award up to a 0.2 FTE staff contract at (pro rata) grade 7.1 (up to £9,000).

Funding available for activity

The total funding available for activity is up to £6,000 for the project. Please outline in the application form clearly and specifically what you would propose to spend this on. Please also include detailed justification for this expenditure.

All funds awarded must be spent by 20 July 2024 with events, workshops, travel etc. to be completed before this deadline.

Eligible Activities

- Public engagement with research projects, events, workshops
- Travel and expenses for meetings
- Partner research and development workshops and activities (expenses, direct activity costs)
- Prototypes and pilot/testing
- Any other justifiable activities for this project

Please use the application form and the Case for Support document to outline the justification.

Ineligible costs

- overheads
- indirect/estates costs or equivalent 'bench fees'
- books
- general office supplies
- computer hardware.

Conflict of Interest

Declaration of conflict of interests, arising through this project, is required from the PI, Co-applicant(s), and project partner(s). Please complete the respective section on the 'Case for Support' document.

Project Partner

The main project partner can be any organisation or person suitable for the proposed project but must not be a higher education/academic institution.

How to apply

Applications must be made using the [IRAMS](#) online form. Please provide your external partner's name, email, and, where applicable, the name of the organisation as a collaborator. The budget tab must be completed with an estimate of all costs; the buy-out or staff contract cost for early-career researchers should be included at up to £9,000.

Applications for projects are submitted via the University's Internal Research Award Management System ([IRAMS](#)). This is a two-part process:

- I. Complete the online application form including the lay summary.
- II. Upload the Case for Support in PDF format (using the Word template available in IRAMS application system; which should be saved as a PDF before submitting).

The **Case for Support** word document structured as follows:

- 1) **A project proposal** (500 words) outlining:
 - a) A plan of how you will collaborate with your partner organization during the project collaboration
 - b) An outline of the collaboration legacy (recognising these may change or adapt during the course of the project).
 - i. Examples include: an exhibition or performance - online or physical - or public event(s), a website, multi-media content such as blogs, an article in The Conversation or for the Oxford Arts Blog, podcasts, a joint publication, further collaboration with your partner or consultancy through an OUI Framework agreement, internship(s), a joint application for an external funding scheme
 - c) The ways in which you will reach and engage non-specialist audiences outside of academia, the objectives for that engagement, and ways you might seek to evaluate engagement.
- 2) **A research benefit statement** (200 words) describing how this project will benefit your research, and, where appropriate, identifying research outputs that may arise from the project.

- 3) **A partner statement** (200 words) that addresses, from the partner's perspective, the need for academic expertise, the benefit to their organisation, and what might change as a consequence of the project collaboration. This statement must be written by, and/or agreed with, the partner.
- 4) **A clear breakdown and justification of the project expenses.** Expenses might be sought for items such as venue hire, transport, or other materials to develop the project. If you are a senior researcher and would like to apply for funding for resources or assistance instead of a buy-out, please detail these costs here. **Funds awarded must be spent by 20 July 2024 (giving Finance time to process the payment requests) with all events, workshops, travel etc. to be completed by 31 July 2024.**
- 5) **For early-career applicants only**, additional confirmation from your line-manager, senior tutor, or faculty chair, that you will be released from your role to undertake the project part-time.

→ Applications are submitted online and **must then be approved by your faculty** (Oxford University) through the IRAMS approval system before the published deadline. Please ensure that you **discuss your application in advance with your Research Director and/or Head of Administration and Finance.** (Oxford University and Brookes).

Applications are made using the [IRAMS](#) online form. Please provide your research partner's name and email, and the external partner organisation's name.

Queries and surgeries

Applicants with questions regarding the scheme or application process, including queries relating to eligibility, should email kesupport@humanities.ox.ac.uk for further advice and assistance.

We may be able to connect potential applicants with external partner contacts before applications are submitted. For those who want further advice on their application, please email Daniela Treveri Gennari (dtreveri-gennari@brookes.ac.uk) and/or Tasha Patel (tasha.patel@humanities.ox.ac.uk).

Application deadline

Trinity Term | 01 June 2023 | 12:00 noon BST

Application submission

Online via [IRAMS](#) (SSO) webform only