

# Newcastle University & British School at Rome

## Connect Fellowships:

### Application Guidance Notes

[Newcastle University](#) and the [British School at Rome](#) have a well-established partnership across the Humanities and are developing new collaborative projects that build research capacity, promote knowledge exchange and expand academic networks. To support these aims, a new joint Fellowship scheme was launched in autumn 2022. This scheme features two distinct strands:

- the Newcastle University/BSR Bilateral Fellowships; and
- the BSR/Newcastle University Connect Fellowships.

This guidance document relates specifically to the Newcastle University/BSR Connect Fellowships.

[You can find a short video of the 2022/23 Connect Fellow discussing their project here.](#)

#### **Aims and scope of the Connect Fellowship**

This is a two-stage fellowship of at least six weeks' duration, allowing Fellows to be hosted consecutively by NU and BSR, or by the BSR and NU. This is aimed at unaffiliated scholars or non-academic candidates from the broad heritage, gallery, library, archive and museum (GLAM) and/or architecture sectors, including relevant policymaking entities, preferably with NU/BSR connections. The aim is to provide:

- a) Opportunities for career development, e.g. for unaffiliated early career researchers without current contracts;
- b) Time and space in which to progress a discrete project/output, particularly where these connect scholarly and sectoral issues;
- c) Opportunities to network, showcase and discuss projects, potentially feeding into future collaborations; and/or
- d) Access a dedicated mentoring relationship at the partner institution, potentially including a virtual introduction prior to the uptake of the Fellowship.

One Fellowship will be available for academic year 2023/24.

#### **Operational details**

*When can the Fellowship be taken up?*

This Fellowship can be held in late April to mid-July, with the BSR part of the fellowship taking place between 15 May and 26 June. The exact dates can be negotiated between the awardee and each host institution.

*What is covered by these Fellowships?*

- Funding to cover travel and accommodation expenses, plus a per diem for subsistence

- At NU:
  - Desk space for research and networking
  - A smartcard enabling access to our physical and virtual Library resources
  - Provision for the Fellow to showcase their work at a seminar or research workshop.
- At the BSR:
  - Dedicated desk space in the BSR library (open 24/7)
  - Full board
  - Attendance at on-site events (lectures, workshops, exhibitions)
  - Help with access to sites and research collections/resources
  - Help with introductions via the BSR's large network in Rome and Italy

*What is **not** covered by these Fellowships?*

- We are unable to offer funding for salary buyout; applicants are strongly advised to discuss this issue with their employer before submitting their application.

## **Application process**

**[Applications for the Connect Fellowship can be submitted via this online form here](#)**

Applications will be assessed via a joint selection panel featuring representatives from both Newcastle University and the British School at Rome.

Successful applications will demonstrate the following:

- A project that is academically rigorous, focuses on subjects within the remit of the British School at Rome and its collections, and is manageable within the timeframe of the Fellowship.
- Strong and clear alignment with the [NU Vision & Strategy](#) and clear evidence of the added value of time spent at the BSR. You should explicitly reference, where possible, potential or existing connections collections, people and partnerships at both host institutions.
- A clear plan for how the work being done during the Fellowship will feed into your future research, teaching or work practice, and how the Fellowship will support your career development.
- Where possible, your project should ideally leverage the research strengths of both partners and mutual networks in the UK and EU, such as the other organisations making up the [British International Research Institutes \(BIRI\)](#).

You will also be asked to give the details of a referee (whether academic or employer) who is willing to give a reference in support of your application.

Any queries can be sent to Susan McLean ([susan.mclean@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:susan.mclean@newcastle.ac.uk)).

**The deadline for applications is Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023.** We expect to be able to inform you of the outcome of your application by Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023.