Newcastle University & British School at Rome Bilateral 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 Bilateral Fellowships.

You can find a short video of the 2022/23 NU Bilateral Fellow discussing their project here.

Aims and scope of the Fellowships

These are short-term, bespoke fellowships of a month or less in duration, aimed at colleagues at postdoctoral level (or standing) upwards. They will allow for either BSR staff to spend time at Newcastle, or for Newcastle staff to spend time at the BSR. The aim is to provide BSR and NU staff with the space to, variously:

a) Build networks / initiate collaborations likely to lead to joint publications, activities or applications;
b) Use archival, library and museum holdings or other such resources unavailable at the fellow's home institution;
c) Progress/complete a discrete piece of scholarship that would also be the basis of an informal or formal event, seminar and discussion;
d) Access a dedicated mentoring relationship at the partner institution, potentially including a virtual introduction prior to the uptake of the Fellowship; and/or
e) (For outgoing BSR Fellows) To gain valuable teaching experience through the delivery of guest teaching within an existing module or participate in training for professional development.

Two Fellowships will be available for academic year 2023/24, allowing one BSR staff member to travel to Newcastle and one Newcastle staff member to travel to the BSR.

Newcastle staff are *not* required to speak Italian to apply for this fellowship.

Operational details

When can the Fellowships be taken up?

For the BSR colleague coming to Newcastle, the timing can be negotiated and agreed once the award has been granted – it must be taken up by the end of June 2025.

For the Newcastle University colleague coming to BSR, there will be a room at the BSR available to them for up to one month during **April 2025**. Exact timing can be negotiated.

What is covered by these Fellowships?

- For BSR staff travelling to NU:
  - Funding to cover travel and accommodation expenses, plus a per diem for subsistence
  - 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
- For NU staff travelling to the BSR:
  - Funding to cover travel expenses (please note that all travel arrangements must comply with the latest Newcastle University Travel and Expenses Policy)
  - Dedicated desk space in the BSR library (open 24/7)
  - Full board and accommodation
  - Invitations to attend 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 or teaching buyout.

Application process

Applications for the Bilateral 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).

Any queries can be sent to Susan Mosher (susan.mosher@newcastle.ac.uk).

The deadline for applications is 20th September, 6pm BST / 5pm CEST. We expect to be able to inform you of the outcome of your application by 11th October.