



## **College of Humanities**

### **Mellon Early Career Scholars Programme**

#### ***Call for Applications 2021*** **(Closing date: 1 March 2021)**

#### **Introduction**

The College of Humanities at UKZN is committed to nurturing new generations of South African/African scholars in order to strengthen research, teaching and community engagement and build the intellectual leadership that is indispensable for democracy and development. The College of Humanities successfully applied for and received an award from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for a Humanities Early Career Scholars Programme.

The five-year grant will support UKZN Humanities early career scholars by providing them the opportunities to conduct research, supervise postgraduate students, undertake post-doctoral studies, attend conferences, and enhance their research, writing and supervision expertise as part of developing their academic careers.

#### **The Fellowship**

Successful applicants will be supported in the following ways:

- Award of an Early Career Research Fellowship that will provide teaching relief for one semester through funding for replacement teaching costs. Replacement costs will be as per official UKZN rates.
- Award of an Early Career Research Grant to undertake writing and publication.
- Early Career Development Activities related to writing and publishing and supervising higher degrees candidates.
- Support to attend conferences in order to present their work and establish scholarly and publishing networks.
- Early Career Postdoctoral Fellowships. Beyond the six-month Research Fellowship, it could be necessary to provide postdoctoral opportunities to select staff with PhD's to undertake research and writing for a longer duration or for the purposes of working on a monograph.

- Student Scholarships. In order to facilitate staff development and progression, competitively recruited Masters and/or Doctoral students will be attached to the Early Career Research Fellows.
- Provision of mentors who will support the successful applicant to build their academic careers and to navigate the university terrain.

### **Eligibility**

The Mellon Humanities early career scholars award is targeted at academics in the Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences who are black South Africans, employed on a full time, permanent basis), possess a PhD, received their PhD's less than 10 years ago and have an emerging and/or sustained track record of publishing.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be black South African citizens.
- Be born ideally after the 1st of January 1981 or after 1 January 1976.
- Be employed on a full time, permanent basis at UKZN.
- Have received their PhD's less than 10 years ago.
- Possess a doctoral degree from any recognised higher education institution awarded after the 1 January 2011.
- Have an emerging and/or sustained track record of publishing.

In selecting applicants, consideration will be given to gender representation, diversity of disciplines and participation in previous or current research projects.

Unfortunately, given the mission of the donor, scholars working in basic education, law, economics, criminology, development studies, quantitative political science are not eligible.

### **Deadlines**

- Application deadline: 1 March 2021
- Selection: by 31 March 2021

### **Enquiries**

Please address any enquiries to:

Prof. Saleem Badat, Research Professor, College of Humanities

Email: [badatm@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:badatm@ukzn.ac.za) or [badatsaleem@gmail.com](mailto:badatsaleem@gmail.com)

Tel: 078 771 1989

**Applications** (see the accompanying Application Form)

Applications should be sent to Ms. Nokuphiwa Mbhele, Committee Officer, College of Humanities: [MbheleN5@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:MbheleN5@ukzn.ac.za)



## College of Humanities

### Mellon Early Career Scholars Programme

### Application Form

Please email the application and required additional documents by the deadline, **1 March 2021**.

Please read the **Early Career Scholars Programme Call for Applications 2021** carefully in preparing your application.

This application form should be emailed to Ms. Nokuphiwa Mbhele, Committee Officer, College of Humanities: [MbheleN5@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:MbheleN5@ukzn.ac.za)

#### **A. The following documents must accompany your application:**

1. A motivational cover letter of not more than two pages in length. The letter should include a description of the applicant's academic career, detailing the ideas and experiences that have shaped and motivated his or her scholarly and intellectual work.
2. A pre-proposal for a research project. This is a short essay of three to four pages that provides (i) a summary of the applicant's proposed research/work, (ii) the purposes, goals, and objectives of the proposed research project, including the key research questions, (iii) an overview of existing literature and other sources for the project, (iv) the project's proposed theoretical background and methodological approach, (v) the significance/relevance of the project for African scholarship, (vi) the proposed activities and outputs, and (vii) a provisional time framework.
3. A full curriculum vitae, including peer-reviewed publications.
4. A copy of the applicant's doctoral certificate.
5. Two letters of support from senior academics.

**B. Applicant Eligibility Checklist (mark with X)**

1. Are you a citizen of South Africa?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Are you born after 1 January 1981?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Are you born after 1 January 1976?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Please provide your South African ID number.

ID number	<input type="text"/>
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5. Please indicate your major discipline/field.

Discipline/Field	<input type="text"/>
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6. Are you a full-time member of staff at UKZN?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. Will you maintain your UKZN status for the duration of the proposed fellowship period?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. Was your doctoral degree officially conferred after 1 January 2011?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

### C. Administrative Information

Surname	
Given name and other names	
Date of birth	
Place of birth	
Gender	
Citizenship	
Country of residence	
Doctoral degree granting institution	
Title of dissertation	
Date the doctorate was officially granted	
Department of current employment	
Postal address	
E-mail address	
Alternative e-mail address (if any)	
Telephone (work)	
Mobile phone	

<b>Descriptive project title</b>
<b>Abstract</b> (summary of the project or topic, not more than 200 words)

### Higher Education qualifications

Name of institution and country	Field of study	Dates of enrolment	Degree and year conferred

**Post-doctoral fellowships or equivalent post-PhD research experience**

Name of institution and country	Dates of the fellowship	Title of project	Research outputs

**Have you undertaken any other research projects?**

Funder	Date	Title of project	Project output (e.g. article, chapter, book, report, etc. )

**Teaching experience**

Name of institution and country	Years at institution	Course titles	Academic level (i.e. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> year, Honours, etc.)

**Experience outside the country of residence** (include study, research, teaching, consulting, employment)

Institution	Dates in position	Position/Experience	Research outputs (if any)

**List of academic publications**

List relevant journal papers, book chapters, or books (please provide full bibliographic details)


**Checklist of completed application documents (mark with X):**

	Yes	No
1. Application form (this document)		
2. Motivation letter		
3. Pre-proposal		
4. Copy of curriculum vitae		
5. Copy of doctoral certificate		
6. Letters of support x 2		

By signing this application form, you declare to the best of your knowledge that the information provided herein is accurate and valid.

**Signature:**

**Date:**