

## Awards from the Research Scholarships Scheme, 2013/14

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**To:** Heads of Wales' Higher Education Institutions, Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol Advisory Group, Institutional Coordinators of Welsh Medium Provision

**Respond by:** No response required.

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This circular presents the Coleg's decisions on doctoral scholarships to be funded through the Research Scholarships Scheme to start in 2013/14.

[This document is also available on the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol website](#)

## **Awards from the Research Scholarships Scheme, 2013/14**

### **Background**

1. This circular confirms the doctoral scholarships to be funded by the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol [the Coleg] from 2013/14.
2. Applications to the Research Scholarships Scheme were invited in a circular that was sent to institutions on 1 March 2013 (Ref 12/07), with a closing date of 1 May. The applications were considered on 20 May 2013 by a panel consisting of two Coleg directors (Mr Andrew Green and Dr Hefin Jones), and one external member (Emeritus Professor Ceri Davies). The recommendations of the panel have been approved by Coleg Directors.
3. The Coleg's Board of Director's decision is final.
4. Institutions may receive feedback on unsuccessful applications by contacting the Coleg via email. The Coleg will endeavour to reply to queries as soon as possible.

### **Research Scholarships Scheme**

5. In the circular for 2013/14 it was noted that up to ten Research Scholarships would be awarded (clause 28), based on the:
  - (i) academic excellence of the applicant,
  - (ii) subject / originality of the proposed research project,
  - (iii) experience and record of the academic school / department where the research will be supervised, and
  - (iv) the award / award-holder's potential contribution to realising the Coleg's strategic aims.
6. The circular also noted (clause 29) that the Coleg would consider applications from academic schools / departments that had not yet identified a suitable award-holder for a scholarship. In such applications scholarships would be awarded based on the criteria outlined in 28 (ii), (iii) and (iv), and the awarded scholarship would have to be openly advertised in the press.

7. A total of 28 applications for doctoral research proposals to be funded through the Research Scholarships Scheme were received this year. The advisory panel welcomed the fact that all the applications were of a very high standard, and that a number of the applicants showed great potential and / or that the proposed research projects were interesting and exciting. Each application was scored in accordance with the criteria and was prioritised based on their average score.
8. Scholarships to be funded by the Coleg starting in 2013/14 are listed in **Appendix A.**
9. Each award will be expected to commence in the autumn of 2013.
10. All scholarships will be funded on the basis of the general conditions noted in the circular inviting applications.

### **Next steps**

11. In the case of applications with candidates already identified, institutions will be expected to notify them as soon as possible of their success and to confirm to the Coleg before **30 June 2013** that they accept the scholarship.
12. In applications where candidates have not been identified, successful institutions will be required to follow an open and competitive process to appoint the scholarship holder. Such a process must be completed and a suitable person must be appointed before **31 July 2013**. The Coleg will wish to see a draft of the advertisement for each empty scholarship before they are advertised. Draft advertisements should be sent to the Coleg for approval, for the attention of Dr Dylan Phillips ([d.phillips@colegcymraeg.ac.uk](mailto:d.phillips@colegcymraeg.ac.uk)).
13. The institutions will be responsible for filling the empty scholarships and for appointing qualified and suitable applicants. If empty scholarships are not filled within the timetable outlined above (12), the award will be revoked.

14. Each appointment will be subject to completing the necessary nomination form and receiving the Coleg's approval before the scholarship can be offered formally to the applicant. The nomination form must be submitted to the Coleg by **16 August 2013**.
15. In addition to the ten scholarships listed in Appendix A, the advisory panel has also identified a limited number of reserve scholarships. In the case of any scholarship with a candidate that has not been confirmed by 30 June (see 11 above), or an empty scholarship that has not been filled by 31 July (see 12 above), the funding will go instead to the reserve-list scholarships in the order they have been listed.
16. The Coleg will contact relevant institutions with reserve scholarships in order to explain this process in greater detail and to ask them to inform the candidates identified in the reserve scholarships of the situation. If any of the scholarships listed in Appendix A were to be revoked, the Coleg will contact the institutions with reserve scholarships and ask them to confirm by **13 September 2013** that the candidate has accepted the scholarship.
17. Institutions will not be allowed to elect a reserve scholarship ahead or instead of one of the scholarships listed in Appendix A unless that scholarship has been revoked. Priority will be given to scholarships listed in Appendix A over those on the reserve list.
18. The Coleg will not allow any exceptions to the timetable outlined above. If the appointment and nomination processes have not been successfully completed within the above timetable, the award will be revoked.
19. Having received confirmation from the institutions that candidates accept the scholarships (in accordance with the process outlined above), the Coleg will contact each award-holder to congratulate them and invite them to attend a special induction event at Carmarthen on **20 September 2013** to introduce them to the Coleg and the scheme conditions. This event will be compulsory.

## APPENDIX A

Discipline / Subject	Candidate	Institution
<i>Education</i>		
Examining when, and to what extent, the gap between the different language skills of bilingual children decreases in Welsh and English		Bangor University
The shortage of recognised experts in the field of physical education in the primary sector		Cardiff Metropolitan
<i>Philosophy</i>		
Can there be social criticism without strong foundations, such as those of the Frankfurt School, asking whether Foucault and Baudrillard have gone beyond them?	Garmon Iago	Cardiff University
<i>Creative Industries</i>		
Providing local and community news through the medium of Welsh, and how Welsh is dealing with gathering and publishing the news in digital format rather than in print		Cardiff University
<i>International Politics</i>		
Devolution, sovereignty and the International context: Critical conceptual interpretations of the state		Aberystwyth University
<i>Environmental Sciences and/or Geography</i>		
Sudden climate change in Wales between 15,000 and 8,000 years ago	Gwydion Jones	Swansea University

Ecological resilience in the face of climate change: The effect of the interaction of biological and physical processes on erosion patterns in salt marshes	Cai Ladd	Bangor University
<i>Biological Sciences</i>		
The effect of reduced water availability on salmon and trout rivers in Wales	Ifan Jâms	Cardiff University
<i>Language and Literature (Sociolinguistics / Language Planning)</i>		
Changing language behaviour in Wales	Osian Elias	Aberystwyth University
Changing language behaviour: Increasing the uptake of minority language computer interfaces		Cardiff University