UCL Environment Domain
Opportunities & Notices

March 2018

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Opportunities

NERC - Pre-announcement: Global Partnerships Seedcorn Fund 2018
http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/partnerships/international/iof/news/pre-gpsf18/
NERC is launching a new annual scheme, the Global Partnerships Seedcorn Fund, to support UK environmental science researchers to establish new collaborations with international partners. This scheme replaces NERC’s International Opportunities Fund (IOF). The Global Partnerships Seedcorn Fund will support UK environmental science researchers to develop new, 'best with best' international partnerships and networks, which underpin the development of long-term collaborations.
Key features of the scheme are:
- Standard NERC principal investigator eligibility rules apply. New investigators, who may not already have international research partners, are encouraged to apply.
- A single level of grant up to £100,000 (100% full economic cost) over two years, with a total annual budget of £1 million.
- One or more international project partners are mandatory.
- Proposals will be directly evaluated by an assessment panel of independent academic experts.
- An announcement of opportunity will be published annually in March and close in early May. Funding decisions will be made in July with awards to start from September.

NERC - Announcement of Opportunity: Scoping group for Earth system plastics
Call closes: 04 April 2018
http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/funded/news/ao-plastics/
NERC invites applications to join a scoping group that will develop the science case for a potential large strategic research programme on Earth system plastics. The overarching aim is to provide an understanding of the pathways and fate of plastics in the environment. Potential research questions include:
- What is the nature and scale of plastic sources to the Earth system?
- What are the main pathways of plastics across the Earth system? What are the potential stocks and flows of plastic between terrestrial, freshwater and marine systems? What are the key physical, chemical and ecological mechanisms that control fate, behaviour, concentration, decomposition, distribution, and transport over various time scales?
- Across their entire life-cycle, how are different types of plastics modified physically, chemically and biologically? What environmental processes promote their degradation or fragmentation? At what point, if any, do plastics no longer interact with the environment and cease to present a risk to the biosphere?
- At which points in the cycle might interventions be effective, and which interventions are most appropriate? How can science and industry collaborate to deliver some of these interventions? What is the environmental impact of plastic alternatives?
The scoping group will support research on pathways and fate of a range of plastic types, shapes and sizes to gain a comprehensive picture of the behaviour of plastics in the environment to ensure that effective interventions are developed. Applications are invited from individuals wishing to join the scoping group that will develop the science case for consideration by NERC.

Professor Daniel Parsons from the University of Hull has agreed to chair the scoping group. Members will be selected by NERC via an open call for self-nomination. It is anticipated that the scoping group will be made up of around six to eight individuals and will have an appropriate scientific balance.

The scoping group will convene for a two-day meeting (lunchtime to lunchtime) which all members must attend. The group will be tasked with producing a science case by the end of June 2018. This meeting will take place on 24-25 May at a venue in the London area.

If the proposed research programme is approved, members of the scoping group will be able to apply for funding, subject to normal NERC eligibility rules.

NERC - Announcement of Opportunity: Scoping group for reducing uncertainty in climate sensitivity due to clouds

Call closes: 04 April 2018

NERC invites applications to join a scoping group that will develop the science case for a potential large strategic research programme on reducing uncertainty in climate sensitivity due to clouds. It is possible that a new strategic programme areas (SPA) will focus attention on one of these cloud regimes having identified its real potential to reduce uncertainty in our estimates of climate sensitivity. Making strategic advances will involve four principal scientific areas:

- aerosol-mediated cloud feedback
- glaciation of clouds
- precipitation processes
- cloud-scale dynamics.

Building on recent advances, including radar observation of individual falling water particles in clouds, and improved laboratory and molecular dynamics results on ice nucleation, the following research questions could be addressed:

- What are the roles played by ice nucleating particles (INP) and cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) in modulating cold precipitation formation, or giant cloud condensation nuclei (GCCN) in modulating warm precipitation formation?
- What are the dominating physical processes in the generation of ice particles in mixed-phase clouds and the progression of cloud glaciation?
- What cloud microphysical processes are most important for precipitation formation in the specific cloud types and temperature regimes chosen, and thus which physical processes should be represented in large-scale models?
- What are the effects of dynamical and turbulent processes on cloud particle growth and the feedback effects of cloud and precipitation processes on cloud dynamics?
- What is the impact of these processes on radiative and other climate feedbacks?

Applications are invited from individuals wishing to join the scoping group that will develop the science case for consideration by NERC.
Professor Joanna Haigh of Imperial College London has agreed to chair the scoping group. Members will be selected by NERC via an open call for self-nomination. It is anticipated that the scoping group will be made up of around six- eight individuals and will have an appropriate scientific balance. Members of the scoping group are expected to act as representatives of their scientific disciplines, and to act in the interests of the scientific community as a whole, rather than representing personal or institutional interests.

The scoping group will convene for a one-day meeting which all members must attend. The group will be tasked with producing a science case by the end of June 2018. This meeting will take place on Monday 23 April 2018 at a venue in the London area.

If the proposed research programme is approved, members of the scoping group will be able to apply for funding, subject to normal NERC eligibility rules.

**NERC - Developing NERC's omics strategy - Community workshop**

Call closes (registration): 17 April 2018

http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/funded/programmes/omics/news/omicsstrategy/

NERC aims to develop its current and future strategy for environmental omics research. To achieve this, NERC are organising a one-day community workshop, with the support of a focused working group, to provide NERC with evidence and advice on the future direction of environmental omics and to provide recommendations on the capability of the community to deliver omics based research. Objectives of the workshop:

- exploring key research opportunities within environmental omics (now and in the future)
- exploring external factors that influence and impact on environmental omics (now and in the future).
- To help develop NERC's strategy for environmental omics.
- To help consider capabilities needed to support a future strategy and omics research.

If you wish to apply to attend this workshop, please complete the online registration form. The closing date for registration is 16:00 on 17 April 2018. Submission does not guarantee attendance.

The workshop will take place on 2 May 2018 in Birmingham.

**NERC - Call for Open Knowledge Exchange (KE) Fellowships**

Call closes: 17 April 2018

http://www.nerc.ac.uk/funding/available/schemes/kefellows/kefellowscall/

NERC wishes to award a number of Open Knowledge Exchange (KE) Fellowships. The NERC Open Knowledge Exchange (KE) Fellowships are intended to enable the sharing and flow of knowledge and expertise between the NERC funded researchers and their user communities with the aim of generating impact from NERC funded research. KE Fellows work between 20% and 80% of their time on a work plan of their own choosing to generate impact from NERC-funded research in their host institution. The KE Fellowships will cover 100% of the Fellow's salary on a pro-rata basis including superannuation, NI and specific allowances, plus up to £40,000 for travel and other associated costs. They cover direct costs only and do not include overheads. There is no budget limit for salary costs and applications are particularly welcomed from individuals who are working at a senior level within a department or
school. The KE Fellow must be employed by their host institution for the duration of their fellowship.

If selected for interview, the applicant will be asked to give a 10 minute presentation followed by 35 minutes of questions from a panel of up to four people. In addition, the applicant's head of department (or, if the head of department is the applicant, then a more senior individual) is expected to join the interview in person or by telephone to provide a strategic overview of the work. Success rates appear to be the same regardless of whether the supporter appears in person or telephones in.

Interview dates: 12, 13 & 14 June 2018

**NERC - 2018 Impact Awards**

Call closes: 12:00 on Monday 21 May 2018

http://www.nerc.ac.uk/latest/events/impact/

NERC are pleased to invite applications for the NERC 2018 Impact Awards. The awards will celebrate and reward NERC-funded researchers, as individuals or teams, whose work has had substantial impact on the economy and society either in the UK or abroad.

The awards will be presented at a ceremony in London, late 2018. The event will showcase the researchers, their work and the impact of the science that NERC funds.

We invite you to submit under one of the following three categories:

**Economic Impact Award**

Recognising research that has led to demonstrable economic benefit.

**Societal Impact Award**

Recognising research that has led to demonstrable social, cultural, public policy or service, health, environmental or quality of life benefits.

**Early Career Impact Award**

Recognising an early career researcher who has achieved demonstrable economic and/or societal impact.

The category winner judged to have had the greatest impact will be selected to receive the Overall Impact Award.

The winner of each category will receive £10,000 and the runner-up £5,000, to further the impacts of their research. The Overall Impact Award winner will receive an additional £30,000.

**NERC - Radioactivity & the Environment Knowledge Exchange Fellowship**

Call closes: 17 April 2018

http://www.nerc.ac.uk/funding/available/schemes/kefellows/dkefellowscall/ao-rate/

NERC, the Environment Agency (EA) and Radioactive Waste Management (RWM) wish to appoint a Knowledge Exchange (KE) Fellow for the Radioactivity & the Environment (RATE) programme. This is an exciting opportunity to become a NERC KE Fellow focused on gaining impact from the excellent science outputs from the RATE programme. The purpose of this fellowship is to generate impact from RATE science, accelerating and amplifying economic impact and improvements in quality of life by working with business, civil society organisations and government bodies. The fellow will do this by sharing and enabling a flow of knowledge and expertise between NERC funded researchers and user communities.
Applications are welcomed on a full or part-time basis (between 60% and 100% full time equivalent). Ideally the fellowship will commence summer 2018 with a duration of two years. Funding up to a maximum cost of £70,000 at 80 per cent full economic cost per annum is available for this fellowship. Any career stage and salary level may apply, with the expectations of achievement adjusted accordingly.

**ESRC - JPI Urban Europe-NSFC call: Sustainable and liveable cities and urban areas**

Call closes (registration): 14.00 CET (Europe) / 16.00 CST (China) on 12 April 2018

http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding/funding-opportunities/jpi-urban-europe-nsfc-call-sustainable-and-liveable-cities-and-urban-areas/

In answer to the global urbanisation challenge, NSFC and JPI Urban Europe have agreed to a long-term cooperation under the strategic theme Sustainable Urbanisation in the Context of Economic Transformation and Climate Change. The pilot call is a joint initiative of nine European funding agencies participating in JPI Urban Europe and NSFC in China.

Proposals are invited for joint projects under the identified priority themes, addressing key issues where true added value can be gained from collaboration.

Projects to this call should address one or more of the following topics:

- Climate change and new urban economies
- Transformation of energy systems and strengthen urban circular economies
- Urban public administration and services innovation
- Urban data management.

The UK component of any consortium will be funded by the ESRC. It is therefore essential that the UK component is substantially social science lead.

The total funding available in this programme is approximately M€9.35 on the European side, across the participating European funding agencies. NSFC will fund the Chinese part of all projects to be funded under this programme.

The ESRC budget for this call is £1,875,000 (approximately €2,150,000), and it is anticipated that 5-6 projects will be funded with UK components. Please note that the maximum amount available for the UK component on a proposal is £375,000 (approximately €435,000) at 100% full Economic Cost.

**UCL - Knowledge exchange funding opportunities for UCL staff**

Deadline(s): from 29 April 2018 (check individual schemes)

https://www.ucl.ac.uk/enterprise/support-staff-and-students/access-funding/knowledge-exchange-funding-opportunities-ucl-staff

UCL Innovation and Enterprise work with all academic disciplines to promote knowledge exchange to help engagement with the wider world. Find out what funding is available.

UCL Innovation and Enterprise managed funding is available in the following five areas:

- **pre-commercialisation studies**, in collaboration with UCLB (all subjects)
- starting **innovative knowledge exchange projects** (for all subjects, and with extra funding for projects related to EPSRC and STFC grants)
- **discovery-to-use** - significant support is available for the development of the application of research to an industry setting (related to EPSRC grants only)
- **secondments**, whether to industry, social enterprises and charities (enterprise), or to government departments (policy) (related to EPSRC grants only)
• **support for establishing continuing professional development (CPD) courses**, a process facilitated by UCL Life Learning (all subjects)

**Royal Society - Industry Fellowships**

Call closes: 15:00, 17 April 2018  
[https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants/industry-fellowship/](https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants/industry-fellowship/)

The Industry Fellowship scheme aims to enhance knowledge transfer in science and technology between those in industry and those in academia. It provides opportunities for an academic scientist to work on a collaborative project with industry, or someone employed in industry to work on a collaborative project with a university department or not-for-profit research organisation. It is anticipated that fellows will establish personal and corporate links between the two sectors in the UK as a foundation for their long-term future development. These appointments are funded by the Royal Society and Rolls Royce.

Awards can be for any period up to two years’ full-time or pro rata, i.e. could be held at 50% part-time for four years enabling fellows to maintain links with their employing institution more easily.

Fellowships must involve transfer between UK private industry and a UK university or a not-for-profit research organisation. The fellow’s basic salary only will be paid during the secondment; the employing institution continues to pay national insurance and pension contributions. Research expenses may be claimed up to the value of £2,000 per year.

Applicants can be of any nationality and should be at a stage in their career when they would particularly benefit from establishing or strengthening personal and corporate links between the two sectors. Applicants must also hold:

- a PhD or be of equivalent standing in their profession
- a permanent post in either a UK university, a not-for-profit research organisation* or UK industry.

Applicants are limited to one resubmission, and it should be within one year of the original submission. Subsequent resubmissions will not be eligible.

**INTERREG NWE Targeted Call for Renewable Energy Projects**

Call closes: 12:00 (noon) CET, 31 July 2018  

The Interreg North West Europe Programme has opened a Targeted Call for renewable energy projects.

The Programme is specifically looking for projects with a strong demonstration focus and an implementation phase that actively transfers results to other areas/regions/sectors. Projects are expected to have a strong impact as regards overcoming barriers for and support the uptake of renewable energy solutions and it is expected that projects will ensure that new technologies are adopted in regions and cities, enterprises or other organisations. The roll-out of technologies and solutions should also target regions that are lagging behind in order to reduce disparities within NWE. On this basis, applications for proposed projects with a larger budget than the average budget for currently funded Low Carbon projects will be accepted. A maximum of €50 million is available for the Call.

In particular, the Programme is looking for projects that deal with the demonstration, implementation and roll-out of:
• Solutions that increase the share of renewable energies in the production and consumption mix.
• New and emerging renewable energy technologies to make them more cost-efficient and compatible with other primary energy sources’ technologies.
• Storage capacities of renewable energies.
• Hybrid solutions (i.e., combination of two or more renewable energy technologies) to increase synergies and drive down costs.
• Solutions on new grid technologies at large-scale.
• Solutions to realise carbon-free mobility.
• Solutions related to alternative transport fuels (e.g., 2nd and 3rd generation biofuels).
• Optimised energy management systems (e.g., flexible generation and consumption as well as storage) to better match demand and supply (like for example Smart City Solutions for residential living and industrial areas).

The Call is open to all the participating countries, including the United Kingdom and Ireland. Projects should bring together partners from at least three different countries (usually more) of which two must be from within the NWE area. Partners can include national, regional and local authorities, universities, R&D agencies, non-profit organisations as well as private partners, including profit-making partners such as SMEs.

GCRF Networking Grants
Call closes: 17:00, 21 March 2018 (Round 3 will open in June 2018, and will close in July 2018)
https://www.britac.ac.uk/gcrf-networking-grants

The Academy of Medical Sciences in partnership with the British Academy, the Royal Academy of Engineering, and the Royal Society, is delighted to announce the second call for applications to a new scheme to allow researchers from developing countries and the UK to forge new links and hold networking events to generate innovative and interdisciplinary research ideas to address global challenges.

This scheme is targeted at experienced researchers who are looking to form new international collaborations. The maximum amount available is £25,000, of which £5,000 can be used for consumables for pilot experiments, archival research or fieldwork. The remainder can be used to contribute towards travel and subsistence costs, costs associated with networking events, administrative support and access to technical support.

Grants cannot be used to pay for salary costs or to employ research assistants, PhD students or postdoctoral staff.

Applications should focus on building a collaborative network and therefore should be submitted jointly by a lead overseas researcher from a developing country and a lead researcher based in the UK.

To be eligible to apply, both applicants must:
• Have completed a PhD or have experience at an equivalent level
• Have proven research experience in their field
• Hold a permanent position at an eligible institution (in the UK or a DAC-listed country), or a fixed-term contract for the duration of the award

Lead applicants must not be affiliated to a private or commercial organisation. Applications will not be considered if there is more than one UK co-applicant or an overseas applicant not from a DAC-listed country.
ESRC CONACYT Newton call for collaborative research: Smart Cities in Mexico

Call closes (UK): 16.00 (UK time) on 3 May 2018
Call closes (Mexico): 18.00 (Mexican time) on 4 May 2018
http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding/funding-opportunities/esrc-conacyt-newton-call-for-collaborative-research-smart-cities-in-mexico/

The Mexican National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT) and the ESRC invite joint applications for collaborative projects between Mexico and the UK which seek to enhance understanding of Smart Cities. This collaboration is supported by the Newton Fund. All applications under this call must therefore be compliant with Official Development Assistance (ODA) guidance and demonstrate this compliance within the written proposal.

Proposals are sought for collaborative bilateral research projects involving researchers from the UK and Mexico, addressing one or more of the following topics:

- Urban infrastructure, ICT, mobility and quality of life
- Resilience and environmental sustainability
- The politics of the smart city
- Urban economies and digital social innovation

The ESRC has allocated up to £1.5 million available for projects of up to £450,000 (fEC) for the UK component, and CONACYT $20 million (MXN) for the Mexican component for projects of up to 30 months in duration. Proposals must be submitted to both funders. Applications will be assessed jointly by both funders.

ESRC - Climate change priority

Call opens: March 2018
Call closes (outlines): May 2018
http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding/funding-opportunities/climate-change-priority/

New research will be funded that covers a broad spectrum of social science relating to climate change. It is expected that successful projects will be social science led but will draw on disciplines from within and beyond the social sciences to produce truly interdisciplinary outcomes that are required for meeting the challenges of climate change. There will be emphasis within the investments on co-design of research with a range of stakeholders, including from industry and policy, and research should consider both the UK and global context. ESRC will also collaborate with other research councils in the delivery of the priority, for example in consideration of energy research and clean growth.

The first two investments under the climate change priority will be announced in March 2018:

- Climate change research centre
ESRC will be investing £5 million (80% fEC) over five years in a climate change research centre. The centre is expected to start in April 2019, and should work collaboratively with the newly commissioned Climate change network plus (see details below).

Please note, that this call is separate to the ESRC Centres Competition, which was announced in November 2017.

- Climate change network plus
ESRC will be investing £3 million (80% fEC) over five years in a climate change network plus. The network is expected to start in January 2019, and should work collaboratively across the suite of investments within the climate change priority and beyond. Business engagement will be a key focus area of the network plus.

NERC - Radioactivity & the Environment Knowledge Exchange Fellowship
Call closes: 17 April 2018
http://www.nerc.ac.uk/funding/available/schemes/kefellows/dkefellowscall/ao-rate/
NERC, the Environment Agency (EA) and Radioactive Waste Management (RWM) wish to appoint a Knowledge Exchange (KE) Fellow for the Radioactivity & the Environment (RATE) programme. This is an exciting opportunity to become a NERC KE Fellow focused on gaining impact from the excellent science outputs from the RATE programme. The purpose of this fellowship is to generate impact from RATE science, accelerating and amplifying economic impact and improvements in quality of life by working with business, civil society organisations and government bodies. The fellow will do this by sharing and enabling a flow of knowledge and expertise between NERC funded researchers and user communities.
Applications are welcomed on a full or part-time basis (between 60% and 100% full time equivalent). Ideally the fellowship will commence summer 2018 with a duration of two years. Funding up to a maximum cost of £70,000 at 80 per cent full economic cost per annum is available for this fellowship. Any career stage and salary level may apply, with the expectations of achievement adjusted accordingly.

Announcement of Opportunity: National capability services & facilities commissioning - isotope and radiocarbon facility
Call opens: 5 April 2018
Call closes: 26 July 2018
http://www.nerc.ac.uk/funding/application/currentopportunities/ao-sfr2/
NERC is inviting eligible UK higher education institutions (HEIs), NERC research centres and independent research organisations (IROs) to apply to the second round of services and facilities (S&F) commissioning. NERC will commission both a single radiocarbon and a single isotope facility for a five-year period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2024. A maximum of £5 million of transformative capital may be allocated for this round of commissioning. Applicants are invited to include details of any additional capital investment needs for up to three scenarios of £1 million, £3 million and £5 million. Capital requests should be proposed using the justification for transformational capital form and included within the submission. The assessment panel will meet in October 2018 (date to be confirmed). Applicants will be notified of the outcomes between October and November 2018, with awards starting April 2019.

ESRC - JPI Urban Europe-NSFC call: Sustainable and liveable cities and urban areas
In answer to the global urbanisation challenge, NSFC and JPI Urban Europe have agreed to a long-term cooperation under the strategic theme Sustainable Urbanisation in the Context of Economic Transformation and Climate Change. The pilot call is a joint initiative of nine European funding agencies participating in JPI Urban Europe and NSFC in China.

Proposals are invited for joint projects under the identified priority themes, addressing key issues where true added value can be gained from collaboration. Projects to this call should address one or more of the following topics:

- Climate change and new urban economies
- Transformation of energy systems and strengthen urban circular economies
- Urban public administration and services innovation
- Urban data management.

The UK component of any consortium will be funded by the ESRC. It is therefore essential that the UK component is substantially social science lead.

The total funding available in this programme is approximately €9.35 M on the European side, across the participating European funding agencies. NSFC will fund the Chinese part of all projects to be funded under this programme. The ESRC budget for this call is £1,875,000, and it is anticipated that 5-6 projects will be funded with UK components. Please note that the maximum amount available for the UK component on a proposal is £375,000 (approximately €435,000) at 100% full Economic Cost.

NERC-MRC-NSFC - Atmospheric Pollution & Human Health in a Developing Megacity Announcement of Opportunity: China phase 2

Call closes: 25 April 2018

NERC, the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) currently jointly support a £5·5 million / 30 million yuan research programme on Atmospheric Pollution & Human Health in China (APHH China), with contributions from the Newton Fund in the UK.

The programme is focused on Beijing and aims to increase understanding by undertaking research across the following four themes:

- sources and emissions of urban atmospheric pollution
- processes affecting urban atmospheric pollution
- exposure science and impacts on health
- interventions and solutions to reduce health impacts

This call launches a second phase of the programme, in which NERC and MRC have a budget of £1.1 million (from the Newton Fund). These funds will support UK researchers to work with Chinese collaborators to deliver additional targeted research to exploit and enhance the measurements collected through the programme, and with stakeholders to ensure better and wider utility and impact of the research.

UK funds will support UK researchers, with the expectation that Chinese partners will bring in-kind support at the equivalent level of effort. All applications must be
collaborations between UK and Chinese researchers, and be submitted to NERC via Je-S, in English. Only current named participants of the APHH China programme are eligible to submit applications to this call as the lead Principal Investigator, although other expertise outside the current programme may be added as necessary.

**NERC Follow-on Fund Pathfinder**

Open deadline
http://www.nerc.ac.uk/funding/available/schemes/pathfinder/

NERC Pathfinder awards complement Follow-on awards. Follow-on awards of up to £125k (£100k NERC contribution at 80%) fund development projects whose objective is to realise the commercial potential of NERC-funded research via a combination of complementary technical and commercial engagement work programmes.

Successful applications to the Follow-on Fund are invariably built upon a good understanding of the likely market potential for the technology around which the project is based.

If you are confident that you already have a sound assessment of these, and the other, issues described in Follow-on Fund - Guidance for applicants, you are ready to submit an application to the Follow-on Fund (call opening Spring 2017).

**If, however, there are gaps in your knowledge, you are strongly advised to first apply for a Pathfinder award.**

This will give you the best possible opportunity to secure Follow-on funding by enabling you to carry out work that will help you develop a greater understanding of the commercial aspects and possibilities of your research, and hence produce a more robust, better informed proposal for Follow-on funding.

Pathfinder awards enable you to fill such knowledge gaps via activities such as market assessment and competitor analysis, intellectual property searches, engaging with potential commercial collaborators and end-users, and 'milestone 1' technical work where the technical feasibility of the whole project depends on it.

Pathfinder awards are normally between £7k and £10k, but in exceptional circumstances a maximum of £25k is available (NERC will contribute £20k at 80% FEC).

**Notices**

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<th>Environment Domain – Working Groups and Internal Advisory Network</th>
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<td>The Environment Domain invites researchers to join one or more working groups around the following themes:</td>
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<td>• Climate</td>
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<td>• Water</td>
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<td>• Urban</td>
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<td>• Health</td>
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The purpose of the thematic working groups is to better engage with researchers, from early career to established academics and to foster collaboration across disciplines to develop new research ideas. In the first instance, we intend to
support each working group in holding a theme workshop. The core activities for these initial workshops will be to share existing activities and explore potential future projects and collaboration.

We are looking to recruit ‘theme leads’ to work with the Environment Domain Research Facilitator to coordinate and drive forward research activities. The leads would also be invited to join the Environment Domain’s Internal Advisory Network, to engage with the wider environment community around the theme’s progress.

If you are interested in joining a working group, becoming a theme lead, or just want more information, please contact environment@ucl.ac.uk

UN World Water Day Quiz
To commemorate this day the UCL Water Group invites you to participate in a quiz. Answer one of the questions to win 1 of 5 Waterstones vouchers (5 x £20 vouchers). Every answer will be an independent entrance for the raffle. Answer ALL three questions to have more probabilities of winning.

Entries close on 31 March 2018
Winners will be announced at our Seminar on 19th April (Thursday). Everyone is welcome to participate in this quiz, feel free to share with your friends!

Use the following link to enter:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScuNaezHpo6ovDDv88Qkd_SOx9vLmf1A_UjfQi5Y0neQy81Uw/viewform

Routledge Handbook of the Resource Nexus
In recent years the concept of the resource “nexus” has been hotly debated and now widely adopted in research and policy circles as a powerful new way of understanding the relationships between multiple resources and their sustainable management. These include particularly water, food and energy. This comprehensive Handbook, whose editors include Prof Raimund Bleischwitz and Dr Catalina Spataru (both Bartlett School of Environment, Energy & Resources), presents a detailed international review of current knowledge and thinking on the resource nexus from an inter-disciplinary perspective. There is a 20% Discount Available from Routledge- enter the code FLR40 at the checkout. An e-book version is also available.

Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement to Reopen in May
Call opens: 14 May 2018
Call closes: 27 July 2018
https://www.idoxgrantfinder.co.uk/education/News/View/GRUKRES!N8322
The John and Alice Tyler Prize is awarded for environmental science, health and energy conferring great benefit upon humanity. The Prize is endowed by gifts from the John and Alice Tyler Charitable Trusts, and awardees are chosen annually by the Executive Committee. The University of Southern California administers the Tyler Prize. Prizes are awarded for any one of the following:
• The protection, maintenance, improvement or understanding of an ecological or an environmental condition anywhere in the world.
• The discovery, further development, improvement, or understanding of known or new sources of energy.
• Medical discoveries or achievements with such worldwide implications that they significantly benefit environmental aspects of human health.

Recipients of the Tyler Prize are honoured in an illustrious ceremony, presented with the Tyler Prize medallion and awarded USD$200,000. Living individuals or public or private institutions of any nation are eligible for nomination. Persons or institutions eligible to make nominations include, but are not limited to: any individuals or entity in fields such as biology, oceanography, geology, medicine, public health, chemistry, physics, engineering and social science.

**NERC Advanced R/openair course for the analysis of atmospheric composition data**

26-28 March 2018

This is a three-day interactive workshop funded by NERC, available for up to 20 NERC-funded PhD students. The workshop runs from 26-28 March 2018 at the University of York. The course is led by Dr David Carslaw, the developer of the R package openair. The course assumes some familiarity with R, but a need to further develop skills of data manipulation and analysis of atmospheric composition data. The openair R package has multiple functionality that permits the efficient and insightful analysis of atmospheric data. Combined with many recent developments in R itself, these tools provide a modern and efficient approach to data analysis that will help students during their PhDs and beyond.

For more information, contact Dr David Carslaw ([david.carslaw@york.ac.uk](mailto:david.carslaw@york.ac.uk)).

**UCL - SAVE THE DATE “Global Opportunities for Early Careers Staff**

14:00 – 19:00 4th June 2018

Come and find out about UCL funding opportunities and how to write for international journal publications. The (free) half day conference will end with a lively networking session with drinks reception. Do come along and meet fellow early career staff just like you! More details (and registration details) to follow very soon.

**Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) - Topics of Interest 2018**


The POST topics list sets out the topic areas identified of possible parliamentary interest under the 9 different category headings (Agriculture, Fisheries, Food and Forestry, Crime, Defence, Education and Skills, Energy, Environment, Health, ICT and Robotics and Transport and Infrastructure).

Where relevant this list will inform the deliberations of the POST Board on POST's future work programme until it is updated or replaced by future horizon scanning activities. This list of issues was initially identified from academic papers and grey literature as having an impact on public policy, and then peer reviewed to focus on
those topic areas of most interest, and then narrowed to those considered to be the highest priority through a workshop with parliamentary staff. The environment domain’s co-chair, Prof Dan Osborn contributed to the ‘Environment’ section. The full report can be downloaded at the above link.

NERC Pre-announcement: Forthcoming Newton Fund activities
http://www.nerc.ac.uk/funding/application/currentopportunities/newton-activities/
NERC has secured funding for a number of new Newton Fund programmes and is currently developing these in collaboration with funding agencies in the partner countries.
Future programmes to be announced in 2017 include:
- **Ganga Delta - Bay of Bengal Interactions**. A joint programme with India's Ministry of Earth Sciences to understand how the Ganga Delta and Bay of Bengal are being impacted by climate change and human activity and how the risks to the ecosystem services they provide can be mitigated.
- **Wallacea understanding biodiversity and evolutionary responses to environmental change**. A joint programme with Indonesia's Indonesian Science Fund (DIPI) to improve our understanding and predictive capabilities of community biodiversity and dynamics, in response to environmental change.
- **Increasing resilience to hydrometeorological hazards**. Collaborative research programmes are under discussion with partners in five countries in Southeast Asia: Ristekdikti in Indonesia, NAFOSTED in Vietnam, MiGHT and MoHE in Malaysia, PCIEERD in the Philippines and TRF and NSTDA in Thailand. The aim of each programme will be to improve understanding of impacts of hydrometeorological hazards and how to increase resilience.

It is anticipated that workshops will be held for each of these activities. The timing and venue of each workshop is to be confirmed, but they are likely to be in the autumn and take place in the partner countries. Once the arrangements for the workshops are confirmed, NERC will issue calls for participants, open to researchers working in relevant disciplines and eligible for NERC funding.

**Green Infrastructure Partnership**
The Green Infrastructure Partnership (GIP) is a rapidly growing network of more than 2,000 people and organisations that support the creation, enhancement and promotion of green infrastructure (GI) in the UK to improve quality of life, health, ecological diversity, resilience to climate change and economic attractiveness. Membership of the Green Infrastructure Partnership is free: you can join using the following link https://www.tcpa.org.uk/gip-newsletter
The GIP enables people to share information - research, innovation, news and best practice - via newsletters and events. Its strategic focus is to influence key decision-makers by ensuring they have appropriate evidence about the value of GI to inform their decisions.
GIP publish the Green Infrastructure Resource Library a free, searchable database of research and other resources about green infrastructure, and have an online calendar of green infrastructure events in the UK and Europe.
The next GIP conference will be on 12 July 2018. The most recent GIP newsletter can be found here:
Join the Environment Domain Early Careers Network (EDEN)

EDEN are looking for new committee members to join our team (current EDEN people). You will be expected to contribute with ideas, organisation of events or any activities that promotes the career of early-career researchers interested in the environment. This is an opportunity to boost your CV while networking with a friendly team of researchers from across UCL. Examples of past and planned activities are:

- A seminar series exploring the linkages between human well-being and the natural environment
- A series of talks and workshop about academic writing
- A writing retreat in collaboration with other early-career networks
- A social outing looking a wildlife around campus
- And much more!

As a recap, EDEN, UCL’s Environmental Domain Early-carer Network, is open to all researchers with an interest in environmental studies and identifying themselves as early career researchers, e.g. PhDs, post-docs, fellows and newly-appointed lecturers.

Our aims are to:

- Promote multidisciplinary research
- Provide a platform for peer support, career advice, mentoring, training, funding information, etc.
- Identify and highlight key needs of early-career researchers
- Bring key themes that UCL environment researchers are working on to the fore
- Promote work-life balance, equality, diversity and inclusion.

For more information, see the eden website or to volunteer contact vpro.eden@ucl.ac.uk

UCL Research Staff Hub website

http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/od/research-hub/index.php

The new UCL Research Staff Hub website, an online platform hosted by Organisational Development, provides a single point of access that supports self-service and the collection of evidence to demonstrate cross disciplinary research activities and development opportunities across UCL. The research-hub together with the bespoke research programmes are part of an initiative to enhance the provision for supporting the development of our UCL research staff.

POSTnotes research topics include Environment and Energy

http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/offices/bicameral/post/about-post/post-board/

The Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) Board plays a central role in ensuring POST continues to provide Parliament with first-rate information and advice on matters of relevance.
Members of the Board convened in early 2017 and have selected the following research topics for upcoming POSTnotes:

**Biological Sciences and Health**
- Regulating Advanced Therapies
- EU Clinical Trials Regulation

**Environment and Energy**
- Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture
- *Update to Sea Level Rise* POSTnote 363
- Benefits of Earth Observation Systems
- Environmental Effects of Engineered Nanoparticles

**Physical sciences**
- Social Media and Access to Information

**Social sciences**
- Communicating Risk
- Migrants and Housing

Those interested should contact post@parliament.uk for further information, and afterwards UCL Public Policy (S.chaytor@ucl.ac.uk) would be very happy to provide advice and support as required.

**Seeking Environment Research Photographs**

*No deadline*

If you have any good quality photographs that you would be willing for the Environment Domain to use in publicity material, please do send them to environment@ucl.ac.uk along with a brief description and any necessary permissions information (particularly if you didn't take the photograph, or if individuals are particularly prominent).

Your images could be used on the website, in printed material, on social media and in presentations – always with your credit attached. By submitting an image, you agree to it being used as such, unless specifically communicated at the time (we may not follow up to check permissions so please be explicit).

We would encourage you to invite your PhD students to send in images taken during their studies and research into environment related issues.