**UCL Excellence Fellowship Programme 2021**

**Application Guidance**

UCL’s Excellence Fellowship Programme seeks to recruit the highest calibre early career researchers from across the globe, supporting them to establish their independent career and become outstanding research leaders of the future.

The support for this round of fellowships comes from UCL's Eugenics Restitution fund. UCL scientists in the early 20th century were involved in formulating the principles of Eugenics and encouraging their adoption. Policies enacted in the name of Eugenics around the world targeted specific groups of people, including those of lower economic status, ethnic minorities, and people with disabilities. UCL wholly rejects these views and as a step towards redressing these injustices, and as recommended by UCL’s recent Eugenics inquiries, we aim to appoint two Excellence Fellows to address the current underrepresentation of groups targeted by Eugenics. The appointments are aimed at creating greater diversity of people, thinking and perspectives in genetics, and the broader life and medical sciences, ensuring that targeted groups are fully engaged in the construction of the future of the research landscape in these disciplines. The Fellowships will support applicants who have experienced hardship or been disadvantaged in the pursuit of their education and early research career. We therefore particularly welcome applications from the BAME (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) community and those with disabilities.

In this round two fellowships in the life and medical sciences are available to be based in the Research Department of [Genetics, Evolution and Environment](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/biosciences/gee) (GEE). Applications are particularly welcomed from candidates using genetics to address questions in ageing and age-related disease; the origin of life, major transitions, the early diversification of eukaryotic life; the evolution of eukaryotic development and cell types; theoretical evolutionary modelling; computational approaches applied to big data; microbiology and disease ecology/evolution; cross-disciplinary applied and translational ecology; community or behavioural ecology (especially relating to plants, insects and/or microbes) or other disciplines in the department: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/biosciences/gee>.

These prestigious fellowships are intended to support **clinical or non-clinical** researchers to develop an outstanding and innovative research programme and to establish their independent research careers. We ask candidates to provide a covering letter detailing how their appointment will stimulate positive action to address underrepresentation of groups targeted by Eugenics within UCL, as well as a summary of their track record in their research field to date, and plans on how they will use this fellowship to establish an independent career and lead their own research group.

**ROLE DETAILS**

**Term:** Three years funding in the first instance.

**Grade and salary:** Posts will be offered at UCL [Grade 8](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/human-resources/sites/human_resources/files/21-22_ucl_non-clinical_grade_structure_with_spinal_points-202108.pdf) (£45,610 - £53,757 per annum inclusive of London allowance and depending on experience). Clinical applicants will be appointed on the appropriate equivalent [STR or JDPD scales](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/human-resources/policies-advice/clinical-staff/clinical-staff-salary-scales/junior-doctors-pay-scale); Please note that consultant salaries will not be covered by the programme at any point during the fellowship and clinicians will be expected to complete the fellowship prior to taking up a consultant level post.

**Closing Date:** 4pm, 10th January, 2022

**Shortlisting:** w/c 7th February 2022

**Interviews:** w/c 21st February 2022

**Contact for enquiries:** For general enquiries, please contact ucl-fellowships@ucl.ac.uk. Please include ‘UCL Excellence Fellowship GEE 2021’ in the subject line. Alternatively,applicants can contact the GEE Fellowship Advisors (Prof Seirian Sumner, s.sumner@ucl.ac.uk, Dr Hernan Burbano, h.burbano@ucl.ac.uk) or other members of GEE academic staff to discuss their application.

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/biosciences/gee/independent-fellowships>

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/biosciences/gee/academic-staff>.

Further information and FAQs about the Excellence Fellowship Programme and application process is available at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/slms/research/excellence-fellowship>.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

## Full terms and conditions of employment for research staff can be found at:

# <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/human-resources/conditions-service-research-teaching-and-professional-services-staff>. In addition, the following apply to Excellence Fellowship posts:

# Start date: To be agreed between the successful candidate and the host Division/Institute; normally expected to be within 3 months of the interview (interviews to be held in the w/c 21st February 2021), but this is negotiable.

# Duration of appointment: Fellowships are for three years. Part time positions and flexible working will be considered. Appointees are expected to apply for their own externally-funded fellowship or personal award during the first two years of this post.

1. **Funding:** In addition to three years’ salary, fellows will receive up to £50,000 for research expenses. Please note that consultant salaries will not be covered by this programme.
2. **Studentships:** Fellows will be eligible to co-supervise a PhD and Masters student with a more senior member of staff on the relevant PhD studentship programmes within UCL. No specific funding will be available for studentships through the Excellence Fellowship, though Fellows may use their research expenses allowance as best supports their research.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

All applications must be made online at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/jobs/index.php>.

1. Search for the vacancy and click on the job title.

2. Download and complete the “Application Form” (Word document) from near the bottom of the page.

3. Complete the basic information required in the online application.

* You do not need to complete the parts of the online form that duplicate the information in your attachments.

4. **Obtain or complete all of the required documents. These are:**

a. A Cover Letter from the candidate detailing how your appointment will stimulate positive action to address underrepresentation of groups targeted by Eugenics within UCL. In addition it should detail why you are applying for this fellowship and outline career goals, plans for future funding applications and justification for applying to UCL (maximum two A4 sides, Arial pt 11, 1.5 line spacing).

b. CV of the candidate (maximum three A4 sides, no less than Arial pt 11, 1.0 line spacing) plus full publication list.

c. A research proposal outlining the planned research, with emphasis on vision and ambition (maximum two A4 sides, Arial pt 11, 1.0 line spacing, references can be on a separate page). Should it be relevant to your research programme, please include an additional brief section (150 words maximum) on any likely health, technology or other possible [impacts](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/impact/what-is-impact) from your research.

5. Upload documents on the online recruitment system:

a. Upload your CV in the “upload CV” section.

b. Create a single pdf document containing the completed application form and all remaining enclosures, and upload this in the “other supporting documents” section.

6. Check your application and submit it.

Enquiries about the application procedure should be directed to ucl-fellowships@ucl.ac.uk. Candidates are encouraged to read the [FAQs](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/school-life-medical-sciences/research/ucl-excellence-fellowships/faqs-applicants) before contacting this address. Please note, due to the volume of applications we are unable to provide individual feedback to applicants who are not shortlisted for interview.