

February 2024, volume 4 issue II

RESEARCH@



2024

URC E-NEWSLETTER

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University of Peradeniya

RESEARCH GRANTS

The Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences invites applications for its research grant. This supports research based on scientific methods in the fields of forensic science, criminal justice, forensic science policy and practice, forensic medicine or crime investigation.

Applicants must be members of the society with a first or upper second class honours degree or sufficient relevant professional experience. The research must be carried out at an institute or organisation accepted by the council of the society, and under the direction of a person approved by the society.

The scholarship is worth up to £10,000 for a maximum period of three years.

Closing date 31 March 2024

Award amount max £10,000

<https://www.csofs.org/awards/research-grant/>

VERA ROBERTS ENDOWMENT

The purpose of the Vera Roberts Endowment is to fund research, publication or other forms of knowledge dissemination on the history of outpost nursing, broadly understood. Eligible project proposals may include a wide range of topics relevant to the history nursing and health care in rural, remote, or northern communities in any geographical area as described below:

What traditionally has been framed as “outpost nursing” in any geographical area nationally or internationally

Delivery of health care in rural, remote, or northern communities in any geographical area

Public health, community, or home health nursing across the lifespan in rural or remote areas

Collaboration of nurses and other health professionals and workers in the development of rural and remote health care

People’s experiences with receiving or organizing nursing care in northern, rural, or remote areas

Telehealth and incorporation of technology in remote health care delivery

Health policy governing rural, remote and/or northern nursing care delivery

Outpost nursing in the circumpolar regions (north of 60 degrees parallel) of Canada or globally (Projects pertaining to Canada will be prioritized, then those globally)

Nursing and the impact of social determinants of health in rural or remote communities

Community participation in the development of local health resources in remote areas

Development of educational resources to teach public, rural, or remote health history.

Closing date 31 March 2024

Award amount CAD 7,000 - 10,000

<https://cahn-achn.ca/vera-roberts-endowment-le-fonds-vera-roberts/>

EVALUATING THE CUTANEOUS PHARMACOKINETICS OF TOPICAL DRUG PRODUCTS USING PHARMACOKINETIC TOMOGRAPHY (UOI CLINICAL TRIAL REQUIRED)

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to support the research and development necessary to advance non-invasive (e.g., quantitative tomography-based) technologies, including the development of apparatus, methods, study designs, and methods of data analysis, to characterize and compare the rate and extent to which a topically applied drug becomes available at or near a site of action within the skin in vivo. The expectation is that the funded work will produce an accurate, sensitive and reproducible approach that rapidly measures the (relative) amount of drug present in the skin at a series of depths below the skin surface, which can be utilized to monitor the cutaneous pharmacokinetics (PK) of the drug at selected depths (e.g., in the epidermis) by repeated, serial measurements over time. The intent is to support the eventual development of an alternative, scientifically valid, in vivo cutaneous PK-based approach that can be used to efficiently demonstrate the bioequivalence (BE) of topical products.

Closing date 31 March 2024

Award amount max USD 250,000

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-FD-24-008.html>

PROJECT GRANTS

Worldwide Cancer Research invites applications for its project grants. These support fundamental or translational research into the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of cancer. Research projects with a strong scientific hypothesis that draws on epidemiological, behavioural and clinical data to provide a starting point for a new avenue of research, as well as multidisciplinary or discipline-hopping projects, are encouraged. Clinical research, including clinical trials, patient care, nursing or healthcare delivery research as well as other types of applied cancer research such as policy, public health or psychosocial research are not eligible.

Closing date 31 March 2024 (Forecast)

Award amount max £275,000

<https://www.worldwidecancerresearch.org/for-researchers/>

INTEGRATING MACHINE LEARNING WITH COMPUTATIONAL FLUID DYNAMICS MODELS OF ORALLY INHALED DRUG PRODUCTS

Computational fluid dynamics (CFD) has played a crucial role in providing an alternative bioequivalence (BE) approach for generic orally inhaled drug products (OIDPs), in addition to comparative clinical endpoint or pharmacodynamic BE studies, as a relatively cost- and time-efficient complement to benchtop and clinical experiments that has been widely used in developing and assessing generic inhaler devices. However, despite the advances in the power of modern computers, there are still some bottlenecks in using CFD due to computational time, limited grid resolution, pre- and post-processing of large simulation data sets, model parameter estimations, and uncertainty quantifications. Machine learning (ML) has been gaining more attention as a potential tool to alleviate such limitations that arise in CFD. The purpose of this grant is to develop a methodology to integrate ML with CFD models of OIDPs to promote alternative BE studies to enhance and accelerate the development and approval of generic OIDPs.

Closing date 31 March 2024

Award amount max USD 300,000

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-FD-24-005.html>

MACULA SOCIETY RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM

The purpose of the MSRG program is to provide funding for clinically relevant research in macular or retinal vascular diseases. Pilot projects with the potential to obtain additional external funding and projects coordinating the efforts of the general membership are preferred. Projects that already receive or are expected to receive \$50,000 or more from other sources are not eligible for the Macula Society Research Grant Program.

Closing date 31 March 2024 (Forecast)

Award amount USD 30,000 - 35,000

<https://maculasociety.org/Researchgrant>

ADVANCED ACADEMIA FELLOWSHIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS

The Centre for Advanced Study Sofia (CAS Sofia) invites applications for its advanced academia fellowships for international scholars. This supports scholars to pursue their individual fundamental research projects in the fields of the humanities and the social sciences, during in-residence periods of up to five months.

Closing date 31 March 2024

Deadline Information

Recurrence This call is repeated once a year.

Date added 23 January 2024

Award type Fellowships or Post-doctoral Awards; Research: Project Grants & Innovation; Visiting Personnel

Award amount €1,700 - €5,150

<https://cas.bg/en/2024-2025-call-for-applications-advanced-academia-fellowships-for-international-scholars/>

SEED GRANTS

The Al Qasimi Foundation's Seed Grants provide modest start-up funding to conduct applied research or to pilot initiatives that fall beyond the scope of its Doctoral and Faculty Research programs. Individuals and organizations in the United Arab Emirates and overseas are eligible to apply, and proposals are welcomed from a wide range of disciplines and professional fields. Grant funds are allocated based on the proposal's budget and may be used for various purposes, such as travel (airfare, car rental, accommodation), research assistant support, equipment purchases, translation or other professional services, event hosting, and printed materials. The proposal must address an education, public health, urban planning/development, or closely related public policy issue relevant to Ras Al Khaimah and the United Arab Emirates. While the call for proposals is broad, anticipated outcomes should benefit the emirate of Ras Al Khaimah in tangible ways. Long-term sustainability may also be considered based on the specified project goals.

Closing date 01 April 2024

Amended deadline 1st April 2024

Award amount max AED 50,000

<https://www.alqasimifoundation.com/seed-research-grants>

RESEARCH GRANT ON EDUCATION

The UniCredit Foundation invites applications for its research grant on education. This supports education research projects that will contribute to the improvement of education, in any country of the UniCredit Group perimeter. The main goal of this program is to support rigorous, intellectually ambitious and technically sound research that is relevant to the most pressing questions and compelling opportunities in education. Preference will be given to research targeted to young people in the 11-19 age group (lower and upper secondary school) and focused on:

- tackling school dropouts;
- assessing the effects of early tracking;
- defining the scope for remedial education and evaluating tutoring programs for disadvantaged children;
- identifying appropriate orientation programs for the school careers and the job market.

Closing date 01 April 2024

Award amount max €200,000

<https://www.unicreditgroup.eu/en/microsites/unicreditfoundation/proposals/2023/2nd-research-grant-on-education.html>

Research in groups

ZiF offers time, space, and funding for outstanding interdisciplinary research as well as ideal conditions for intensive collaboration. Scholars from all fields and countries with a completed doctorate can propose an interdisciplinary research project to be conducted at ZiF with a curated group of (preferably) international colleagues. The following three different grant schemes are available:

VISITING GROUP

- Visiting Groups can, for example, explore new research topics and partnerships, finalise interdisciplinary publications or conduct small research projects.

RESIDENT GROUP

- Resident Groups may conduct more extensive research projects, which require intensive collaboration over an extended period.

LONG-TERM GROUP

- Long-Term Groups offer great organisational freedom and flexibility to meet the needs of long-term projects; the set-up of the group work is based on the needs of the individual project idea. A Long-Term Group must not consist of a series of individual events. Questions or topics should be addressed in a series of coherent, interrelated meetings.

Closing date 23 April 2024

Award amount max €400,000

[https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/\(en\)/einrichtungen/zif/index.xml](https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/(en)/einrichtungen/zif/index.xml)

FELLOWSHIPS

CRE POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The mission of the CRE is to contribute to research in ethics and to the quality of graduate training in all fields of ethics from meta-ethics to applied questions. We encourage applications from researchers working on themes related to the research axes of the CRÉ: ethics and economics, ethics and health, ethics and politics, meta-ethics. A competition is held separately and jointly with the GRÉEA for research projects concerning environmental and animal ethics. We also admit applications from other disciplines, like ethics of artificial intelligence, feminist ethics or issues related to decolonization and racism, etc., provided their research is directly linked to questions in ethics. CRE is an interuniversity Center. Candidates must have sufficient knowledge of the French and English languages to be able to participate in the activities of the center.

Fellows are expected to:

- Pursue the research project as submitted;
- Participate in the Center's activities (conferences, seminars, readings);
- Using those activities to present their ongoing research to their fellow researchers;
- Be present at the Center on a regular basis, depending on the sanitary measures;
- Maintain an up-to-date profile on the website and inform the Associate Director of all research activities worthy of publicity;
- Submit an activity report at the end of each academic year during the stay.

Closing date 31 March 2024 (Forecast)

Award amount min CAD 45,000

<https://www.lecre.umontreal.ca/concours-de-stages-postdoctoraux-du-cre-2023-2024/>

DIRECTOR'S POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

The Director's Fellowship pairs outstanding scientists, engineers, and analysts who've earned their doctorate within the past 2 years with NREL mentors to propose and conduct innovative clean energy research.

NREL selects fellows in three disciplines—scientists, engineers, and analysts—based on eligibility, program expectations, and research proposals, with overriding consideration for the quality of the candidate.

Closing date 31 March 2024

Award amount min USD 10,000

<https://www.nrel.gov/careers/directors-fellowship.html>

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS

The objective of this program is to allow promising non-Japanese women researchers/graduate students to conduct research in Japan by providing them with a fellowship. They will be able to spend a period of time in residence in a research institute /university in Japan.

Closing date 31 March 2024

Award amount max JPY 500,000 - 1,000,000

<https://www.jauw.org/scholarship-information/international/>

ADVANCED ACADEMIA FELLOWSHIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS

The Centre for Advanced Study Sofia (CAS Sofia) invites applications for its advanced academia fellowships for international scholars. This supports scholars to pursue their individual fundamental research projects in the fields of the humanities and the social sciences, during in-residence periods of up to five months.

Closing date 31 March 2024

Award amount €1,700 - €5,150

<https://cas.bg/en/2024-2025-call-for-applications-advanced-academia-fellowships-for-international-scholars/>

ICO-ALLERGAN ADVANCED RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The International Council of Ophthalmology, in partnership with Allergan, invites applications for the ICO-Allergan advanced research fellowship. This enables a young ophthalmologist to continue basic or clinical research at a chosen university, preferably in a foreign country to where they live. Applications will be accepted for research work in glaucoma, neuro-ophthalmology, paediatric ophthalmology, retina, tumours, uveitis, dry eye, and cornea.

The fellowship is open to candidates located in any country who are under 40 years of age at the time of applying. They must also have a minimum of one year of research training and be reasonably fluent in the language of the fellowship training centre. Preference is given to applicants from countries with ophthalmologic societies that are members of the ICO.

Closing date 31 March 2024

Award amount max USD 50,000

<https://icoph.org/ico-fellowship/#types-of-fellowships>

Postdoctoral Scholarship

The Barakat Postdoctoral Scholarship is intended to enable a Muslim scholar at the beginning of his or her career to spend an academic year — from October to June — in Oxford to carry out a specific programme of research on Islamic art and/or architecture or prepare such research for publication.

The Barakat Postdoctoral Scholar will be required to contribute at least one lecture or seminar to the KRC Research Seminar. Travel to relevant events, activities or conferences during each tenure is obviously welcomed. However, Scholars are expected to be normally resident in Oxford for the duration of the Scholarship, and participation in weekly seminars during the Oxford term time will be greatly welcomed.

Closing date 31 March 2024

Award amount min £20,000

<https://barakat.org/grants/barakat-post-doctoral-research-scholarship-guidelines/>

Advanced Research Opportunities Program (AROP)

RWTH Aachen University offers travel grants and scholarships to support the research stays of doctoral candidates and postdocs from strategically relevant international universities or research institutions. Funding is provided by the Excellence Strategy of the German federal and state governments.

The goal of the program is to strengthen and intensify bilateral relations between RWTH Aachen University and international universities and research institutions of strategic relevance. Among other purposes, the research stays may be used to prepare joint research projects and publications, initiate joint projects in the field of capacity building, develop teaching projects at the partner university, and organize future visits and student exchange programs. AROP offers travel grants and scholarships, as well as the opportunity to participate in German-language courses and intercultural trainings at RWTH.

Closing date 31 March 2024

Award amount max €11,800

<https://www.rwth-aachen.de/cms/root/studium/Im-Studium/Stipendien-Foerderung/~fhgwb/Advanced-Research-Opportunities-Program/?lidx=1>

Workshops & Training Programmes

Unlock a world of knowledge through the University Research Council, University of Peradeniya's workshops.

Please email the duly completed form together with the proof of payment to reach Secretary University Research Council secretaryurc@gs.pdn.ac.lk by the due date specified in the flyer.

- Rs. 500 for permanent staff
- Rs. 300 for temporary staff and PG students
- Free for undergraduate students

Stay informed about upcoming workshops on the URC website:
<https://site.pdn.ac.lk/centers/urc/index.php>.





WRITING RESEARCH PROPOSALS; HOW AI ENGINES COULD HELP?

AN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

**26 FEBRUARY, 2024
9:00 AM-12 NOON
@ SENTE ROOM**



Prof. Janaka Ekanayake

BScEng(Hons), PhD, FIEEE (USA), FIET
(UK), FNAS (SL), FIESL, CEng

Senior Professor and Chair of Electrical
and Electronic Engineering

Director, University Research Council
University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Visiting Professor, Cardiff University, UK

Honorary Professor, University of
Wollongong, Australia

Visiting Professor, UNITEN, Malaysia

REGISTER NOW!

<https://site.pdn.ac.lk/centers/urc/sub%20topics/TrainingPrograms/Registration%20form%20for%20Workshops.pdf>

Information:

www.secretaryurc@gs.pdn.ac.lk



**Organized by the University Research Council,
University of Peradeniya**

WORKSHOP ON SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META ANALYSIS

14th & 15th March 2024
@ University of Peradeniya

REGISTER NOW!

<https://site.pdn.ac.lk/centers/urc/sub%20topics/TrainingPrograms/Registration%20form%20for%20Workshops.pdf>



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University of Peradeniya



Research Publication Facilitation Fund University Of Peradeniya

The new application for Research Publication Facilitation application is now available in <https://site.pdn.ac.lk/centers/urc>

According to the new process introduced for the reimbursement of Article processing charges, applicants can get prior approval for the payments before submission of the application. Upon receiving the approval for the APC from URC, usually through an email, submit the invoice for the payment of the APC, and the credit card statement to process the payment.

Note:

- Application is a fillable form, which you can fill using Adobe Acrobat Reader latest versions.
- Furnish all the details, sign the application, get the Head and the Dean to sign.
- Attach a copy of the complete manuscript and the acceptance letter.
- Only the full-length articles published in SCI/SSCI/SCI-expanded/SSCI-expanded with an impact factor of 1 or higher will be considered for RPF
- If the impact factor is greater than or equal to 1 and less than 2, USD 500 per author up to a maximum of USD 1000 per paper per year.
- If the impact factor is greater than or equal to 2, USD 500 per author up to a maximum of USD 1500 per paper per year.

Special Note:

- The payment must be done by a permanent staff member of the University of Peradeniya.
- If two authors claim for the same article fill in two separate applications and send both applications together (Attaching one copy of the manuscript and the invoice is adequate). If one author paid for the APC, a consent letter from the second author should be submitted.
- Funding is subjected to availability of funds.



Research Publication Facilitation Fund University of Peradeniya

The University Research Council [URC] is pleased to announce that it has initiated a scheme to provide financial assistance up to a maximum of **USD 1500.00** per year for the researchers of the University of Peradeniya to facilitate publishing their research findings in high ranking peer-reviewed journals.

Publishing research findings in reputed journals inevitably increases the visibility of research work and thereby it brings reputation and publicity for the researchers as well as for the university. Therefore, encouraging researchers to publish their scholarly work in reputed high-impact journals is of paramount importance. Publishing in many high-impact international peer reviewed journals involves page charges amounting to USD 2500 or even more, especially if the researcher intends to publish as an open-access article. Publishing as an open-access article invariably enhances the visibility of the research work leading to high number of citations.

Assisting researchers with their publications has been a long-felt need at Peradeniya. Providing assistance for researchers in getting their research work in high impact journals has been identified as one of the priorities in establishing the University Research Council. Accordingly, the URC takes pleasure in enhancing the Publication support to our researchers from January 2023

Applying for Research Publication Facilitation Fund [RPF]

Application

A link for the fillable form is given below. This can fill using Adobe Acrobat Reader latest versions.

https://site.pdn.ac.lk/centers/urc/doc/Application%20For%20RPF-URC_2021.pdf

- Furnish all the details, sign the application, get the Head and the Dean to sign.
- Attach a copy of the complete manuscript and the acceptance letter.
- And send the application to URC before paying the Article Processing Charge (APC) for approval and necessary processing.

Financial assistance

- Only the full-length articles published in SCI/SSCI/SCI-expanded/SSCI-expanded with an impact factor of 1 or higher will be considered for RPF
- If the impact factor is greater than or equal to 1 and less than 2, USD 500 per author up to a maximum of USD 1000 per paper per year.
- If the impact factor is greater than or equal to 2, USD 500 per author up to a maximum of USD 1500 per paper per year.

Eligibility criteria

- Applicant: The applicant should be a permanent staff member of University of Peradeniya and one of the authors of the journal article
- Affiliation: University of Peradeniya should have been identified as the sole affiliation or one of the affiliations. Journal articles which do not carry University of Peradeniya as an affiliation are not eligible for funding.
- Research work: Research should have been carried out fully or in part at University of Peradeniya. Research work carried out by a permanent staff member of University of Peradeniya completely outside of University of Peradeniya may also be eligible.
- The use of Institutional e-mail address: The author/s affiliated to University of Peradeniya are encouraged to use the official e-mail address with pdn domain name provided by University of Peradeniya in correspondence with the journal. If the applicant is the corresponding author of the journal article the author should have used the institutional e-mail address.
- Journal: The journal should be indexed in SCI/SSCI or SCI-expanded/SSCI-expanded journal with a journal impact of 1 or higher.
- Frequency: Once a calendar year.

Payment

- The payment must be done by a permanent staff member of the University of Peradeniya
- Upon receiving the approval for the APC from URC, usually through an email, submit the invoice for the payment of the APC, and the credit card statement to process the payment.
- If two authors claim for the same article fill in two separate applications and send both applications together (Attaching one copy of the manuscript and the invoice is adequate). If one author paid for the APC, a consent letter from the second author should be submitted.

Others

- The URC reserves the right to amend the selection criteria
- The article processing charge will be reimbursed subject to the availability of funds.



The Director,
University Research Council, A6 Building,
Udaperadeniya Road, University of Peradeniya
secretaryurc@gs.pdn.ac.lk

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MARCH EDITION**

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