



The Royal Academy
of Engineering

Ingenious
Public Engagement Fellowships
Application Guidelines

Call for Proposals

Closing Date: 29 October 2010



1. Purpose

Fellowships allow individual engineers to pursue a project which explores the societal, ethical or cultural impact of their field of work.

Fellowships enable engineers to broaden and strengthen their existing public engagement skills and knowledge, try out new formats such as dialogue, conduct public attitudes research or explore the ethics of engineering.

Fellowships also provide engineers with the opportunity to raise their profile and that of their field of work by reaching new public audiences and others such as opinion formers and policy makers.

Funding may cover: salary, training courses, public dialogue activities and research costs plus travel and subsistence expenses associated with the Fellowship.

The Fellowships are open to engineers from higher education institutes, the public and charity sector and from industry.

2. Fellowship activities

We welcome project proposals that:

- Create dialogue between engineers, the public or policy makers and other stakeholders;
- Explore the societal, cultural or ethical impacts of engineering (this could be in collaboration with a social scientist, ethicist or philosopher);
- Have an action research component to explore new and innovative engagement formats to encourage more effective debate and dialogue with the public;
- Include a training component.

3. Case study



Dr David James, Senior Sports Engineer, Sheffield Hallam University
RAEng Public Engagement Fellow
2009/2010: *Is Engineering Improving Sport?*

From tennis rackets to bicycles, football boots to swimsuits, scientists and engineers have played a critical role in pushing the boundaries of athletic performance.

As an RAEng Public Engagement Fellow, Dr James is exploring the societal and ethical impact of sports engineering advances. Alongside his training course in ethics, he is currently developing an ethics case study in sports engineering

in collaboration with Professor Andy Miah, Chair in Ethics and Emerging Technologies at the University of West Scotland. He is also organising a series of public dialogues with the Science Communication Unit at the University of West England.

“Sports engineering has made a significant impact on society,” says Dr James “People have strong views on whether technology is actually improving sport. I think this is an important question to debate, especially for the future.”

4. Mentoring and support

The Fellowship will give engineers the opportunity to design and pursue their own development and activity plan. The Academy will provide support in a number of ways:

- Applicants are welcome to contact the Academy to discuss their potential proposals in more depth (contact details are provided overleaf).
- Successful applicants will be supported by a mentor.
- Once awarded, the Fellows will have the opportunity to refine their own development plan, in conjunction with their mentor and others, as appropriate.
- Opportunities to network with Fellows of the Academy and the wider public engagement/public policy community.

5. Duration

Announcements will be made in April 2011 and the start date for the Fellowship is flexible from 1 May 2011 and must be completed, and the final invoice and final report submitted, by 30 September 2012.

Fellowships can be part-time for up to 12 months (occupying between 20% and 40% of the engineers' time) or full-time for up to 4 months.

6. Who can apply

Applications are welcome from engineers that are employed and based in the UK, from:

- academia, with at least 2 years post-doctoral experience;
- industry or the public and charity sector, with at least 5 years post-graduate experience.

Engineers are expected to have a substantial career ahead of them.

Applicants are expected to be working in a field that will impact on society in some way (either now or in the future) and be able to demonstrate previous experience in public engagement.

Fellowship activities must take place in the UK and are for engineers that aim to remain within the engineering profession, in either academia, industry or the public sector.

Applicants are required to provide evidence of appropriate support from their university or company. Prior to accepting the Fellowship, applicants are required to provide a formal agreement from their university or company, including details of the alternative arrangements being provided to cover the Fellowship period, and information on any replacement staff.

7. How to apply

An application form is available from www.raeng.org.uk/ingenious. In summary, the following details are required in your case for support:

- **objectives** of your proposed Fellowship
- a summary of:
 - your **career** and current area **research/work**
 - how your **field of work** impacts (or will impact) on the public, policy and/or society
 - **previous engagement activities** with the public, policy makers or other stakeholders
- an outline of your **Fellowship development plan**, including a proposed list of activities and training needs
- details on the required **resources**, and appropriate justification
- expected **impacts** of your Fellowship
- how you intend to **document and measure** progress
- how you will **communicate** your Fellowship activities to your peers
- a two page **CV**
- contact details of two nominated **referees**

8. Allowable costs

The maximum Fellowship grant is expected to be no greater than £30,000.

Please note that these Fellowships are not calculated on the basis of Full Economic Costing (fEC).

Allowable costs include:

- Specific indirect costs and replacement staff cover (eg for teaching and administrative duties or research assistant costs) for time spent on Fellowship activities.
- If replacement staff costs are not required, then the Fellowships can cover up to 80% of the successful applicant's gross salary for their Fellowship time.
- Salary for academic researchers (eg social scientists, ethicists or philosophers) that are collaborating with Public Engagement Fellows on a joint project can be applied for (up to 80% of their salary for time spent on the project). This must not amount to more than 25% of the total grant.
- Costs for associated UK travel and subsistence and fees for relevant UK training courses and conferences.
- Up to £5000 can be applied for to assist in the development and delivery of activities, forums, debates, dialogues, events and seminars.

Successful applicants will also have access to the **Fellowship Fund**, to assist in supporting further activities that are developed during the Fellowship period. This fund excludes any salary, indirect costs or overheads.

Potential applicants do not need to apply for any associated mentor costs, as these will be covered by the Academy.

9. Assessment and Process

Assessment Criteria (in no particular order of priority):

- Suitability of the applicant
- Quality and creativity of the proposed Fellowship development plan
- Suitability and match of the Fellowship proposal with the scheme objectives
- Expected impact of the Fellowship (eg on the applicant; their organisation; their collaborators; their peers and public/ policy audiences)
- Engineering excellence of the applicant
- Previous public engagement experience

Process timeline:

Announcement	First call for proposals issued on	30 June 2010
Closing date	Applications received by	29 October 2010
Review Process	Applications sent out to at least two reviewers including Fellows of the Royal Academy of Engineering, and those with expertise in engaging with the public and policy	November/ December 2010
	Reviewers' responses received	December 2010/ January 2011
Further information	Further details and clarification may be requested from applicants	January/February 2011
Panel	Panel meeting	February/March 2011
Announcement	Fellowships announced	March/April 2011

The number of Fellowships made will be dependent on the number and quality of the applications received.

10. Contact

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