

## RDM Funding Opportunities Bulletin – December 2016

Internal Funding Opportunities	Deadline*
<a href="#">John Fell Fund (JFF)</a>	RDM internal deadline 3 January 2017
<a href="#">Cancer Research UK Oxford Centre Development Fund</a>	RDM internal deadline 3 January 2017
<a href="#">Medical Sciences Internal Fund (MSIF)</a>	RDM internal deadline 18 January 2017
<a href="#">Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (WT ISSF)</a>	RDM internal deadline 18 January 2017
<a href="#">Returning Carers' Fund</a>	RDM internal deadline 8 February 2017
<a href="#">Erasmus Staff Training</a>	TBC – will be sometime in February 2017
<a href="#">Lab282 – small and large scale awards</a>	Applications can be submitted at any time
External Fellowship Funding Opportunities	Deadline*
<a href="#">L'Oreal-UNESCO 'For Women in Science' Awards</a>	RDM internal deadline 18 January 2017
See the <a href="#">November 2016 bulletin</a> for a summary of other upcoming fellowship deadlines.	

**\*Please remember that your local admin team and Research Services deadlines (where applicable) will be well in advance of the above deadlines.**

Please contact [Dr Ruth McCaffrey](#) or [Dr Serena Briant](#)

- With any queries related to funding opportunities
- For advice on potential sources of funding tailored to your career stage
- For guidance and support with fellowship applications

Upcoming funding deadlines that are announced after we have circulated the Funding Opportunities Bulletin are posted directly onto the [Funding Opportunities Bulletin page](#) on the RDM website.

## Internal Funding Opportunities

### John Fell Fund (JFF)

**Funding to support:** (a) pump priming, (b) early career researcher, (c) other academic activities likely to lead to new research initiatives, (d) Research Facilitators, (e) support related to bids for external funding, (f) strategic investment in research assets.



**Amount:** small award scheme (< £7.5k) or main award scheme (> £7.5k with no upper limit).

**Further details:** [Webpage](#). Please contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#) if you have any questions about the online application process, categories to apply for and appropriate levels of funding to request.

**RDM internal deadline: 3 January 2017 (end of day).** If you would like to apply, please inform your local administrator and [Ruth McCaffrey](#) or [Serena Briant](#) in advance. Ruth is happy to comment on draft applications before the RDM internal deadline. This earlier internal deadline will be *strictly applied* as a group of PIs from across RDM will be convened to review applications. Please note, when you have completed your online application, click the submit button, which sends your application to Ruth McCaffrey.

Future RDM deadline: 5 April 2017.

### Cancer Research UK Oxford Centre Development Fund



**Aim:** The aim of this fund is to provide short-term, pump-priming funds to support innovative, proof-of-concept cancer research that will lead to applicants applying for further response-mode funding.

**Funding is available to support:** Small awards of up to £7.5k. Main awards of up to £15k.

**Eligibility:** All scientists and health professionals currently engaged in cancer research in the University of Oxford and Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. This includes senior post-docs, junior group leaders & PIs.

**Further details:** [Webpage](#). Contact [cancercentre@oncology.ox.ac.uk](mailto:cancercentre@oncology.ox.ac.uk) for an application form and further details regarding eligibility criteria and the award process.

**RDM internal deadline: 3 January 2017 (end of day).** Submit applications to [funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk).

Future deadline TBC.

## Medical Sciences Internal Fund (MSIF)

### Funding is available for:

- 1) **Pump priming:** enables investigators to obtain pilot data to support larger scale applications for external research funding in the future (<£10k). **Postdocs are eligible to apply as the PI - an ideal opportunity to secure some funding in your own name.**
- 2) **Clinical pre-fellowship:** provides short-term (up to 3 months) funding to cover the salary costs of clinicians who will shortly begin an externally funded research training fellowship at Oxford.
- 3) **Bridging and family leave:** Bridging funding supports salary costs (typically 3 months) pending the application of an externally submitted grant.

To be eligible to apply researchers must: 1) Be externally funded and bridging to another external grant; 2) not be bridging from startup packages regardless of funding source; 3) not be bridging to non-medical research, eg BBSRC or Leverhulme funding. There is a cap of 15 applications submitted by the whole department per year.

In addition, funding can be requested to support maternity/shared parental/adoption leave bridging costs for researchers whilst employed on an externally funded research grant.

Applications to support this type of bridging are **not** included in the cap of 15 applications per department.

**Further details for pump priming and clinical funding:** [Webpage](#).

**Further details for bridging funding:** [Webpage](#). Please note that while the guidelines on the divisional website say there is no deadline for bridging funding applications, **RDM is setting an internal deadline** (see below).

**RDM Internal Deadline: 18 January 2017 (end of day).** If you would like to apply, please inform [Ruth McCaffrey](#) or [Serena Briant](#) in advance. Ruth and Serena are happy to comment on draft applications before the RDM internal deadline. This earlier internal deadline will be strictly applied as a group of PIs from across RDM will be convened to review applications. Submit applications to [funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk).

**There is no deadline for maternity/shared parental/adoption leave bridging funds** and applications can be submitted at any time to the secretary of the Medical Sciences Internal Fund Committee [mrf@medsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:mrf@medsci.ox.ac.uk), copying in [funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk). As with all applications, we are happy to comment on drafts.

Future deadlines: 26 April 2017 (end of day).

## Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund

### 1) Individual Career Support

**Aim:** pump priming funding is available to support researchers, who currently hold little or no WT funding, to make a subsequent competitive application to the WT or other external funder.

**Funding is available to support** the four categories below – both small (<£10k) and main (<£100k) funding requests are invited.

- a) **Early Career Researchers** – for researchers who have held a post for less than 8 years, which involved developing their own research agenda. Funding is intended to accelerate applications for WT Fellowships, Investigator or Seed awards.
- b) **Early Career Clinical Academics** – funding is intended to support clinical lecturers in career development (eg through attending a conference, training, secondment, RA or admin support etc).
- c) **Career Transformation Scheme** – for researchers who hold an independent post who have a reduced research portfolio eg due to sickness or caring reasons or due to increased teaching load. Funding is intended to reinvigorate research careers so applications for further funding can be made eg WT Seed awards.
- d) **Discipline Hopping** – funding is available to independent researchers who currently work outside of the WT remit so that they can apply their expertise to the WT goals.

**Eligibility:** Must fit into one of the categories above. DPhil students, post-docs and Clinical Research Fellows are not eligible to apply. **Only projects in the [WT research areas](#) can be supported.**

**Important:** Applications for awards that are >£10k and <£100k must have a minimum 20% match component at the point of application. This match funding can be cash or in-kind (eg equipment). Match funding can come from external sources (excluding any existing or new WT grants), or departmental funds.

**Further details:** [Individual Career Support Webpage](#).

### 2) Interdepartmental Strategic Initiatives:

**Aim:** to support strategic initiatives across departments. **Only projects in the [WT research areas](#) can be supported.**

**Funding is available to support (<£200k):**

- 1) **Equipment, research assets or staff within shared facilities** where there is evidence of strategic need.
- 2) **Establishment of cross cutting themes** through activities such as eg research facilitation, symposia or conferences in order to encourage collaboration in new areas.

Projects that are limited to only one department/faculty will not be supported.

**Eligibility:** Must be employed by the university. DPhil students, post-docs and Clinical Research Fellows are not eligible to apply.

**Further details:** [Interdepartmental Strategic Initiatives Webpage](#).

**RDM Internal Deadline: 18 January 2017 (end of day).** Submit applications to [funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk). If you would like to apply, please inform [Ruth McCaffrey](#) or [Serena Briant](#) in advance. Ruth and Serena are happy to comment on draft applications before the RDM internal deadline. This earlier internal deadline will be strictly applied as a group of PIs from across RDM will be convened to review applications.

In some cases (as indicated on the application form), a letter of support is required from the Head of Department, Professor Hugh Watkins. This will be provided following the RDM internal review panel meeting. If you have a query related to needing a letter of support, please contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#) in the first instance.

Future deadlines: 26 April 2017 (end of day).

## Returning Carers' Fund

**Aim:** Funding to support the development of research careers following a break to care for a child or close relative.

**Funding is available to support:** 1) Teaching buy-out to enable you to concentrate on research; 2) training or professional development; 3) short-term secondments to enable you to 'get up to speed' with recent research; 4) conference attendance to enable you to re-establish your profile; 5) short-term research or admin assistance; 6) small scale lab equipment purchase; 7) funding visits to Oxford by your recent collaborator. This list is not exhaustive and any reasonable applications will be considered providing the link to career development in scientific research can be demonstrated.

**Eligibility:** All those who: are currently on leave for a min. of six months; have returned from a break of at least six months within the last two years; or have returned from two breaks each of at least six months within the last five years. A break may comprise two or more discontinuous periods of leave totalling at least six months provided that they relate to a single life event, eg as part of a shared parental leave arrangement.

**Further details:** [Webpage](#).

**RDM internal deadline: 8 February 2017.** Submit applications to [funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk).

## Erasmus Staff Training

**Aim:** To encourage student and staff mobility for study and work, and to promote co-operation amongst universities across Europe. Training may be job shadowing, observation, attendance at workshops or courses. Staff can approach the institution of their choice.

**Funding is available to support:** Staff training and contributions towards subsistence and travel.

**Duration of funding:** Between two and seven days. Priority is given to members of staff going abroad for the first time.

**Eligibility:** All staff at Oxford.

**Further details:** [Webpage](#).

**Deadline:** TBC – will be sometime in February 2017.

Future deadline: September 2017.

## Lab282 – small and large scale awards

**Lab282 was recently launched and is a partnership between the University of Oxford, Oxford University Innovation, Oxford Sciences Innovation and Evotec.**



**Aim:** Lab 282 provides funding and expertise to achieve pre-clinical proof of concept for ground-breaking therapeutics.

**Funding is available to support:** activities in the following areas: target identification, target validation, screening and hit identification, testing novel therapeutics in in vitro and in in vivo models, drug metabolism and pharmacokinetics, medicinal chemistry, and proteomics and metabolomics. Both small scale (<25k) and large scale (£250k) projects will be supported.

**Eligibility:** Any PI employed by the University of Oxford. Any post-doc who is contracted to be employed by the University for at least the expected duration of a funded project may also apply with a letter of support from a PI.

**Further details:** [Webpage](#).

**Deadline:** Apply at any time, but applications are reviewed quarterly.

## External Fellowship Funding Opportunities

### L’Oreal–UNESCO ‘For Women in Science’ Awards

**Aim:** Five fellowships will be awarded in 2017 to outstanding women scientists in the early stages of their career to facilitate promising scientific research.

**Career Stage:** Early or Intermediate.

**Funding is available to support:** Winners may choose to spend their fellowship on buying scientific equipment, paying for child care costs, travel costs or whatever they may need to continue their research (each award is £15k).

**Duration of funding:** 1 year.

**Eligibility:** Female early career researchers who hold a research doctorate with no more than 10 years’ post-doc experience (discounting career breaks, but including teaching experience and/or time spent in industry). Candidates **must not** currently hold or **have ever** held a permanent academic post, or have received, before the start date of the award, the promise of a permanent academic post.

**Type:** Basic

**Further details:** [Women in Science Webpage](#).

**RDM Internal Deadline:** 18 January 2017 (end of day). Submit applications to [funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk). As part of your application **two letters of recommendation** must be submitted from those who have personal knowledge of your qualifications and suitability for the fellowship. If you wish to have a letter of recommendation from the Head of Department (Prof Hugh Watkins), please contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#) early in January to request this.

Future deadline: Annual Call

Please see the [November 2016 bulletin](#) for a summary of other upcoming fellowship deadlines.

## Other relevant information

### BMA foundation for medical research – 2017 grant details now available

The call for the [BMA foundation for medical research grant](#) applications will close on 3 March 2017.

The BMA provide approximately £500k of research funding annually, this year across 11 different grants. Funding areas range from heart disease to schizophrenia to the impact of working pressures on the medical profession. Applications are invited from medical practitioners and/or research scientists for research in progress or prospective research.

### NOAF (Nuffield Oxford Hospitals Fund)

Calls for [applications to the NOAF](#) are open until **31 January**. Submit applications to [Maria Kendall-Belcher](#) in the Medical Sciences Divisional Office, Level 3, John Radcliffe Hospital using the [NOAF application form](#).

Every application must demonstrate that it fulfils the requirement that it is for *“the raising of the standard of the Hospital or Hospitals concerned in order to assist the development and carrying on of the Oxford University Medical School”*.

Examples of recent grants awarded were for: seminar room or training room refurbishment, audio-visual training equipment, educational textbooks and microscope for teaching. Grants awarded are usually in the £20k to £50k range (grants of less than £5k are not awarded).

Please copy in [funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk) when you submit your application to Maria. [Ruth McCaffrey](#) is happy to comments on applications in advance.

### Wellcome: new funding scheme for public engagement with research



The Wellcome Trust has announced its [new funding model for public engagement with research](#). This funding is for anyone with a great idea for engaging the public in conversations about health-related science and research.

You can apply for anything from £5k up to £3m. You can apply online at any time from early January 2017. Applications must be discussed in advance with [Dr Emma O'Brien](#), the Public Engagement and Communications Officer in RDM.



## Christmas/New Year Closure

Monday 26 December, Tuesday 27 December 2016 and Monday 2 January 2017 are Bank Holidays for all staff. Wednesday 28 December, Thursday 29 December, and Friday 30 December 2016 are normal working days, but in view of the limited services on all sites, the department will also be closed on these three days, with three fixed closure days to be deducted from annual leave allowances.



The department will therefore close on Friday 23 December and re-open on Tuesday 3 January 2017. Please note that Monday 19 – Friday 23 December are normal working days. **Please check with your local admin team as staff holidays might mean your Division sets earlier deadlines for funding applications.**

### Reminders

- If your application requires a **letter of support from the Head of Department**, Prof Hugh Watkins, you must contact [Dr Ruth McCaffrey](#) at least 2 weeks in advance of the deadline to request the letter.
- The [RDM Funding Database](#) holds information on internal and external funding opportunities, including fellowships, travel, seed funding, translational grants, equipment and studentships. The 'Fellowships' tab is particularly useful because you can filter for career stage and whether you are a basic or clinical researcher, which provides a quick summary of potential fellowship opportunities.