Industrial Fellowships

Awarded to graduates with the potential to make an outstanding contribution to industry, for research supported by a company, leading to a patent, product or process improvement and a postgraduate award.

Come and taste the freedom

Peter Higgs, 1851 Research Fellowship 1953-1955
Benefits

Industrial Fellowships encourage profitable innovation and creativity in British Industry – to the mutual benefit of the Fellow and his or her sponsoring company.

Funding
- 50% of the Fellow’s salary, including the employer’s share of national insurance and superannuation paid, up to a limit of £25,000 p.a.
- University fees paid up to normal levels for UK students.
- Travel allowance of £3,500 p.a.
- Honorarium of £10,000 paid to the University research department on completion to support the department’s research programme.

Gain new IP whilst minimising R&D costs
Applicants can pursue a PhD whilst working, allowing companies to conduct innovative research that furthers their business objectives, and accelerates the creation of IP.

Pursue a PhD whilst working
Fellows receive significant funding towards their fees and salary, enabling employers to offer exciting personal development opportunities for their brightest employees.

Collaborative relationships
Fellows and their sponsoring companies will work closely with the PhD institution, developing a mutually beneficial relationship, undertaking research that delivers tangible impact to industry.

The Royal Commission lays no claim on intellectual property rights or commercial-in-confidence material.
Applications are accepted via https://1851awards.flexigrant.com

Supporting documentation
- Description by the candidate of the proposed programme of work including milestones and deliverables
- Letters of endorsement for the project expressing support for the candidate from the intended Industrial Supervisor and Academic Supervisor
- Company profile and information

Eligibility
The applicant must have a good first degree in engineering, science or medicine, and normally be within five years of degree graduation.

Applicants must be employed by, or have an offer of employment from a company in the UK.

Applicants must demonstrate a link between their employing company and appropriate staff at a UK University.

Applicants must have identified a research and/or development topic potentially leading to a patent, product or process in conjunction with a higher academic award, usually a PhD or EngD.

Full Terms and Conditions

Applications open
1 Oct

Deadline for applications
11 Feb

Shortlisted candidate interviews
30 Mar

Fellowships commence
Oct 2021

Apply Now
Rare opportunity
The Royal Commission's Industrial Fellowship gave our small company, DZP Technologies, the rare opportunity to do extensive research in one area over several years. The Industrial Fellow was able to start with a broad research brief, investigating manufacturing techniques for a new class of materials, and explore new, tangentially related avenues in detail.

Flexibility
Through the flexibility provided by the Commission, the funding continued for one year after the EngD had finished, allowing us to continue to employ the Fellow while letting him conduct further open, low technology readiness level (TRL) research. It was during this year that the most promising experimental results emerged.

Commercially beneficial
In addition to process improvements related to our existing products, the R&D resulting from the Fellowship has opened up an entirely new product line. It is currently in commercial development for our customers.

High-calibre employees
The Industrial Fellowship is an invaluable tool for attracting and retaining high-calibre employees and pursuing early-stage research goals that would otherwise be out of reach.

“"The Industrial Fellowship expanded our product offering""
The Industrial Fellowship programme provided lasting commercial benefit for our company, as well as strengthening the relationship between us and the academic partner, St. Andrews University, leading to broader collaboration between the two institutions.

Our company provided advice, support and training for researchers, while St. Andrews supported us with fabrication of samples, and the Industrial Fellow had a central role in strengthening this link. Additionally, our CEO was appointed as an Honorary Professor, formalising and extending the existing link.

**Travel to international conferences**
Our Industrial Fellow’s PhD project would not have been able to continue without the Royal Commission’s support. The Fellowship facilitated travel to international conferences and helped her collaborate with other scientists working in the field; experience that contributed to her research and she further developed with us.

**Broad collaboration**
The research also involved collaboration with external agencies including Police Scotland and the National Crime Agency, and the Royal Commission even purchased new equipment for us to help our Fellow explore new areas of commercial development as part of her research.

**Further research impact**
The research performed under the Industrial Fellowship with us has resulted in seven peer-reviewed publications, with five as first author. Work from the research project continues to be submitted for publication after the Fellowship.

**Susanna Challinger, 1851 Industrial Fellow**
“The industrial fellowship has had a very positive impact on my project and career. While my PhD studies were started ~9 months prior to the industrial fellowship start, I do not think that this project would have continued to thesis submission without the fellowship support.”

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**The Fellowship strengthened our relationship with academia**
Industrial Fellows 2020

Maral Bayaraa
Satellite Applications Catapult and University of Oxford
Satellite-enabled early warning system for geotechnical structures

Sam Bourne
LifeArc and University of Kent
Characterising genetic variants associated with pain to improve the clinical translation of novel therapies

Daniella Cheang
AstraZeneca and University of Oxford
Can you keep borrowing from future generations? A green biomimetic method for controlling chirality

Sophie Duong
Dstl and University of Surrey
Metal to Ceramic Interfacial Engineering for Armour Applications

Jack Kay
Ingenza Ltd. and University of Plymouth
Discovery of novel antimicrobial peptides to combat current and emerging superbugs

Joe Lawton
Plasma Quest Ltd and The University of Surrey
Remote Plasma Sputtering of High Quality Thermochromic Thin Films for Energy Conservation

Poppy Oldroyd
Johnson Matthey and University of Cambridge
Conducting polymer electrodes for interfacing with the brain

Euan Rodgers
Rolls-Royce and Imperial College London
Development of a permanently installed monitoring system using guided waves for safety critical nuclear components

Tom Waddell
Perspectum and University of Oxford
Causal modelling of type 2 diabetes and multi-organ dysfunction through quantitative magnetic resonance imaging: Applying Bayesian-networks

Declan Williams
QinetiQ and Birmingham University
Flow versus batch chemistry in the safe manufacture of explosives
Come and Taste the Freedom with an 1851 Royal Commission Fellowship

In addition to Industrial Fellowships, the 1851 Royal Commission also offers the following fellowships and awards:

**Research Fellowships in Science and Engineering**
Intended to give early career scientists or engineers of exceptional promise the opportunity to conduct a research project of their own instigation.

Closing Date 20 January 2021

**Brunel Fellowship in Engineering**
Aimed specifically at researchers in the core subjects of Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Aeronautical Engineering seeking to address the primary infrastructure needs of modern society.

Closing Date 20 January 2021

**Industrial Design Studentships**
For outstanding engineers or scientists to undertake Masters degrees in industrial design, for up to two years.

Closing Date 3 May 2021

**Design Fellowship**
Awarded in alternate years for mid career professionals to explore important current issues identified by the Commissioners.

The next Built Environment Fellowship will open in 2021

**Built Environment Fellowship**
Awarded in alternate years for mid career professionals to explore important current issues identified by the Commissioners.

The next Built Environment Fellowship will open in 2021

**RAEng 1851 Enterprise Fellowships**
A package of tailored mentoring, training and grant-funding for graduates to pursue commercialisation of their technological ideas.

**Sir Misha Black Awards**
Given for distinguished services to design education.

Closing Date 31 October 2020
Contact

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