

Office of Research Services

EMINENT RESEARCH VISITOR SCHEME GUIDELINES

CLOSING DATE 24th July 2009

THESE ARE GUIDELINES ONLY.

THE **APPLICATION** CONSISTS OF:

- FORM (PDF)
- PROPOSAL (WORD).

SUBMITTING APPLICATION

SUBMIT:

- (1) ELECTRONIC COPY TO JA.WHITE@UWS.EDU.AU
- (1) HARD COPY TO
JASON WHITE,
RESEARCH SERVICES,
BUILDING K1, PENRITH CAMPUS

SIGNATURES

IT CAN BE DIFFICULT TO GET ALL SIGNATURES PRIOR TO CLOSING DATE, SIGNATURE PAGES CAN BE FAXED TO - 4736-0905 (ext: 2905).

As part of its mission 'to conduct research that leads to the creation of new knowledge that enriches teaching, and which leads, through selected concentrations, to outcomes of relevance and importance locally, nationally and internationally', the University of Western Sydney provides Visiting Fellowship opportunities for highly productive and esteemed researchers from overseas institutions who are making a distinctive contribution to their field of inquiry **and can link with research activity at UWS supporting the aims articulated in the UWS Research Plan.**

The University seeks to foster international relationships by encouraging visits by researchers who can share their expertise and contribute to scholarly debate and research activity on campus. Such visits will build and secure long term collaborations that will support the University in achieving its research mission.

The Eminent Research Visitors Scheme is designed to intensify the research capacity, international links and collaborative research activity of nationally competitive research groupings at UWS. The Scheme covers support for visits by eminent researchers from overseas for a sustained period across a designated triennium (2009/10-2012). The scheme aims to strengthen the research competitiveness and international profile of UWS.

Applications for support should lead to the generation of:

- collaborations and linkages with the prospect of national competitive grants and other external research funding, particularly international opportunities, together with,
- high quality publication outputs,
- improved research training outcomes, both doctoral and postdoctoral.

The focus of the Scheme is on supporting research groupings with demonstrable national research competitiveness. A core objective of the University is the strengthening and deepening of our research presence, particularly encouraging UWS research teams within and across Colleges.

The expectation is that support under the Eminent Research Visitors Scheme will lead to the submission of major funding applications, particularly linkage with international funding opportunities.

Up to 3 Eminent Research Visitors will be funded in the 2009 funding round.

Eminent Research Visitor

The Eminent Research Visitor must be able to help form new intellectual bridges, promote scholarly exchange of research expertise, and enable UWS researchers to discuss topics and carryout research at the forefront of knowledge in the relevant fields. Scholars must have high-level international reputations as researchers and must clearly advance the acquisition of leading edge knowledge in the fields in which UWS is seeking to maintain research excellence.

Therefore, the eminence of the proposed Research Visitor must be clearly demonstrable, as must their linkage to a high quality program of research already underway within UWS, and the ability to deepen research capacity in a nationally competitive research grouping. The Eminent Research Visitor is expected to be able to share their expertise and fundamentally contribute to the research grouping's development during periodic stays at UWS. Visitors may come for periods of different length but would normally be expected to be attached to UWS for at least 8 weeks per year for 3 years.

Applications for support under the Scheme should be strategic in intent (i.e. with further development in mind or specific return to UWS), linked to identifiable goals, and have identifiable and measurable outcomes.

The UWS Eminent Research Visitor will operate under the UWS Policy for Visiting and Adjunct Appointments and its specific provisions relating to Research Fellows - <http://policies.uws.edu.au/view.current.php?id=00004>. Visitors are not employed by the University nor are they eligible to undertake paid work for the University in any capacity. If a visiting or adjunct appointee wishes to undertake paid work for the University, they will need to relinquish their honorary appointment. Honorary appointees may, however, receive non-salary remuneration (e.g. a living allowance or allowance for work-related expenses, as appropriate).

Research-only appointments are approved by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Enterprise.

Research Program for Eminent Research Visitor

The Research Program in which the visitor will participate should be planned to include some of the following:

- work with particular researchers on a specific research project
- work on joint funding applications for new research projects
- training for staff in new or specific research methods
- workshops for postgraduate research candidates
- work on joint publications with UWS researchers
- assist with the development of new research activities or directions
- research development and enrichment programs within a College
- guest lectures in academic specialities
- staff research development, such as special seminars, especially for Early Career Researchers
- public lectures

UWS Eminent Research Visitor status under this scheme will be on the basis of on campus activity at UWS for at least 8 weeks per year for up to 3 years.

Eligibility

Each application requires a set of proposers and the agreement of the proposed Eminent Research Visitor. All UWS non-casual academic staff are eligible to submit applications under the scheme but only one application per named proposer will be considered in any twelve-month period. Requests for expenditure normally supported under other UWS arrangements will not be funded under this scheme. Adjunct staff are eligible to submit an application.

Duration of Support

Duration of support for the Eminent Research Visitor is for visits over a maximum period of 36 months.

Certification by Executive Dean

The Executive Dean must certify that the proposed Eminent Research Visitor is an outstanding researcher who will be able to make a decisive contribution over a 3 year period to the development and success of a program of research already underway within one of UWS's nationally competitive research groupings. The Executive Dean must also certify that appropriate resources, including dedicated office and computing facilities, as well as access to photocopying and administrative support will be made available to the Eminent Research Visitor.

Reports

Successful proposers will be required to submit an annual activity report to the UWS Research Committee and a final report within 3 months of funding ceasing to ascertain how collaborative links have led to major funding opportunities, scholarly outputs and research training activity.

APPLICATIONS

Each application should cover a program of intensive research activity which would include discrete research project based activity, research training activity and early career researcher activity. Applicants should outline the broad aims and significance of the proposed activities, the participants in the activities proposed – including research students – and the academic excellence of the activities. Evidence of the current research of the proposers and the nominated Eminent Research Visitor must be specified, together with the specific goals, anticipated developments, and outputs in targeted areas (such as applications for external funding, joint working papers, articles for refereed journals, edited books, research student seminars etc). These should relate clearly and directly to the aims of the Scheme as set out above in this document.

Applications must also identify strategies for securing research resources required and for achieving the stated research outcomes.

The proposed timetable for the research activities over the 36 months should be clearly set out so that the Review Panel can evaluate the feasibility of the activity and the Eminent Research Visitor's capacity to carry out the scheduled research activities within the time frame nominated.

The budget requested must be clear and well justified. The main items of funding will involve return airfares to Australia and a contribution to the living expenses of the Eminent Research Visitor. The maximum per annum allocation is \$20,000.

Applications should be no longer than 4 pages in either 10 point Arial or 11 point Times New Roman plus a 5 page CV for the Visitor and a 2 page CV for each named proposer, and printed in black.

APPLICATION ADVICE

FORM (PDF)	
Item 3	Summary of Financial Support Requested: Financial support requested under the Eminent Research Visitors Scheme
Items 10, 11, 12	Certification should be sought once proposal has been completed. Proposals cannot go forward to Committee without all signatures.

PROPOSAL (WORD)	
Part A – Max 2 page	Overview of Research Achievement
Research grouping	Provide an overview of the research grouping's current record of research activities and achievements and how the Eminent Research Visitor will contribute to further development and success.
Eminent Research Visitor	Provide a description of the Eminent Research Visitor's current research, plus statements as to his/her contribution to the state of knowledge in the field, the excellence and innovative nature of the proposed visitor's research and the visitor's relation to research at UWS and to the University's further development, particularly the national competitive program of research already underway within the nominated UWS research grouping.

Part B – Max. 2 pages	Proposed Research Activity and its Context
Research activity	Describe the proposed research activity and expected outcomes, particularly major funding opportunities that will arise from the activity. Specify which international funding sources.
Significance	Detail the significance of the proposed research activity and its relation to program of work in the sponsoring research grouping.
Program	Provide a plan for the proposed research activities. Provide a detailed itinerary and timetable, indicating the overall program of research involvement on campus i.e. guest lectures, workshops, research student seminars, preparation of grant applications etc.
Budget	Budget and budget justification. The Scheme will seek to fund airfares and a substantial contribution to living expenses.
Contribution by Research Grouping	It is expected that Colleges, through their nominated research grouping, will provide the Eminent Research Visitor with a dedicated office space, computer and telephone, as well as access to office supplies and administrative support when required for the duration of their visit. Eminent Research Visitors will also have access to University facilities on a no-cost basis but may have to cover some of their expenses related to Australian travel and accommodation themselves when funding provided by UWS is insufficient to cover all these costs.

Additional Text: CV	<p>For the Eminent Research Visitor, please attach <u>a 5 page curriculum vitae</u>, including major positions held; grants awarded; research experience; activities; awards, prizes, fellowships; and refereed publications over the last decade.</p> <p>For each applicant, please attach <u>a 2 page curriculum vitae</u> including major positions held; grants awarded; research experience; activities; and refereed publications over the last three years.</p>
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ASSESSMENT

The UWS Research Committee through its assessment panels will assess applications under the *Eminent Research Visitor* Scheme. Research excellence and the value of the application to the development of research at UWS will be the primary criteria in assessment of the application.

Priority will be given to proposed research activities designed to lead to increased competitiveness in seeking major external research funding, particularly international funding through identified opportunities; developing and sustaining significant international linkages and long term collaboration; producing major high quality publication outputs, contributing to research training, both doctoral and postdoctoral.

Priority will be given to researchers engaged in planning a major collaboration that links into European Union research funding opportunities.

The Review Panel's decision on funding will also be based on (a) its assessment of the excellence of the research track record of the proposed Eminent Research Visitor and the sponsoring research grouping, (b) the feasibility of the planned activity, and (c) the likelihood of success in the stated outcomes, **particularly access to research funding opportunities.**

TIMETABLE

Applications in 2009 for funding commencing in 2009/10 should be submitted to Office of Research Services, no later than Friday, 24th July 2009.

The Pro Vice Chancellor (Research) will advise applicants of the outcome of their application.