



CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES

Learned Society of Wales / Agile Cymru Ireland-Wales Bilateral Research Network

Call Opens: 21 August 2023

Call Closes: 30 September at 4.00 pm

Maximum grant: £12,500

On-line submission via: [This Form](#)

The Learned Society of Wales (LSW), with the support of the Welsh Government Agile Cymru Fund and in collaboration with the Royal Irish Academy (RIA) is pleased to invite applications for the Ireland-Wales Bilateral Network Grant under the theme of 'Culture, Language and/or Heritage'.

The ambition of the Ireland-Wales Bilateral Network Grant is to strengthen cooperation and learning between excellent researchers, academics and practitioners in Wales and Ireland within the Agile Cymru Frame-work.

The maximum sum available for any one project grant is £12,500 per project (GBP Sterling) for a period of 3-4 months. The scheme will fund one grant to an institution in Wales for 2023-24.

OBJECTIVES

To strengthen cooperation, knowledge exchange and learning between Wales and Ireland;

To support collaborative and interdisciplinary research

To encourage the initiation of new partnerships and/or the development of existing partnerships, potentially leading to innovative future proposals bringing disciplines and nations together

To contribute to policy discussion in Ireland and Wales in the specified thematic area.

THEMES

This Pilot Scheme invites applications which address the broad theme of 'Culture, Language and/or Heritage', with a particular focus on indigenous, minority and lesser-used

languages, in line with Wales's leadership of this area within the British Irish Council. This theme also fits within the Communities and Culture priority theme of the Agile Cymru Irish Sea Frame-work, as well as the 2021 Ireland Wales Shared Statement and [Joint Action Plan](#).

Applicant eligibility

Lead Applicant

- The grant is open to academic researchers working in higher education institutions (HEI) or research institutes (RI) in Wales.
- In each application, the lead applicant must be a full or part-time academic in disciplines within the area of culture, language and/or heritage who is engaged in research relevant to indigenous, minority and less-used languages. They must be a tenured and/or salaried staff member of an HEI or RI in Wales.
- Lead applicants must be on open-ended, continuing, or fixed-term contracts which extend beyond the end date of the envisaged grant period. The grant cannot be used to extend an applicant's contract.

Co-Applicant

- The co-applicant of the project must be an academic researcher working in higher education institutions (HEI) or research institutes (RI) in Ireland (not including Northern Ireland).
- In each application, the co- applicant must be a full or part-time academic in disciplines within the area of culture, language and/or heritage who are engaged in research relevant to indigenous, minority and less-used languages. They must be a tenured and/or salaried staff member of an HEI or RI in Ireland (not including Northern Ireland).

Additional Criteria

- Each application may have a number of partners/co-investigators across both countries if appropriate to the project.
- The project team may also include:
 - other academic researchers from any discipline,
 - researchers outside academia,
 - members of the public or public-facing groups.

Please note that only one Learned Society of Wales-Agile Cymru Ireland-Wales Bilateral Research Network Grant may be held, or applied for, at any one time.

Project eligibility:

The project can build on existing international collaboration between the two countries or may demonstrate plans for the development of new collaborative networks.

It is envisaged that each project will lead to the development of a network, or an outline of a concept for grant project proposal in the area explored in order to provide tangible results that will be of value to the academic community and the wider public.

While awards will be open to all career stages and all HEIs in Ireland and Wales, we encourage applications that are either led by early career researchers¹ (ECRs) or include ECRs as active participants within the proposed project, and will promote the opportunity via our [HEFCW-funded ECR Network](#).

The grant does not cover activities that would have taken place regardless (for instance, connected to an existing conference).

Successful applicants will receive funding for activities taking place between 1 November 2023 and 27 March 2024 for projects with an anticipated duration of 3-4 months. No extensions will be given beyond 27 March 2024.

ASSESSMENT

Proposals will be assessed by a panel appointed by the Learned Society of Wales, and including a representative from the Royal Irish Academy, who will come to a consensus in deciding which proposals are successful. Applicants may be asked for more information before a grant is confirmed as successful.

What we're looking for

The key principles of the funding scheme are:

- collaborative and interdisciplinary research
- working with external partners to co-produce research outcomes and generate knowledge exchange
- ensuring that principles and best practice of interdisciplinary working are adopted from the outset, allowing for the development of truly collaborative partnerships which will provide solutions to complex challenges
- building partnership across communities of researchers in order to prepare to compete for future funding opportunities

Applications will be assessed with reference to:

- adherence to the objectives of the call;
- whether the funding request is within the threshold and justified in relation to project delivery; applicant, co-applicant and network proposal;

¹ For purposes of this grant an Early Career Researcher is defined as PhD holder or equivalent who is not yet fully independent

- project plan, outputs and impact;
- consideration of and contribution to the seven wellbeing goals of the [Wellbeing of Future Generations Act](#).

Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

As well as the key legal requirements, applicants should consider how they will address specific needs related to DEI from the outset, in-line with the [Society's commitment to DEI](#).

Funding Details

You can apply for up to £12,500 to support your project.

Proposals can include fully justified direct costs incurred in delivering the project.

- This may include, for example:
 - **Research time:** appropriate and recognised salary costs at a daily or hourly rate, excluding on-costs.
 - **Administrative assistance:** on a daily or hourly basis, at appropriate and recognised salary costs at an hourly rate, excluding on-costs.
 - **Research consumables:** examples include licenses for archival material or for software that are required for research to be carried out; printed brochures for dissemination events; tea, coffee, lunch for meetings etc.; postage, stationery and photocopying.
 - Library fees, illustration permissions, copyright fees, photographic services.
 - Assistance with publication costs (in the form of guarantee against loss or for illustrative material).
 - Translation services and transcription of interviews.
 - **Research-related travel:** reasonable expenses, using standard class fares (excluding first and business class travel), accommodation, subsistence, visa.
 - Costs associated with disseminating results arising from the project – through publication or presentation at specialist conferences. Dissemination costs are normally up to a maximum of 10% of the requested budget. This call is funded outside of full economic costing rules.

Grants may be topped up by the awardee's institution and the partner organisations.

Costs not covered

- The budget and costings must be based on valid estimates.

Funding will not be provided for: Salary on-costs, that is, Health/National Insurance, Pension contributions

- Equipment and equipment-related costs.
- Event costs, that is, the costs of putting on the event; costs for attendance at events are eligible.

Providing the grants

The process to provide these grants will be as follows:

- A purchase order will be raised, and a purchase order number will be shared.
- The grant will be paid by invoice in arrears (which must include the purchase order number, site address, Learned Society of Wales's address and a unique invoice number) upon acceptance of the final report (see [Reporting](#) below).
- All substantial changes to the initial budget must be approved by the LSW.
- By signing the application form and accepting the grant offer letter both the host institution and the applicant agree to be bound by the guidelines and terms and conditions upon acceptance of the award by the host Institution. The funders shall be entitled to enforce these terms and conditions

REPORTING

Awardees are required to submit a final report by 30 April 2024, using the template provided by the Learned Society of Wales. The report should:

- Outline the progress relative to the research programme and outputs indicated in the original application;
- Set out the main research objectives of the Grant and delivery against them;
- Provide a list of all outputs, e.g. publications produced (or in progress), conference presentations, collaborations, events etc.;
- Include a non-confidential executive summary which will be translated into Welsh
- Provide a 3–5 minute video giving an accessible project summary
- Include financial statement and receipts for **all expenses incurred** including timesheets for staff time.

Successful awardees may also be expected to participate fully in an end-of-project summit to showcase their work in an international forum which may be held both online and in person. Any additional outputs will be tailored to the nature of the network, e.g. records of exhibitions, events, new networks created.

Impact

Applicants will also be asked to demonstrate the impact of the network grant, in terms of:

- Bilateral and in-country activities that have taken place as a result of the funding that would not have occurred otherwise;
- Current and future benefits of the networks for project partners, including scoping for new grants (e.g. Horizon Europe, UKRI research council funding);
- Current and future benefits of the networks for those involved, including participants from the general public, service users (where relevant) and particularly those who may not typically have the opportunity to be involved in a project of this type.

How to apply

Proposals must be submitted via [this form](#) by **30 September 2023 at 4.00 pm**, along with a Statement of Support for the Project Leader and Statement of Agreement from the Co-Applicant as described below.

Supporting Documentation

An Institutional Statement of Support for the Project Leader and a Statement of Agreement from Co-Applicant must be submitted via e-mail to: ResearcherDevelopment@lsw.wales.ac.uk by the deadline of **30 September 2023 at 4.00 pm**.

The Institutional Statement of Support for the Project Leader from the should outline why they are supporting the application and indicate their support to help with dissemination and promotion of key outputs and impacts. The Project Leader must be named in this letter. The statement must be signed by the Line Manager, Research Officer or other appropriate authority within the institution.

The Co-Applicant letter should outline that they consent to their inclusion in the application, and should an Award be granted and then accepted by the lead applicant that they agree to be bound by the Terms & Conditions. The name of the Welsh Project Leader must be included in this letter. It should also be signed and include confirmation that the applicant is invited to their institution for this project.

Key Dates:

Call Opens: 21 August 2023

Call Closes: 30 September 2023, 4.00 pm

Reviewing and panels: 1-15 October 2023

Outcome of selection: by 31 October 2023

Start dates for projects: 1 November - 31 December 2023

Project end date: 31 March 2024

Final report due: 30 April 2024

Further information

Please contact our Researcher Development Team (researcherdevelopment@lsw.wales.ac.uk) if you require any further information.

Data protection

The Learned Society of Wales will use the information that you provide for the purposes of processing your application, making any awards, monitoring and review of any grants. We may share anonymised aggregated information with the Welsh Government Agile Cymru Fund. The Learned Society of Wales complies with the UK General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (UK GDPR). We process and handle personal information according to these regulations. The personal information that you provide on this form will only be used for the processing of your application. The information will be viewed by Learned Society of Wales and those who are part of the decision-making process. Your information will not be used/shared beyond the partners listed above for any other purpose without your specific consent. The Learned Society of Wales reserves the right to publish and share anonymised aggregated information with stakeholders. Organisation details, where collected, are used for monitoring and evaluation and statistical purposes. If we need to contact you, we will do so using the contact details you have provided. Under UK Data Protection law, you have the right to ask for a copy of the information we hold on you, and the right to ask us to correct any inaccuracies in that information.