**IRF Research Excellence Fund Application Form**

**Overview:**

The Imaging Advisory Group (IAG) is providing the opportunity for research staff and students to maximise potential to generate research income and/or publication success via the IRF Research Excellence Fund – an award that provides low-cost access to equipment and services in the IRF.

**Eligibility criteria:**

The fund is predominately aimed at (but not limited to) researchers who have no current funding and applications must be on the basis of one of the following criteria:

1. Pilot data for grant applications
2. Feasibility studies
3. Publication completion
4. New ideas – testing out new collaborations

**Please note the fund will NOT support** any volume of work that could and should be submitted for research grant funding. It is expected that either the PI or a designated individual will undertake the work. There will be no service provision by IRF staff however all facility users will have to undergo standard induction prior to project. For the equipment’s that are not offered for independent use e.g. Cell Sorter and TSPIM, IRF staff will support the researcher.

Applications are welcome from:

1. PhD students
2. Postdoctoral researchers
3. Principal Investigators

Six applications (max.) will be awarded in this funding round.

**Application Deadline:**

4 weeks post application opening date

**Funding duration**: six months from the announcement date. Six months for reporting outcomes to IAG.

**Process and decision making:**

1. Please complete the application form and send to the Imaging Advisory Group (IAG) [email](mailto:irf@sgul.ac.uk).
2. IAG subgroup will score and oversee decision making – applications will be scored according to the eligibility criteria, via feasibility and impact assessment (see page 4).
3. Outcomes from the process will be communicated to applicants individually 2 weeks post-closing date. All applicants will be informed of the decisions independently.
4. IRF staff will create access to equipment and services for successful applicants at the basic consumables cost per hour/per sample rate, as appropriate.
5. Successful applicants will be able to access the equipment/services**\*** during the time period agreed with the IRF staff.
6. Successful applicants will be required to produce a report on the project outcome(s) within eight weeks of the agreed end date, via the IRF Research Excellence Fund reporting form.

**\***Services refers to the activities that might usually be provided by IRF staff (e.g. IHC). In this instance,

the IRF will train the successful applicants (or nominated staff) in the technical delivery but will expect applicants to make use of the facility in a DIY mode.

**Completed forms should be submitted to** [**irf@sgul.ac.uk**](mailto:irf@sgul.ac.uk)

**Reporting:**

At end of award period successful applicants must submit a follow-up report to IAG using IRF Research Excellence Fund reporting form. Access to future funding is dependent on compliance with reporting.

Information about successful applicants and projects (including the end reports) will be updated to Research Committee.

Please note that support from the IRF is to be acknowledged in any research outputs enabled by this funding.

*Application form on page 3. Equipment and sample availability in table below:*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sample Based Service** | | **Price per** | **Basic Consumable Cost per Sample** | | | **Maximum request per applicant** |
| Immunohistochemistry | | Slide | £0.37 | | | 400 |
| H + E Histology | | Slide | £0.05 | | | 400 |
| Lillies Trichrome histology | | Slide | £0.07 | | | 400 |
| Sectioning -cryostat | | Block | £0.48 | | | 50 |
| Sectioning -Wax | | Block | £0.22 | | | 50 |
| Embedding -Cryostat | | Block | £0.10 | | | 82 |
| Embedding -Wax (includes use of processor machine) | | Block | £0.30 | | | 500 |
| FACS Melody Cell Sorter | | Sample | £1.65 | | | 20 |
| **Hourly Based Service** | | **Price per** | **Basic Consumable Cost per Hour** | | | **Maximum request per applicant** |
| A1R Nikon Confocal Microscope | Hour | | | £1.10 | 78 | |
| Nie Nikon Epifluorescent Microscope | Hour | | | £1.05 | 78 | |
| Zeiss Axiovert 200M Epifluorescent Microscope | Hour | | | £1.05 | 78 | |
| Nanozoomer Slide Scanner | Hour | | | £0.88 | 78 | |
| T-SPIM | Hour | | | £0.88 | 78 | |
| LiveCyte | Hour | | | £0.88 | 50 | |
| Auto-Scratch Wound Maker | Hour | | | £1.65 | 78 | |
| Cytoflex Cell Analyzer | Hour | | | £1.65 | 78 | |

**Application Form**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Project title: |  | |
| Principal Investigator/PhD/PDRA: |  | |
| Co-Investigator/s: |  | |
| Designated individual: | *Who will undertake the work and use the equipment?* | |
| Service requested: |  | |
| How many samples / hours are required (up to maximum allowance see table 1): | *Feasibility will be triaged by facility staff prior to scoring by panel* | |
| Does the designated individual have prior experience using this equipment or service? |  | |
| Have they been trained by IRF staff? |  | |
| Approvals required: | Home Office Licence  Ethics approval  Other (state) | **Delete as appropriate**:  required**/**n/a**/**obtained  required**/**n/a**/**obtained  required**/**n/a**/**obtained |

**Project Description** (max. 500 words):rationale for the project including clear objectives and specific aims. How will the work carried out contribute to the wider research of the individual?

Please indicate below when you would perform the work, if successful:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | April | May | June | July | August | September |
| Tick as appropriate |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Future Plans** (max. 200 words):explain how the project will result in a research benefit to the university. What funding call opportunity or publication manuscript will this work link to?

**Scoring**

**Feasibility:**

* Extent to which the application is complete, succinct, and precise, and relates to institutional benefits.
* Extent to which the applicant has the necessary implementing capacity.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Tick as appropriate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Impact:**

* Extent to which the project aims at practical and tangible outcomes.
* Potential of planned outcomes to generate positive changes.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Tick as appropriate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Application total**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Decision**

This application has been unsuccessful

This application has been successful

**Subgroup feedback:**

Sub group provide feedback here: max. 200 words