

## ***School of Histories and Humanities***

### **RESEARCH BULLETIN – TRINITY TERM 2012**

In the previous two Bulletins, I have stressed the importance of funding to underpin individual research projects while also seeking to bring opportunities for collaborative work to the School's attention. In this final, brief Bulletin for the year, I would like to stress three funding calls, two of which relate to small-scale projects and which I would urge you to look at. The deadline on all three calls is fast approaching.

#### **1. HERA (Humanities in the European Research Area)**

The HERA call (see last two *Bulletins*) has a deadline of 4<sup>th</sup> May 2012 for the first (short-list) round. I am aware of participation by members of staff in at least two projects. But just to remind everyone: the European Union has allocated €18 million for projects in the Humanities around the general theme "Cultural Encounters" (which means almost anything). It is administered through the national research councils for the humanities of the participating countries. Each project may be funded up to €1 million and for up to three years. Putting together an initial application once you have partners is not onerous – the real work comes if you are short-listed, at which stage it is worth investing the time. For further details: [www.heranet.info](http://www.heranet.info)

#### **2. IRCHSS**

The Research Council has launched a call for Collaborative Research Projects in the Humanities and Social Sciences (See IRCHSS website under "Funding Opportunities"). This scheme is designed to 'facilitate established researchers within a small team to bring existing research activities or short term projects to successful completion by way of teaching buy-out, postdoctoral support and limited project funding.' It is designed for one year with a total of €100,000. **It really is ideal for someone who has a small project they want to wrap up.** But the application deadline is: **FRIDAY 20 APRIL 2012.**

#### **3. EUROPEAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION – Exploratory Workshops.**

This is an excellent scheme – which I have used in the past (so they do fund the Humanities!). You can get up to €15,000 to run a workshop, lasting a couple of days, with between 15 and 30 people participating from across Europe (and, if you can justify it, from beyond). There is no obligation to publish anything from it. The idea is to enable you to test an idea or research project and see if it is worth pursuing as a larger effort (e.g. with one of the ESF major project grants). See ESF website, exploratory workshops. **But please note that the deadline for 2013 workshops is 4<sup>th</sup> May.**

----- \* -----

### **OTHER MATTERS**

There was a good discussion with the Dean of Research, Dr Vinne Cahill, on the Research Quality Metrics (RQM), at a meeting to which all were invited and many came. A report will be

contained in the minutes of the last Research Committee meeting, to be published shortly on the School website under 'Research Committee.'

All full-time members of staff with contracts for more than 12 months have received a Research Plan Questionnaire. I would ask you to return this to Debra Birch by 20 April. In the coming two months we shall endeavour to discuss these with half the School staff, and with the remaining half next year. The relevant Head of Department and I will be in touch soon about arranging a half hour appointment.

John Horne  
Director of Research  
Histories and Humanities  
Tel: 896.1011  
[jhorne@tcd.ie](mailto:jhorne@tcd.ie)

12<sup>th</sup> April 2012