UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIPS

AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS IN THE FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENT

Ethos of the awards
Thanks to the generous financial support of University alumni we are delighted to be able to offer up to four funded research opportunities for current first year students studying in the Faculty of Environment. Individual awards are for a period of two years.

This scheme is a product of the University's commitment to teaching in a research-intensive environment and aims to offer funded opportunities for undergraduates to become actively involved in some of the research currently being conducted by academic staff.

The Scholarships represent an exciting opportunity to undertake a directed research project, working under the supervision of a designated lead supervisor, but also benefitting from advice, support and training delivered by a wider research group.

Scholarship funding
Scholarship holders will receive a personal financial allowance (chiefly to cover maintenance, accommodation etc.) of £4,000. Payments will be made as follows:

- 1st June 2017 and 1st June 2018: £1000
- At the end of each summer research period and on receipt of report: £1000

A further £2,000 is available for additional scholarly duties carried out throughout the scholarship period.

Funding is also made available to the Schools and supervisors responsible for the research to cover costs directly arising out of this academic activity.

Scholarship activities and time commitments
Scholarships are only open to current Level 1 students

The bulk of research activity will take place during two extended research placements of up to 6 weeks during the summer vacation in both 2017 and 2018. Although the precise timing of these placement sessions may be negotiable it is important that intending applicants do not have other commitments which would prevent them from devoting themselves to academic research during both these summer periods (there is flexibility to allow for SYA and Yil programmes).

During the remainder of their undergraduate career in Leeds scholarship holders will also participate in term-time meetings of the research group which they join, including opportunities to discuss their own research and hear about related work being undertaken by others in Leeds and elsewhere.

The Scholarship programme begins with a residential induction session in June 2017 and also includes subsequent research training and leadership development events throughout the period of the scholarship.

Scholarship holders will also be asked to take on some responsibilities as ambassadors for their School or Faculty e.g. participation in Open Day events for applicants to the University, or in meetings with outside sponsors and other partners. Alongside the responsibilities such events involve, they also offer additional developmental opportunities for Scholarship holders in communicating and networking. The scale of ambassadorial responsibilities will always be consistent with the demands of full-time academic study.

A launch event will take place on the 3rd May and scholars are expected to attend this event.

KL Updated Jan 2017
Benefits to Scholarship holders
As a Research and Leadership Scholar you will:

- Enhance your academic potential through the experience of working in partnership with leading researchers;
- Receive individual support and mentoring from a specialist supervisor and an associated research team;
- Gain valuable, transferable skills in research, communication, project planning and leadership;
- Increase your employability through undertaking project work, and through participation in workshops designed to promote self-confidence, initiative, innovation and creativity;
- Represent your School and Faculty as a student ambassador;
- Receive a grant totalling up to £6000 (subject to participation in ambassadorial activity).

How to apply
If you would like to apply to be a Research and Leadership Scholar:

1) Prior to submitting your application you must hold an informal introductory meeting with the project supervisor to discuss your interest and suitability for the project
2) Submit a C.V. (maximum 2 sides), a completed application form, and include an academic reference (this should NOT be from any individual linked to the project).

Interviews will be held on 7th March 2017.

NB. Transcripts of grades will be requested from the student office prior to interview.
Applications should be submitted by email to Katie Livesey (k.livesey@leeds.ac.uk).

Application deadline
The deadline for submission of application forms and other supporting material is 9am on Monday 27th February 2017.