

McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research

Open competition for a two-year Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship

The McDonald Institute (www.mcdonald.cam.ac.uk) is a post-doctoral archaeological research institute, an interdisciplinary centre for archaeology and the research school of the Department of Archaeology in the University of Cambridge. It now invites applications a two-year Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, for a research project in any field of archaeology that will complement and enhance Cambridge archaeology's existing world-class portfolio of research activity. In addition to developing their research, the responsibilities of the Fellow will include teaching up to the equivalent of one course module per year and conducting small-group supervisions. The post is therefore particularly suitable for candidates who wish to gain teaching experience at the same time as furthering their research careers. The post is open to applicants who have just completed their PhD and to candidates of any nationality. However, applicants from outside the European Economic Area should note that, should they be successful, the process of obtaining a Certificate of Sponsorship from the University of Cambridge (which now replaces a work permit) is likely to be lengthy, meaning the starting date may be delayed.

Cambridge archaeologists work on all major periods of antiquity from deep prehistory to recent centuries, in most regions of the world, and across the full spectrum of humanities and scientific approaches. The largest community of academic staff is in the Department of Archaeology (www.arch.cam.ac.uk/), but there are also archaeologists in the Faculty of Classics (www.classics.cam.ac.uk/), the Institute of Continuing Education (www.cont-ed.cam.ac.uk/), the Leverhulme Centre for Human Evolutionary Studies (www.human-evol.cam.ac.uk/) (within the Department of Bioanthropology), the McDonald Institute and the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (museum-server.archanth.cam.ac.uk/). The McDonald Institute currently hosts approximately 20 post-doctoral researchers, some of them holding independent fellowships (funded by the McDonald Institute, the British Academy, RCUK, the Royal Society and the Wellcome Trust for example) and some of them working on research projects directed by Cambridge academics for which funding has been received from research councils and charities (Arts and Humanities Research Council, the European Research Council, the Leverhulme Trust, the Mellon Foundation, NERC, etc).

Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship (2 years)

The McDonald Institute will provide core funding at Research Associate level (£27,183 - £35,469). The successful candidate will also be eligible to apply to the D. M. McDonald Grants and Awards Fund for fieldwork expenses (normally up to about £5000) if appropriate for the project. To be appointed you must have successfully completed your doctorate (submitted the thesis in the case of completing PhD students) at the time of taking up the Fellowship (on or before 1 January 2010).

Applications should include the following:

1. a letter of application;
2. a description and justification of the proposed research project (maximum 1500 words) including if relevant details of proposed collaborations with scholars in Cambridge and other centres; an outline work programme; and details of proposed outputs (books, articles, conferences, electronic media, etc.)
3. a curriculum vitae including a list of publications, accompanied by Form PD18 (which should be obtained from Ms Sara Harrop, McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, tel: 44-1223-339284, email: slh30@cam.ac.uk);
4. the names and contact details of two referees. Note that candidates should ask their referees to write directly to Dr. James Barrett (Deputy Director, McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Cambridge CB2 3ER, tel: 01223 339287, fax: 44 1223 333536, email: jhb41@cam.ac.uk) by the closing date of 30 September.

The closing date for applications (to be sent IN HARD COPY to Ms Sara Harrop McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Downing Street, Cambridge CB2 3ER, UK tel: 44-1223-339284, email: slh30@cam.ac.uk) is 30 September 2009. Interviews will be held for short-listed candidates in October.

Informal enquiries may be directed to Dr James Barrett, Deputy Director of the McDonald Institute, tel: 01223 339287, email: jhb41@cam.ac.uk.