

The National Archives and The University of Leicester
AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Studentship

**Defending Modernity? Communicating With the Public about Nuclear Energy:
Historical Perspectives**

The National Archives and the University of Leicester are pleased to invite applications for a three-year (or part-time equivalent) AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Partnership PhD Studentship, available from October 2017 tenable at the University of Leicester in close collaboration with The National Archives. This doctoral award is funded through the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) under its Collaborative Doctoral Partnership Programme. The project will be supervised by Dr Sally Horrocks and Dr Ben Clements, at Leicester, and by Dr Stephen Twigge, Head of Modern Collections and Dr Tim Powell, Regional and Networks Team, at The National Archives.

The successful candidate will undertake a project examining how Government departments and state agencies that supported the development of nuclear power promoted and defended this commitment to the public from the late 1950s. They will explore how organisations formulated their external communications strategies, collaborated with (and challenged) each other, the wider industry and international associates and how these strategies changed over time. Records held at The National Archives will provide the foundation for this project. It will also seek to identify relevant records held elsewhere, including those in private hands as part of its contribution to improving preservation, access to and exploitation of contemporary scientific records in the wider archive sector. There will be opportunities to work with the Modern Records Team at The National Archives to develop resources for users of these collections and to assist with The National Archives' press events as previously unseen government records are released under the 20 year rule.

The student will join the vibrant academic community at Leicester where there are academic staff, postdoctoral researchers and postgraduate students working on history of science and technology, public opinion and political communications and a range of other topics in post-war British history. The School of History, Politics and International Relations at Leicester is home to a lively postgraduate community of around 140 doctoral students. The School runs several other current collaborative doctoral projects with organisations including the British Library, National Maritime Museum and Marylebone Cricket Club. There are a range of postgraduate seminars and events (including New History Lab and the annual postgraduate conference). The student will also be expected to present their findings in seminars and conferences beyond Leicester, and as their work progresses to publish papers in academic books and journals. They will automatically become part of the UK-wide Collaborative Doctoral Partnership joint training programme (<http://www.ahrc-cdp.org/training-and-cohort-development/>), which will provide opportunities for networking, dissemination and training in a range of skills needed for research and careers within museums, archives, galleries and heritage organisations. The student will be integrated into and supported by the research community at The National Archives, and will be able to participate in The National

Archives' Postgraduate Archival Skills Training (PAST) workshops, which provide archival research skills for historians based on The National Archives' wide range of records.

Further Information:

AHRC CDP: <http://www.ahrc-cdp.org/>

RCUK doctoral stipends and indicative fees for 2017: <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/media/news/170104/>

History at the University of Leicester, <http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/history>

Collaborative Doctoral Partnerships at The National Archives

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/about/jobs/student-and-work-placements/collaborative-doctoral-partnerships/>

PERSON SPECIFICATION

We are looking for a highly promising student with a background in postwar British history, history of public opinion, science and technology, science communications or science and technology studies who will relish the opportunity to combine academic research with working with staff at The National Archives to enhance access to contemporary scientific records and improve their archival capture

Eligibility

Academic Criteria – Applicants are required to hold a Bachelor Degree at 2:1 or better in a relevant subject and hold or expect to hold a Master's degree in a relevant subject (e.g. modern history, history of science, technology and medicine, science communication, science and technology studies, politics) by September 2017.

The studentship is available for full-time or part-time study, and applicants must be able to commence their studies in October 2017.

Residency Criteria – applicants are required to meet the RCUK residence criteria as follows:

- British nationals who have lived in the UK and Islands all their lives are eligible.
- Also eligible are non-British nationals who have settled status AND have been resident in the UK for 3 years immediately prior to the date of the start of the course.
- EU nationals who have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands for three years immediately prior to the date of start of the course are eligible.
- EEA and Swiss nationals (EEA migrant workers) should refer to the full [RCUK guidelines](#) to check eligibility and may be eligible for a fees only award.

If you are unsure about your eligibility please email pgradmissions@le.ac.uk and we will be happy to make an assessment for you.

STUDENTSHIP INFORMATION

The standard tuition fees and stipend (maintenance grant) will be paid by the ARHC to the award holder subject to the eligibility criteria outlined by them. The AHRC stipend for 2017/18 is £14553 (full-time, pro rata for part-time) plus an additional stipend payment of £550 for Collaborative Doctoral Students (TBC). The studentship includes an additional six months of funding from the AHRC's [Student Development Fund](#), which can (subject to agreement) be used to support appropriate training or a placement based on the student's individual training needs. The National Archives will also provide up to £1,000 per year for three years (subject to agreement) to support the student's research-related expenses such as travel costs.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply you need to complete the standard University of Leicester online application form here: <http://www2.le.ac.uk/study/research/phd/history>

In the **Funding section** of the online application form select **STUDENTSHIP** and select **AHRC** from the dropdown options. Please make sure you include the project title and the supervisors' names in the proposal section of the form. In place of the research proposal requested on this form, you should provide a statement of up to 1,000 words on:

1. How you propose to develop the project theme
2. How your education and experience to date has prepared you for this research position

Applicants should also submit:

3. A piece of scholarly writing which you think best reflects your academic abilities and aspirations (e.g.: an essay or dissertation).

Informal Enquiries

Informal enquiries can be sent to Dr Sally Horrocks: smh4@le.ac.uk

Closing Date: 10th April

Interview Date: 26 April at The National Archives, Kew.