The Leicester Institute for Advanced Studies (LIAS) is dedicated to creating a collaborative and inspiring research environment, bringing together researchers from across disciplines to deliver ambitious and transformative research. Through our funded tiger teams, we aim to break down the silos that have traditionally been a feature of higher education research, enabling academics to explore challenging and innovative ideas, and to stimulate increased ambition.

Tiger teams may apply for up to £5,000 for up to six months.

As well as inviting applications from across all three Colleges for any interdisciplinary theme, Leicester’s Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (le.ac.uk/issf) will co-fund up to two new tiger teams in this call. ISSF co-funded tiger teams must demonstrate the potential for interdisciplinary activity focusing on ethnicity, ethnic health, and migration.

The term “tiger team” is used to describe groups of specialists, coming together to work on a focused task over a short duration. The LIAS tiger team scheme is intended to support new collaborations across disciplines, focused on a well-specified topic, to enable the advancement of research. A tiger team could bring individuals together to:

- Critically challenge incumbent theories and approaches to advance research understandings
- Explore interdisciplinary ideas to address empirical problems with no currently adequate theory or investigative methodology
- Explore potential of new collaboration through bringing new teams of interdisciplinary researchers together for the first time
- Facilitate initial project planning and development for new teams wishing to pursue collaborative research outputs and outcomes
- Carry out preliminary or pilot research and analysis for cutting-edge interdisciplinary research ideas

Applications can be centred on any interdisciplinary research challenge. Successful bids will span more than one field and demonstrate a pathway to potential outputs. These include, but are not restricted to grant applications, publications, submissions to the LIAS Working Paper Series (https://journals.le.ac.uk/ojs1/index.php/lias), multimedia outputs for use in developing or communicating research, or new areas of scholarship.

The scheme is not intended to fund standalone events that are not part of the research development process. Ineligible activities include:

- Funding for PhD studentships
- External conference attendance and travel
- Salary costs of substantive staff members
- Supporting existing collaborations or already well-established research teams/projects

In addition, if your proposed work falls clearly in the remit of one of the other University of Leicester research Institutes, applicants should seek to engage with the appropriate Institute and its mechanisms rather than LIAS.

The Application

Proposals are invited using the application form in Annex A of this call.

Proposals are strongly advised to consider:
- Potential contributions from other UoL and external investments such as the Innovation Hub, Doctoral College, the Research and Enterprise Division, the BRC, and the Wellcome Trust ISSF

- Appropriate administrative and event support for the duration of the funding

**For this call, all tiger teams will start no later than 5th January 2019, and complete by 22nd July 2019. No extensions to funding will be available for this cohort.**

The lead applicant must notify their College Research Director of their intention to submit and Head of Department before the application is submitted and all co-applicants should agree their participation. Completed application forms (Annex A) should be sent by the lead applicant to LIAS@le.ac.uk no later than 5pm on **19th November 2018**.

All applications will be considered by a panel which will review bids for both the networks and tiger team applications. The panel will be chaired by the Director (LIAS), and will include College Directors of Research and a representative from the Research and Enterprise Division.