**Project Building Fund**

# Information about the Scheme

Project Building funding enables creative partnerships to realise ideas, to undertake small projects or to develop cases for external funding.

We invite applications from partnerships or teams, there is no requirement to have engaged with BSI art-science activities in the past. Funding of up to £2K will be made available for proposals that explore the ideas that drive or are inspired by interdisciplinary biosciences research.

Our research is focussed at the boundaries of the life sciences and other physical sciences including physics, mathematical sciences & computer science. We take a fresh, interdisciplinary approach to fundamental biosciences processes and systems which have real-world applications e.g. in drug discovery, the development of novel materials.

Applications to our Project Building fund will be assessed by an expert panel with a wealth of experience of collaboration across disciplines and of the impact of interdisciplinarity collaboration and its communication.

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# Guidance

**Aims**

Our aim for the Project Building fund is to enable creative partnerships to further develop ideas, to undertake small projects or to develop cases for external funding.

Our budget for each project is up to £2,000;. Please note that we do not expect applicants to produce a finished piece. The purpose of this scheme is **not** to commission artwork, but to allow collaborations between creative professionals and scientists to flourish to a point where larger funding can be accessed.

**Who can apply?**

We invite applications from partnerships or larger teams. The science element of the application must fit within the BSI remit ([see more information about our research here](https://www.durham.ac.uk/research/institutes-and-centres/biophysical-sciences-institute/research-profile/measurement-across-scales--/)). We are particularly keen to support those that are interdisciplinary collaborations i.e. we will not support applications that have the intention to commission the artist(s) or use the scientist(s) for consultancy.

**What does it involve?**

If you are one of the three teams selected to receive funding in the 2023-24 round you must make the following commitments to the programme:

* You must be willing to participate in a sharing event to be held November time 2024.
* You must agree to submit a report to record the activities funded through Project Building Fund and help us evaluate the programme by completing a short questionnaire after the end of the programme.

**What should the funding be used for?**

We have not included any guidance on the format or nature of projects eligible for Project Building funding. As long as projects fall within the £2K budget we are happy to support projects that split the funding into any combination of time, consumables or other items. The fund is flexible but we do ask for an outline of this budget breakdown in the application form.

**How will it be assessed?**

Applications will be assessed by a panel following a closing date of the 18 December 2023. The panel will be drawn from within Durham University and will comprise members with a wealth of experience of collaboration across disciplines and the impact of interdisciplinarity collaboration and its communication.

The applications will be assessed against the following selection criteria (table below).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Selection Criteria**  | **Weighting**  |
| Ambition for the wider aims of the project. | **30%** |
| Quality of the collaboration between artist and scientist e.g. high quality collaborations will together build new perspectives, narratives, shared responses.  | **30%** |
| Fit to the concepts and ideas associated with BSI research i.e. The collaboration cannot stem from another area of science.  | **Essential**  |
| Appropriate timelines, work division and budgeting for the project.  | **Essential** |
| Track record of delivery (dependent on career stage).  | **20%** |
| Clear plans of how to incorporate collaborative working. | **20%** |

**Timelines**

The timelines for the scheme are given below:

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| **Key Actions**  | **Dates**  |
| Closing date | 18 December 2023 |
| Selection panel convenes | WC 8 January 2024  |
| Applicants to be informed of the outcomes | WC 22 January 2024 |
| Funding transferred | February 2024 (unless project has a delayed start date)  |
| Initial Report due | September 2024 |
| Sharing Event  | November 2024 (date to be confirmed) |
| Follow-up report due | May 2025 |

**How to apply**

Please complete the form at the end of this document and return it to admin.bsi@durham.ac.uk by the **18 December 2023**

If you have any queries BSI Create please get in touch with us:

Alex Probert

Institute Manager

Biophysical Sciences Institute

Durham University

admin.bsi@durham.ac.uk

**BSI Create Grow Joint Application form**

**This application form is split into two sections: Part 1: Partner details and Part 2: Project details.**

### Part 1: Partner or Team Details

### Creative Professional Partner Details

Please submit this application form to admin.bsi@durham.ac.uk by **18 December 2023**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Organisation (if appropriate)** |  |
| **Role/Job Title** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Website**  |  |
| **Please forward your CV (maximum 2 pages) to** **admin.bsi@durham.ac.uk** **this will be held until after the selection process is complete.**  |
| **Please include below details (name, organisation, email and website) of any further team members who will be involved in the proposed project.**  |
|  |

### Scientist Partner Professional Details

Please submit this application form to admin.bsi@durham.ac.uk by **18 December 2023**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Organisation (if appropriate)** |  |
| **Role/Job Title** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Website** |  |

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| **Please forward your CV (maximum 2 pages) to** **admin.bsi@durham.ac.uk** **this will be held until after the selection process is complete.**  |

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| **Please include below details (name, organisation, email and website) of any further team members who will be involved in the proposed project.**  |
|  |

### Part 2: Project Aim and Delivery Details

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| **Description of Project**  |
| **A.1 Please provide an introduction to your proposed project (max 200 words)** Guidance: Please note parts of this may be used in publicity material for BSI Create. This should provide background to the proposed project and explain its importance.  |
|  |
| **Aims of the Project**  |
| **B.1 Please outline the aims of the project (max 200 words).** Guidance: We are interested to know about your immediate aims for the project *and* the longer term aims that this funding will allow.  |
|  |
| **B.2 Please describe what this proposed project will lead to for both partners (max 100 words).**Guidance: This can include personal professional development (CPD) but we are also interested to know about wider experiences and intended outcomes for each of the partners. |
|  |
| **Plan of Delivery** |
| **C.1 Please provide a plan of delivery including key actions and your proposed timelines (max 500 words)** |
|  |
| **C.2 Please provide a brief breakdown of the budget (max 100 words).** |
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