

Round Opens: 29 April 2024
Round Closes: 31 May 2024
Decisions announced: July 2024

For 2025 SSSHARC will award up to 8 visiting research fellowships for outstanding mid-career researchers in sexuality studies (broadly construed) collaborating with researchers from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) at the University of Sydney.

Prospective Fellows are invited to be part of the intellectual life of FASS. SSSHARC fellows will be hosted by a research collaborator (named in the application) from within the University of Sydney's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. Applicants should approach potential hosts in advance of applying for the proposed Fellowship.

Successful applications will be selected by a committee including the SSSHARC Director, Associate Dean Research and other internal and external colleagues as required.

SSSHARC Hunt-Simes Chair of Sexuality Studies Fellowships

The University of Sydney has a generously endowed fellowship program in sexuality studies. Funded by the late Dr Gary Simes—a linguistic historian, bibliographer and University of Sydney graduate—the Hunt-Simes Chair of Sexuality Studies bequest enables a number of fellowships per year.

Fellows will be housed in the [Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre \(SSSHARC\)](#). Fellows must be distinguished sexuality studies researchers of international standing (relative to opportunity) in the humanities or social sciences. They will enhance research in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) at the University of Sydney by:

- advancing their own research program
- actively collaborating with one or more University of Sydney researchers, on new or existing projects, co-publications and/or external grant applications, as appropriate
- giving presentations such as workshops, seminars in senior undergraduate or postgraduate courses or Higher Degree Research (HDR) master classes, with the scale of the presentation program negotiated in relation to the duration of the Fellowship
- delivering at least one outward-facing public talk, panel discussion, podcast or insight piece facilitated by SSSHARC.

Eligibility

Institutional affiliation to a University or equivalent research or cultural organisation is required. Applicants must have at least a higher degree or equivalent professional or creative practice experience and evidence of impact or standing. Fellowships are open to Australian (non-University of Sydney) and international researchers. The University of Sydney is committed to equity, diversity and social inclusion. Applications from target groups and women are encouraged. Fellowships must be taken up and fully spent in 2025.

Selection Criteria

The applicant's proposed program of work should be in line with SSSHARC's mission to advance landmark research in the humanities and social sciences. SSSHARC defines landmark research as work that has value to its discipline via the advancement of critical scholarly research, policy or creative practice and its engagement with wider audiences.

The key criteria that the selection committee will consider are:

- degree to which the applicant is an outstanding researcher of international standing (relative to opportunity) in sexuality studies, including LGBTQI studies, queer studies, trans studies and their cognate fields
- quality of the proposed research program
- quality of statement of support from the FASS Academic Host and any other collaborators from across the University of Sydney
- quality and quantity of research collaborations and anticipated outcomes shared between the applicant and University of Sydney researchers. Priority will be given to the competitive development of grant applications that diversify or internationalize FASS's existing funding streams.
- degree to which the applicant will enhance SSSHARC's reputation for advanced and engaged research
- degree to which the applicant will enhance research culture in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- degree to which the proposed collaboration will yield new insights.

Applicants must agree to the following requirements:

- visiting fellows should be present at the University of Sydney for the duration of the fellowship as specified in the letter of award
- target funding schemes and rounds should be clearly identified with eligibility confirmed in advance
- where relevant, grant applications should specify the University of Sydney as the administering organisation
- SSSHARC should be acknowledged in all publications, presentations, and communications that proceed from the fellowship.

Hunt-Simes Institute in Sexuality Studies at SSSHARC (HISS@SSSHARC)

Sexuality Studies fellows may also be appointed to assist in the development and delivery of the Hunt-Simes Institute in Sexuality Studies (HISS). Launched in 2023 and co-directed by Lee Wallace and Victoria Rawlings, HISS is timed to coincide with Sydney Mardi Gras, an event of great relevance to the LGBTQI+ community. The purpose of HISS is to raise the international reputation of the University of Sydney in sexuality studies via the provision of a pedagogically innovative Institute that attracts outstanding early-career researchers from around the world. While there are similar initiatives of longstanding in the UK, Europe and the US, none serve the Asia Pacific region or have the disciplinary breadth represented by HISS, which encourages the participation of researchers from the full breadth of the Social Sciences and Humanities, including Economics, Education and Social Work, and Health Sciences. Applicants for the Hunt-Simes Chair of Sexuality Studies Fellowships are invited to indicate their interest in participating in HISS which will run for a third and final time in mid to late February 2025. HISS 2025 will continue to explore the idea of the queer classroom as commenced at [HISS 2023](#). To ensure continuity of purpose we welcome applications from former HISS Faculty wanting to return for a HISS Homecoming, in which we hope to complete work previously commenced on a Queer School Charter.

Additional Criteria Relevant to HISS@SSSHARC

- quality of anticipated contribution and pedagogy
- evidence of excellence in HDR research training (relative to opportunity)
- degree to which the proposed content consolidates or expands the theme and format of HISS
- potential for associated research outputs
- potential for wider LGBTQI+ community engagement through exhibitions or other events.

General Conditions

Fellowship applications must be developed in consultation with a FASS researcher who will host the Fellow. All applications must be accompanied by a letter of support from the FASS host indicating the nature of the collaboration, proposed research program, and any conflict of interest. FASS hosts can only provide one letter of support per Fellowship round (except if supporting returning HISS Faculty) and must be up to date with reports on outcomes from all previous SSSHARC Fellowships with which they have been associated.

Fellows must reside in Sydney for the duration of their fellowship, the substantial part of which must coincide with the Australian academic year (March to November) or be scheduled to enable them to participate in the delivery of the Hunt-Simes Institute in Sexuality Studies (mid-to-late February). Fellowship support is available for up to AUD 10,000 per month toward travel and accommodation while at the University of Sydney. The value awarded will depend on the Fellow's city of origin and the length of the Fellowship.

The length of the Fellowship is flexible depending on the Fellow's other commitments and subject to co-funding from another institution. However, no additional stipend or living allowance is attached to this fellowship.

Fellowships must be taken up and funding fully spent in 2025.

It is the Fellow's responsibility to ensure they have the correct visa and travel insurance required for their stay. The Immigration and Relocation department at the University of Sydney will provide a letter of invitation to successful applicants which may be used for visa purposes.

Additional Support

Fellows and projects will be profiled on the SSSHARC website and social media channels. SSSHARC can provide desk space, access to computing and printing facilities, and a Zoom-enabled meeting room as space permits. SSSHARC can also facilitate expert review of funding applications in development across the Fellowship. An induction will be provided to the Fellow and Academic Host once the Fellow arrives.

Post-award

Fellows and hosts must submit a short report at the end of the fellowship, with a follow-up report due one year later. The first report is a brief pre-formatted document submitted to the SSSHARC Director outlining the research activities undertaken during the fellowship. The follow-up report asks for a full description of all outcomes derived from the fellowship (publications, grant applications, etc.). Report content may be published on the SSSHARC website and included in the SSSHARC annual reports. Copies of resulting applications, publications, and reports would be appreciated.

Timeline:

Deadline for applications: 31 May 2024

Decisions announced: July 2024

To apply for a SSSHARC Hunt-Simes Chair of Sexuality Studies Fellowship, please complete the online application form and attach the required documents.

Further information about SSSHARC can be found at www.sydney.edu.au/arts/sssharc

Enquiries should be directed to: Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre
sssharc.research@sydney.edu.au