

Young Researchers Forum ESF Humanities Spring 2011

'Changing Publication Cultures in the Humanities'

What is ESF?

The European Science Foundation (ESF) provides a platform for its Member Organisations to advance European research and explore new directions for research at the European level.

Established in 1974 as an independent non-governmental organisation, the ESF currently serves 79 Member Organisations across 30 countries.

The ESF Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH). The remit of SCH covers the following disciplines: anthropology, archaeology, art & art history, classical studies, history, history & philosophy of science, linguistics, literary studies, Oriental & African Studies, pedagogical and educational research, music & musicology, philosophy, psychology, religious studies & theology.

SCH is currently engaged with research in many interdisciplinary fields, which are also considered in this call, such as: area studies, cognitive sciences, cultural studies, development studies, gender studies, health & welfare research, heritage studies, Humanities computing, landscape studies, media studies, migration research, science and society, etc.

For further information see:

<http://www.esf.org>

<http://www.esf.org/humanities>

European Science Foundation Humanities Spring 2011

ESF offers, on a competitive basis, full-cost awards to leading early career scholars to participate in the ESF Humanities Spring 2011.

The ESF Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH) invites the next generation of leading scholars in the Humanities ('early career researchers') to participate in a two-day 'new horizons' workshop at the National University Ireland, Maynooth, 9-11 June 2011.

The ESF SCH plays a central role in giving advice on European-level coordination and foresight regarding research activities in the Humanities. Stakeholders are national and international research funding bodies seeking new contributions to their discussions on strategic choices. With the 'ESF Humanities Spring 2011', SCH wishes to mobilise the creative potential of the next generation of leading Humanities scholars to inform these processes.

The topic of the 2011 Humanities Spring workshop is:

'Changing Publication Cultures in the Humanities'

A group of 20 early career researchers will be selected by open competition and invited to address the opportunities and challenges facing them consequent on changes in publication cultures in the Humanities.

Section A

Discussions may focus on various issues related to publication patterns and cultures, including – but not limited to – the following suggestions and examples:

1) **Engagement with new modes of publication**

- What do you consider to be the most important new or emerging modes of publication?
- What is the importance of Digital Humanities and the development of Open Access?
- What is the role of multi-media or non-textual modes of output such as collections or exhibitions in museums?
- What is the role of the traditional archive in contemporary research and publication cultures?

2) **Impact of new modes of publication on research cultures**

- Do new publication modes provide an effective outlet for interdisciplinary work?
- What are the main areas of impact on evaluation and assessment?
- What is the effect of new modes of publication on career models for early career humanities researchers?
- What problems exist in obtaining professional recognition for new modes of research in your discipline?

3) **Language diversity**

- Have new modes of research resulted in the over-dominance of an English-language publication culture?

- Has the translation of research become more or less feasible?
- What are the challenges for researchers writing in a national language other than English?
- How can publication in lesser-used languages be actively supported?

4) **The future**

- Given the current developments in publication, what initiatives are needed to preserve the quality and status of the published work?
- What further changes in publication cultures would you like to see developed?
- What are the roles and responsibilities of publishers?
- How could publishers support newly emerging research outputs such as 'enhanced' or 'compound' publications?

Discussions will be initiated by four senior colleagues from different fields of the Humanities and beyond. For the latest details on the workshop programme, see 'ESF Humanities Spring' at www.esf.org/humanitiesspring.

During thematically defined break-out sessions and more broadly conceived plenary sessions, participants will work towards a document ('Third ESF Humanities Spring Manifesto 2011') that can serve as input for future Humanities policy discussions at the level of ESF, its member organisations and beyond.

Section B

Eligibility

There is no restriction on nationality, but an advanced level of English is required, since the workshop will be conducted in English. The following eligibility criteria must all be met. Applicants must:

- currently be conducting research in disciplines and fields of interest to the Humanities at ESF (see <http://www.esf.org/research-areas/humanities/about.html>);
- have a PhD, with successful viva completed by the time of the workshop but no more than 10 years ago;
- be affiliated with an institution of higher education and/or research in Europe (ESF membership countries plus countries of Europe as defined by Council of Europe membership). NB: Institutions of higher education and/or research may include museums, libraries, archives and other research infrastructures, as well as Academies.

Documentation requested

The application material must be submitted as 1 document via www.esf.org/humanitiesspring by the deadline below and should include:

- Letter of application (max 500 words) explaining how you will contribute to the workshop;
- A short essay (max 1000 words) giving your views on one or more of the issues outlined in section A;
- CV (max. 1000 words);
- Statement of past and current research (max 1000 words);
- Bibliographical references for your 3 most relevant publications (incl. self-archived/online texts).

NB: Applications exceeding the indicated word restrictions will not be eligible.

Selection criteria and process

The selection will be carried out by a dedicated SCH sub-panel. Decisions will be based on the following criteria:

- Scientific track record and scientific potential;
- Originality of prospective thinking as expressed in the essay and publications;
- All other conditions being met, the sub-panel will aim for a geographic and disciplinary balance and a balance of male and female participants.

Timeline for application and selection

1 Dec 2010	Call for Participation published
17 Jan 2011, 12:00 (noon) CET	Deadline for submission of application
By 15 March 2011	Notification of successful applicants

The ESF award will cover travel costs (economy class), meals and accommodation (3 nights).

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