UK Parliament POST

Parliamentary Academic Fellowship Scheme Open Call: List of areas in which parliamentary offices would particularly welcome project proposals

This document should be read in conjunction with the Open Call webpage and the Guidance Note for Applicants.

Whilst the Open Call enables academics to suggest ideas for projects to conduct at UK Parliament, and participating offices welcome project proposals on any area relevant to their work, some of the participating offices within Parliament have highlighted areas in which they would especially welcome project proposals. These are summarised below in case this is helpful in making researchers with relevant expertise/ interests aware of the scheme.

List of ideas for project proposals in the Open Call fellowship scheme

The **Scrutiny Unit** within the **House of Commons Committee Office** is particularly interested in projects in the following areas:

- How central Government works and the scrutiny relationship between Government and Parliament;
- The effectiveness and impact of select committees; and
- Planning teaching and learning for parliamentary staff on either topic above

The **House of Commons Library** is particularly interested in projects in the following areas:

- The Library Services Team is interested in an ethnographic or UX review of MPs' needs; in particular, their use of the Library space and their information seeking behaviours.
- Related to the above, the Library Services Team is also interested in the information-seeking behaviours of the Library research staff and those of colleagues in the House of Commons Chamber & Committees teams, and measuring the impact of training interventions.
- The Library Resources Section within Library Services is interested in exploring alternative provision of its archive of parliamentary material for the benefit of internal and external users. The Library Resources Section has responsibility for the House of Commons Library's collection of parliamentary and non-parliamentary, hard copy and digital resources, and the work associated with managing this collection from acquisition through to disposal.
- The Research Information Service within Library Services is interested in the role that academic libraries can play in aiding knowledge exchange between academics and House of Commons research staff.

The **House of Lords Library** is particularly interested in projects in the following areas:

- Evaluating the Library's impact
- User experience research and design

The **Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST)** is particularly interested in projects in the following areas:

- How POST can better monitor and evaluate its impact
- How POST can expand and diversify its networks

The **Knowledge Exchange Unit (KEU)** is particularly interested in projects in the following areas:

- The use of research in – or its impact on – Parliament. This includes research made available to Parliament by different parliamentary offices, and research that feeds in in other ways.
- Proposals and delivery of diversity initiatives, including suggesting and piloting projects to increase diverse researcher engagement with the KEU and Parliament more widely. This could be in terms of demographic background, institutional background, academic background and career stage.
- Evaluating the impact of the KEU's work. This includes project proposals around how the KEU can further the impact of its work through monitoring and evaluation.

The **Education and Engagement team** within **Participation** is particularly interested in projects in the following areas:

- Welsh language and democratic engagement
- Devolution
- The use of digital resources for learning, including an analysis of the impact of different kinds of digital learning across stakeholder groups
- Their target audiences and democracy, including: barriers to engagement (beyond engagement at events); long-term outcomes of engagement; impact of activities with specific audiences undertaken by the team

The **Heritage Collections Team: Parliamentary Art Collection** is particularly interested in projects in the following areas:

- Work that investigates history of management of the Collection and how this has impacted collecting;
- The role of the artworks in terms of audiences' reception (both internal and external audiences)
- Research into particular areas of collecting - portraiture, topography, cartoons etc,

The **Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK** is particularly interested in projects in the following areas:

- The role of election monitoring in bringing about electoral reform in small jurisdictions (since 2011, CPA-UK has conducted 11 Election Observation Missions in Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies)
- Comparative approaches in the Commonwealth of parliamentary scrutiny of trade agreements
- Measuring impact of Parliamentary Strengthening activities

Please advise any researchers interested in submitting a fellowship proposal to also read the Open Call webpage and the Guidance Note for Applicants.