

Chair of Grants Assessment Panel Appointment 2021

ESRC is inviting applications from academics suitably experienced in the relevant social sciences to the role of Chair for one of its Grant Assessment Panels (GAPs):

- Grant Assessment Panel D

About ESRC

ESRC is part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), an organisation that brings together the UK's seven research councils, Innovate UK and Research England to maximise the contribution of each council and create the best environment for research and innovation to flourish. The vision is to ensure the UK maintains its world-leading position in research and innovation. UK Research and Innovation is a non-departmental public body funded by a grant-in-aid from the UK government

We are the UK's largest organisation for funding research on economic and social issues. We support independent, high quality research which has an impact on business, the public sector and civil society. ESRC's total budget for 2020-21 was around £250 million. At any one time ESRC supports over 4,000 researchers and postgraduate students in academic institutions and independent research organisations.

About the Panels

Our Grant Assessment Panels (GAPs) assess proposals for three key responsive mode schemes: Research Grants, New Investigator Grants and the Secondary Data Analysis Initiative (SDAI).

There are currently three Panels (Panels A-C) organised around a cluster of disciplines with a fourth panel (Panel D) that considers proposals submitted to the Secondary Data Analysis Initiative (SDAI). Between them the Panels cover the whole of ESRC's disciplinary remit. Please see disciplines covered by each Panel here: [Responsive mode grant assessment process - Economic and Social Research Council \(ukri.org\)](#)

GAPs consist of a predominantly academic membership which is drawn from all areas of the social sciences, representing a broad range of expertise, skills and approaches. However, in addition to academic members GAPs also include experienced people from across the, public, business and civil society sectors to help ensure ESRC funds high quality research with academic, economic and societal impact.

GAPs also have an opportunity to feed into and learn about ESRC policy development.

The ESRC Grants Delivery Group (GDG) considers the funding recommendations from the GAPs on behalf of the ESRC Council and makes the final funding decisions, subject to available budget. The GDG is chaired by an ESRC Council member. Its other members include the chairs of each of the four GAPs.

GAP Chair Vacancy

There is one GAP Chair vacancy:

- **Panel D**

GAP D that considers proposals submitted to the Secondary Data Analysis Initiative (SDAI), covering all ESRC disciplines

Role of GAP Chair

The Chair does not formally assess applications but has a crucial role in assimilating and summarising the views of Panel members and agreeing an overall score for each application under consideration. They are also a member of the separate Grants Delivery Group which then agrees which of the highest scored applications considered across the Panels are funded.

Applications for the GAP Chair vacancy are welcome from social science academics. Expertise in one of the disciplines covered by the GAP Chair vacancy being applied for is desirable, but not essential. Applicants are expected to provide demonstrable evidence of their ability to Chair major multi-disciplinary funding panels.

Panel Chairs are paid an attendance fee per meeting to recognise their contribution. Travel and subsistence expenses will also be reimbursed.

Person Requirements and Eligibility

Appointments to Grant Assessment Panels are made on merit. All applicants must be able to satisfy the person specification. Applications are welcomed irrespective of age, disability, sex, gender identity, race, religion or sexual orientation and ESRC will seek to ensure that the membership of its panels demonstrates a suitable balance wherever possible.

Applications are welcome from academics that can demonstrate:

- a proven ability to chair major multi-disciplinary funding panels;
- a strong research track record in their field;
- longstanding experience of peer review;
- knowledge and experience of working across disciplinary boundaries;
- an appreciation of international collaborative research and agendas;
- an understanding of knowledge exchange and research impact;
- an appreciation of the value and use of different methodological approaches.

Note: All applicants are expected to have previously been involved in some form of peer review for UKRI.

Time Commitment

It is essential that applicants should be able to commit the required time and attention to the role, and should have secured Head of Department approval before applying.

Applicants should take into account that a minimum of 15 days per year will be required for the role of GAP Chair. This includes attending three GAP and three GDG meetings per year, plus additional time for briefing meetings and preparation for meetings.

The dates of the 2021/22 GAP meetings are Thursday 4th November 2021 and Thursday 17th March 2022. Further dates will be confirmed. Meetings are normally held in Swindon.

Appointments will run from 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2023. A further one to two years term may be served by mutual agreement.

Conflicts of Interest

Once appointed, all members of our GAPs are required to declare any private, professional or commercial interests that might conflict with the interests of the ESRC, or which might be perceived by others as creating a conflict of interest.

How to apply

Applications should be submitted using the online form no later than 17.00 on **7th May 2021**. Note that this form is also used for ordinary membership of GAPs, so please make sure you select the correct vacancy you are applying for (Chair of GAP D) and ensure that the key skills criteria outlined above are fully addressed in your submission. A short curriculum vitae (no longer than 2 A4 pages) should also be included. Paper applications will not be accepted. All applicants will receive acknowledgement of their submission.

Applications will be shortlisted internally by a panel of senior officers.

Interviews with shortlisted candidates will be held on Tuesday **8th June 2020** via Zoom. Final decisions will be made in conjunction with the GDG.

The successful applicant will also be asked to attend and observe the next meeting of the Grant Assessment Panels on 1st/2nd July and the Grants Delivery Group on 20th July (both meetings via Zoom). They will also be expected to be available for an induction session on the **9th September 2021 in Swindon** or via Zoom.

Application and process queries

For further information on the appointments process or what the role entails, please contact:

Email: grants@esrc.ukri.org

APPENDIX I

Membership of the ESRC Grant Assessment Panels

Panel A

Professor Thomas Ormerod (Chair)	University of Sussex
Two Academic Vacancies	
One User Vacancy	
Professor Louise Waite (Vice Chair)	University of Leeds
Professor Thom Baguley	Nottingham Trent University
Professor Stefan Bouzarovski	University of Manchester
Professor Mitchell Callan	University of Bath
Dr Siobhan Campbell	Non-academic member
Dr Heather Flowe	University of Birmingham
Professor Rachel Franklin	Newcastle University
Professor Gareth Gaskell	University of York
Dr Jessica Horst	University of Sussex
Professor Ade Kearns	University of Glasgow
Dr Paul Litchfield	Non-academic member
Professor Martin Pickering	University of Edinburgh
Professor Anna Whittaker	University of Stirling

Panel B

Professor Svenja Adolphs (Chair)	University of Nottingham
Four Academic Vacancies	
One User Vacancy	
Professor Paul Baker	Lancaster University
Dr Tommaso Ciarli	University of Sussex
Ms Anita Dockley	Non-academic member
Professor John Downey	Loughborough University
Mr James Fletcher	Non-academic member
Professor Jacqui Gabb	Open University
Professor Trevor Gale	University of Glasgow
Dr Derek Kirton	University of Kent
Professor John Morison	Queen's University, Belfast
Dr Beng Huat See	Durham University
Professor Dale Southerton	University of Bristol

Panel C

Professor Kevin Schurer (Chair)

University of Leicester

Two Academic Vacancies

One User Vacancy

Professor Athina Vlachantoni (Vice Chair)

University of Southampton

Professor Clare Anderson

University of Leicester

Professor David Abbott

University of Bristol

Dr Pardip Bans

Non-academic member

Professor Sarah Bracking

Kings College, University of London

Professor Michael Bruter

London School of Economics & Political Science

Dr Anna Dickson

Non-academic member

Dr Peggy Froerer

Brunel University

Professor Oliver James

University of Exeter

Professor Melanie Jones

Cardiff University

Professor Paul Mizen

University of Nottingham

Professor Sabina Siebert

University of Glasgow

Professor Stefan Wolff

University of Birmingham

Panel D

Vacancy (Chair)

Professor Mark Hamer (Vice Chair)

University College London

Professor Susan Harkness

University of Bristol

Dr Ellen Flint

Non-academic member

Dr Kahryn Hughes

University of Leeds

Professor Simonetta Longhi

University of Reading

Dame Jil Matheson

Non-academic member

Professor Rosie Meek

Royal Holloway, University of London

Professor Paul Montgomery

University of Birmingham

Mr Giles Pavey

Non-academic member

Professor Jamie Pearce

University of Edinburgh

Dr Darja Reuschke

University of Southampton

Dr Nadia Siddiqui

Durham University