

Cumberland Lodge Scholarship Scheme 2017 - 2019

Further Information

Every year, Cumberland Lodge offers first and second year doctoral students studying at universities in the United Kingdom the chance to develop skills in communication, public engagement and interdisciplinary collaboration through a scholarship scheme.

Cumberland Lodge is an educational foundation that exists to promote the exchange of ideas and critical thinking on issues of social cohesion. We specialise in equipping and inspiring people to engage in constructive dialogue on the causes and effects of social divisions, to help people build more tolerant, peaceful and inclusive societies. We foster learning and creative thinking through:

- Subsidised student study retreats for students in higher education
- Conferences, lectures and seminars with leading figures from public life
- Mentoring schemes and scholarships for doctoral students, international students and early career researchers
- Schools workshops
- Educational and cultural events for the local community.

The Lodge focuses on engaging people from different backgrounds and perspectives in constructive dialogue across social, political, academic, religious and professional boundaries. For example, in the academic year 2016-2017, we are hosting the following events:

- **‘Ethnic Inequalities at Work: Policy and Institutional Responses’** – in partnership with the Centre on the Dynamics of Ethnicity, this conference in November 2016 explored the root causes of the under-representation of ethnic minorities in the workplace and considered practical solutions to this problem.
- **Commonwealth and International Student Christmas** – the longest-standing tradition at the Lodge, this event brings students from over thirty countries together to experience a traditional British Christmas, meet new people and engage in intercultural exchange and attend seminars on subjects of social and ethical interest. In December 2016 we were joined by the charities Pan Intercultural Arts and Streetwise Opera.
- **‘Violence Against Women: A Determinant of Health’** – this conference centred on the Chief Medical Officer’s 2014 report *The Health of the 51%* and explores the health impacts of violence against women.
- **Emerging International Leaders Programme on Freedom of Religion or Belief** – launching in 2017 and funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, this programme empowers fifty international students to become advocates for FoRB in their universities and home countries.
- **‘Eliminating Slavery: Enhancing the Police Response’** - the 36th annual Cumberland Lodge Police Conference in April 2017 will address the issue of modern slavery and the implications and priorities for policing.



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- **Annual Lecture** – this year, our Annual Lecture will be delivered by Baron Finkelstein OBE, the British journalist and politician and former executive editor of *The Times*
- **Cumberland Conversations** – throughout the year we host a series of Cumberland Conversations for members of the local community. Forthcoming Conversations will feature wartime evacuation expert Professor Martin Parsons, discussing the impacts of war on children, and the historian and philosopher Theodore Zeldin talking about the art of conversation.
- **'Life Beyond the PhD'** – now in its tenth year, this summer conference brings PhD and early career researchers together for training in communication, public engagement, and interdisciplinary working and to explore the impact and value of their research beyond the job market.
- **Cumberland Colloquium** – now in its fifth year, the Cumberland Colloquia scheme has supported nine colloquia on topics ranging from the corporate responsibility to protect human rights to the most recent colloquium on 'Population Ethics: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Birth and Death'. In September 2017 the tenth Cumberland Colloquium will address 'Social Cohesion in Times of Uncertainty: Political, Social and Cultural Change'.

In addition to these activities, we are currently delivering a series of workshops aimed at school children in Key Stage 2, on community and civic engagement. We are also developing a programme of work for children studying Key Stages 3 to 5, with Royal Holloway, University of London, as part of their 'Citizens' project. The Lodge also facilitates 'St Catharine's Sessions' throughout the year, which are seminars for visiting student groups which encourage an engagement with social and ethical issues that fall outside of the students' own fields of study.

Scholarship programme

Every year, the Cumberland Lodge Scholarship Scheme gives six doctoral students the opportunity to be involved with the work of the Lodge over two years and to benefit from our expertise at running interdisciplinary conferences and our extensive networks in academia and public life.

Scholars have the opportunity to take part in conferences outside their own academic disciplines. In doing so, they will gain experience in: working collaboratively; engaging in cross-disciplinary discussion; public engagement and facilitation at events; networking; and writing for a range of different audiences. They are also eligible to apply for a personal development grant of up to £300, to use in an imaginative way to promote 'the betterment of society', in line with the vision and mission of Cumberland Lodge as an educational foundation.

The scholarship programme is designed to fit around the demands of doctoral research. There is a commitment to take part in two conferences per year and to attend the Annual Lecture and the Scholars' Retreat, although some scholars may be invited to attend other events in addition to this. Scholars are expected to prepare for each event at the Lodge (reading background information, writing an article or blog, and preparing presentations). They are also required to play a full and active part in the Lodge's conferences, including leading workshops, taking part in discussions, chairing sessions, hosting speakers, networking with delegates and supporting Cumberland Lodge staff as required.



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Participation in the Cumberland Lodge Scholarship programme will involve:

An annual retreat

The retreat brings scholars together at the start of the academic year for a weekend induction retreat, from Friday to Sunday afternoon, to introduce them to one another and the Lodge. The event includes input from, and discussion with, a leading academic on a topic of general interest, and communication training.

Participating in Cumberland Lodge conferences

Over the two years of the scholarship, scholars will participate in four Cumberland Lodge conferences. Conferences normally run for 36 hours, i.e. inside two days, requiring one night to be spent at the Lodge.

Annual Lecture and Dinner

Each year a leading figure gives the annual lecture, which is followed by a dinner for Trustees, staff and invited guests. Scholars are expected to attend and help host the event. The time commitment is one afternoon and evening, plus travel. Accommodation can be provided if necessary.

Writing

Scholars are expected to write a short follow-up piece after each event they attend at the Lodge. This can take the form of a blog, journal entry, article or website material.

Social media

Scholars are encouraged to engage with the work of the Lodge via social media channels, particularly whilst attending conferences and events.

Acting as an ambassador

Scholars are expected to help make others aware of the Lodge and its activities at their universities and elsewhere, and when requested, to provide material for Cumberland Lodge promotional activities.

Scholars receive free food and accommodation while staying with us for scholarship activities, and economy rate travel expenses will be covered once approved by a member of staff. The Lodge has the feel of both a college and a country house conference centre and it is noted for the quality of its food, accommodation and hospitality.

Scholars will also receive free membership to the Friends of Cumberland Lodge scheme. Benefits include priority booking for a range of events, invitations to members-only events at the Lodge, visits to places of interest that have a connection to the Lodge, a lapel badge and a quarterly newsletter with news and insight into life at the Lodge.



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Application process

Applicants must be able to demonstrate a commitment to working for 'the betterment of society' through their academic research and/or other activities. The Lodge prefers to offer scholarships to those who can show that an association with Cumberland Lodge would help them in this respect.

Candidates must be studying for a doctorate at a university in the United Kingdom, and be able to commit to a two year programme. It is likely, therefore, that they will currently be in the first year of their doctorate. Applications will be accepted only from those who are registered as doctoral students, including those who have not yet transferred from master's degree to doctoral status as long as their supervisors state they are working to doctoral standard. Those currently registered for a master's degree who hope to go on to study for a doctorate may not apply.

Applicants must be open to working across disciplines and engaging with a wide range of subject matter. Cumberland Lodge is committed to understanding and addressing the root causes and effects of social divisions, and to working towards more tolerant, peaceful and inclusive societies, but applications are welcome from any academic discipline or area of study.

To apply, please complete the application form, available on the Cumberland Lodge website, and return it to our Education Officer, Dr Rachel Smillie, at rsmillie@cumberlandlodge.ac.uk.

Applicants are required to give the names of two referees, one academic (their doctoral supervisor) and one non-academic. Candidates will only be considered if they can demonstrate that their application is supported by their university.

Please note that all applicants must be available to attend the annual Scholars' Retreat at Cumberland Lodge, from **8 to 10 September 2017**.

The closing date for applications is **5pm on Friday 31 March 2017**. Applicants will be informed if they are shortlisted for interview by **Tuesday 2 May 2017** and interviews will take place by Skype during the week commencing **Monday 8 May 2017**.

Due to the high number of anticipated applications we are unfortunately unable to provide feedback for applicants who are not invited to interview.

Contact us

Cumberland Lodge
The Great Park
Windsor
Berkshire SL4 2HP

cumberlandlodge.ac.uk
01784 497780