**Role Title: The National Librarian’s Research Fellow in Digital Scholarship**

**Reporting to: Digital Scholarship Librarian**

**Award: The Fellowship comes with an award of £7,500 (which includes travel expenses), payable in three instalments**

The National Library of Scotland invites applications for The National Librarian’s Research Fellowship in Digital Scholarship.

**Fellowship purpose and requirements**

This Fellowship supports an exciting opportunity for a three-month period of research into any aspect of the Library’s data collections available on the Data Foundry (<https://data.nls.uk/>), using data science or other digital research methods or techniques. Fellows should undertake research for a significant piece of publishable work using one or more of the Data Foundry’s data collections, with a significant focus of the research on the dataset(s) used. Projects which align with our 2020-25 strategy, [‘Reaching People’](https://www.nls.uk/media/43mla4h3/2020-2025-library-strategy.pdf), are particularly welcome.

As a digital fellowship, tenure of the National Librarian’s Digital Scholarship Research Fellowship does not require residency within the Library: we welcome applications for remote ’residency’. The Fellow should, however, ensure that they remain in regular contact with the Library throughout the three month period and offer updates for staff and external audiences.

The Fellow should use some of the award to visit the Library for at least one week during the three month period, to present findings, deliver talks for the Library’s public and internal events programmes and carry out any other in-person engagement workshops or activities which might engage some of our underrepresented audiences, such as:

- Younger people, who may not currently find relevance between their lives and cultural heritage organisations.

- Culturally diverse groups who may engage with local, more accessible, popular culture, but do not currently make use of the National Library.

Any lectures must be delivered in the English, Scots or Gaelic languages.

The award is open to researchers, from Early Career through to established academics, of any nationality and country. The Fellowship is also open to those who have attained relevant equivalent experience in employment in higher education or research, and who are active in a relevant field of research. International applicants are responsible for ensuring that they meet UK visa requirements and obtaining the correct visa where required. We welcome applications from candidates of all backgrounds: the National Library of Scotland recognises the value and importance of diversity and promotes equality in our working practices and culture.

The Fellowship comes with an award of £7,500 (which includes travel expenses), payable in three instalments.

**Background to the Fellowship**

The National Librarian’s Research Fellowship in Digital Scholarship began in 2020; more information about past Fellows and their projects can be found at:

<https://data.nls.uk/projects/the-national-librarians-research-fellowship-in-digital-scholarship/>

[https://data.nls.uk/projects/the-national-librarians-research-fellowship-in-digital-scholarship-2021-22/](https://data.nls.uk/projects/the-national-librarians-research-fellowship-in-digital-scholarship-2021-22/ )

<https://data.nls.uk/projects/the-national-librarians-research-fellowship-in-digital-scholarship-2022-23/>

The National Library of Scotland’s Data Foundry was launched in September 2019 as the Library’s data-delivery platform, and part of the Library’s Digital Scholarship Service. The Data Foundry provides Library collections in machine-readable form: digitised collections (text and images); metadata collections; map data; and organisational data. The Library updates and adds to these collections on a regular basis.

The Fellowship is supported by the National Librarian’s Innovation Fund.

**Person Specification:**

Applicants should demonstrate:

* Extensive understanding of digital scholarship and/or data science (Essential);
* Record of relevant research in the subject area (Essential);
* Ability or potential to submit work to the standard required for publication (Essential);
* Potential to generate work which has impact, and can be shared with a wide audience (Essential);
* Excellent written and verbal communication skills (Essential);
* Experience of engaging successfully with general public (Essential);
* Ability to act as an ambassador for the National Library of Scotland and the Digital Scholarship Service, demonstrating new uses of Data Foundry collections (Essential);
* Previous publications in the subject area (Desirable).

**Application**

The Fellowship is available for individual applicants or as a secondment opportunity for those employed at a higher education organisation or equivalent, if supported by the organisation.

Applications should include:

1. A written statement outlining how you meet the person specification (no more than 2 sides of A4).
2. A project plan for activities you would carry out during this Fellowship (no more than 2 sides of A4), outlining:
   1. Your research project, proposed research methods and the dataset(s) on the Data Foundry that you plan to use;
   2. Publication and/or research output plans;
   3. How you would contribute to the Library’s internal and external outreach and event programmes, including plans for engaging some of the Library’s under-represented audiences;
   4. Your plans and methods for contact throughout the three month residency;
   5. Broader dissemination opportunities for your project to encourage impact;
   6. If you would occupy the Fellowship remotely or require space within the Library.
3. A CV including a portfolio of previous projects and recent publications.
4. Name and contact details of two referees, at least one of which should be academic.
5. Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form

Applications should be submitted by email to [jobs@nls.uk](mailto:jobs@nls.uk) by 5pm GMT on 20 February, 2023.

**Selection Procedures**

Only candidates who demonstrate that they meet the criteria by providing relevant supporting evidence will be invited for interview. Selection will be based on evidence provided in the written application and the interview about how the individual fits the role description and person specification.

**Further information**

For further information or an informal discussion, please contact Dr Sarah Ames, Digital Scholarship Librarian: [sarah.ames@nls.uk](mailto:sarah.ames@nls.uk)