

## EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER AWARDS 2010

### Expression of Interest

In collaboration with the Vitae North West Hub, the Manchester Beacon for Public Engagement is inviting expressions of interest from experienced public engagement organisations or venues for the Early Career Researcher Awards 2010.

**Awards of up to £1500 each (up to a maximum of £10,000) are available to develop public engagement activities with early career researchers during the period 2 August – 31 October 2010.**

These awards aim to create opportunities for early career researchers to communicate their research in an inspirational, accessible and relevant way to local communities, and to develop supportive collaborative partnerships between experienced public engagement organisations and the researchers. These new partnerships must include a

- **lead representative from an organisation or venue experienced in engaging with the public**
- **early career researcher from North West higher education institution.**

To register your expression of interest please visit <http://www.vitae.ac.uk/policy-practice/103473/ECR-Awards-expression-of-interest.html> and register by 25 June 2010. Expressions of interest received after this deadline will not be considered. Only those expressing an interest will be eligible to apply for an early career researcher award.

Prospective participants are invited to take part in a **Public Engagement Opportunities Networking Event during the Beacon/Vitae NW conference on 6 July 2010 (12.30-13.45)**. At the event, you will have the opportunity to showcase your public engagement activities and network to meet potential partners from the conference delegates. Lunch will be provided. Please also register your attendance and requirements for the conference using the expression of interest form at <http://www.vitae.ac.uk/policy-practice/103473/ECR-Awards-expression-of-interest.html>.

The **closing date to receive applications will be 4pm on 23 July 2010**. Applications to be sent to [suzanne.spicer@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:suzanne.spicer@manchester.ac.uk). Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.

Applications will be shortlisted according to the selection criteria based on the Manchester Beacon priorities and objectives. Shortlisted projects will be invited to pitch their idea to a selection panel on 29 July 2010. The panel will include Emma Gillaspay (Vitae NW Hub Manager). Successful awardees will be notified by 2 August 2010.

Successful applicants will be supported in the development of their idea by the Manchester Beacon Project Managers:

University of Manchester: [suzanne.spicer@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:suzanne.spicer@manchester.ac.uk) 0161 306 1591

Manchester Metropolitan University: [s.gray@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:s.gray@mmu.ac.uk) 0161 247 3429

University of Salford: [c.guthrie@salford.ac.uk](mailto:c.guthrie@salford.ac.uk) 0161 295 5407

Museum of Science and Industry: [a.benitez@mosi.org.uk](mailto:a.benitez@mosi.org.uk). 0161 606 0109

## Early Career Researcher Awards 2010 Timescales

Expression of interest opens	1 June 2010
Expression of interest closes	25 June 2010
Opportunities Networking Event at conference	6 July 2010 (12.30-13.45)
Application deadline	23 July 2010 (4pm)
Selection panel meeting	29 July 2010
Notification of successful applications	2 August 2010
Support meeting 1	12 August 2010
Support meeting 2	14 October 2010
Activities delivered by	31 October 2010
Support meeting 3	2 November 2010
Dissemination event during Beacon Summit Week	10 November 2010
Submit case study	19 November 2010

### APPLICATION GUIDANCE NOTES

#### FUNDING CRITERIA

To be successfully funded your project activity must align with Manchester Beacon priorities and objectives:

#### **1. Behavioural change**

- Public engagement is encouraged, valued and supported
- Change public perceptions of universities and make them more accessible for communities and the general public

#### **2. Levels of engagement**

- Increasing the relevance of institution activity and connectivity with communities.
- Improve opportunities for sustainable two-way learning

#### **3. Partnerships and collaboration**

- Develop deeper partnership working across the Beacon partners and with the community.

#### **SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS WILL BE EXPECTED TO:**

- Attend the support meetings and delivery the activity before 31 October 2010.
- Provide evidence of costs (invoices, receipts...) and audience attendance.
- Participate in a dissemination opportunity on 10 November 2010 as part of the Manchester Beacon Summit Week
- Provide by 19 November 2010:
  - A written project case study (using template provided by Manchester Beacon)
  - Promote the event via the Manchester Beacon website.

Join the Manchester Beacon community online to share events, projects and resources  
[www.manchesterbeacon.org](http://www.manchesterbeacon.org)