

# Partnership PhD Mobility Bursaries 2013/14

## Funded PhD Mobility Bursaries for LSE PhD students

to conduct research at  
**Columbia University (New York),  
the *National University of Singapore*,  
*Peking University* (Beijing),  
*Sciences Po* (Paris)  
or  
the *University of Cape Town***

The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) has institutional partnerships with Columbia University (New York), the National University of Singapore, Peking University (Beijing), Sciences Po (Paris), and the University of Cape Town. These Mobility Bursaries offer opportunities for PhD students to spend a period of time at a partner institution, and include both financial and administrative support.

### Bursary objectives

1. To offer LSE PhD students additional research resources (archival and advisory) and to introduce them to the academic culture, professional contacts and employment opportunities of another country.
2. To offer LSE PhD students an opportunity to visit one of the School's institutional partners and to work informally with one or more advisors on their PhD thesis research and/or on related publications and presentations, and to attend conferences and workshops both at the host institution and within the wider regional/national academic community.
3. More broadly, to further enhance links between LSE and a partner institution such as putting academics with similar research areas in touch with each other.

### Eligibility and duration

4. Students registered for PhD studies in any LSE Department and who have been upgraded to full doctoral student status (and who will not submit their thesis before completing their visit) are eligible to apply.
5. Each visit will be a minimum of 2 months and a maximum of 3 months in duration.

### Number and value of exchanges

6. In 2013/14, LSE will fund up to ten students to visit one of the five above listed partner institutions, with no more than two bursaries available for any one institution. Please note that the number of applications to visit Columbia University is significantly higher than for any of the other four institutions.
7. LSE will provide financial support in the form of a bursary of £2,500 to each (outgoing) LSE student. For Sciences Po, the £2,500 includes any funding available through Erasmus schemes; successful candidates will be assisted in making a separate application via the School's Erasmus office. The bursary, which will be paid in two instalments, is intended to contribute to the expenses of participating LSE students, including those relating to travel, accommodation, living, educational materials and/or other education-related costs.

Please note: the award of this bursary is subject to rules of any existing bursary held by the student: fully funded ESRC and AHRC students will *only* be eligible for funding under this scheme if they have been unsuccessful in an application for funding for an overseas institutional visit under the terms of their studentship.

### Application procedures

8. Potential applicants should first research the opportunities available to them at the partner institution, including the potential scholar(s) with whom they would like to work. They should discuss this opportunity with their LSE supervisor. They may also wish to discuss informally their application with a potential scholar at the partner institution.
9. LSE PhD students should submit their application in the form of a dossier containing the following materials:
  - i) The fully completed '[Key Information](#)' cover sheet
  - ii) A one-page single-spaced statement of academic purpose explaining their progress towards completion of their research, why and when a visit to the host partnership institution would benefit them and what they intend to do there; outlining a time-table for their work during the visit; and indicating the scholar(s) with whom they hope to work.
  - iii) An up-to-date curriculum vitae including the LSE student ID number, visa status, country of citizenship, place and date of birth.

- iv) A short letter of support from their LSE supervisor(s) which should confirm whether and when the candidate had been successfully upgraded to full PhD status. Please note: If a student is due to be considered imminently for upgrade at the time of applying, the supervisor's letter must include a statement on the likelihood of upgrade.
  - v) A copy of the most recent PhD progress report (or equivalent) from the department.
10. Each application dossier must include all elements described in paragraph 9 i) - v) above and be consistent with the objectives, eligibility and duration as described in paragraphs 1-5 above.
  11. LSE PhD students should submit their application dossier in electronic format by midday on Tuesday 14 May 2013 to [academic\\_partnerships@lse.ac.uk](mailto:academic_partnerships@lse.ac.uk)  
 PhD Supervisors are welcome to send their support statements either in electronic format (to [academic\\_partnerships@lse.ac.uk](mailto:academic_partnerships@lse.ac.uk)) or as hard copy marked "Partnership PhD Mobility Bursary (LSE)" directly to the LSE's *Partnership PhD Mobility Co-ordinator* c/o LSE Academic Partnerships Office, Room TW3.4.01, Houghton Street, London, WC2A 2AE.
  12. A School selection panel will decide which LSE students' bursary applications should be supported. There will be a competitive element to the funding process with a view to supporting the best candidates. (The guiding principles used by the selection panel for deciding between applications can be found at Annex A). Once a decision has been taken on funding, the School's *Partnership PhD Mobility Co-ordinator* will send a request to her/his counterpart at each *host* institution.
  13. For each LSE-supported application, the *Partnership PhD Mobility Co-ordinator* at the *host* institution will establish whether the academic purpose of the LSE student's visit is acceptable and whether the scholar(s) with whom the LSE student intends to work is willing and able to assume this role during the proposed period of the student's visit (or at a mutually agreed alternative period). When these points have been established, s/he will reply to the *Partnership PhD Mobility Co-ordinator* at LSE to confirm if (and when) the LSE student can visit the *host* Institution and arrange for the necessary admission procedures to be invoked.
  14. Once accepted, the LSE student will receive a note of acceptance and, in due course, a formal offer of admission from the relevant administrative division at the *host* institution. Details of how to apply for any visas required will also be provided.

#### **Academic status of exchange students**

15. LSE students must remain registered at LSE for the duration of their visit at the *host* institution. Indeed, overall supervision will remain the responsibility of each student's supervisor(s) at LSE.
16. LSE students will be registered as visiting research students in the relevant academic unit of the *host* institution during their visit.
17. LSE students will be expected to work independently, but will be entitled to attend lectures, seminars and other academic activities on the same basis as other registered research students at the *host* institution. They will work with a designated scholar, who will act as an advisor, and they will be expected to join in the regular activities for research students, including e.g. research seminars. Towards the end of the visit, each candidate is required to provide a report on their activities and achievements for discussion and review with their designated scholar, who will add final comments. A copy of this final report will be countersigned by the *Partnership PhD Mobility Co-ordinator* at the *host* institution and sent back for inclusion in the student's academic file at LSE.

#### **Fees, support services and institutional privileges**

18. No academic-related fees will be payable by LSE students to the *host* institution for e.g. tuition, entrance, examinations, library, email. This does not preclude the *host* institution from imposing a nominal fee for e.g. health insurance. LSE students will remain responsible for any applicable fees at LSE.
19. LSE students will have the same rights and responsibilities as other registered research students at the *host* institution. They will be entitled to library privileges, use of the computer rooms, and an email account. They will also have access to the facilities for research students in the relevant academic unit of the *host* institution.
20. LSE students will be expected to make their own arrangements for housing. The *host* institution will provide information and advice on accommodation options. Information about support services, including information on accommodation and health care, can be found on each institution's web-site.
21. Any expenses beyond the value of the bursary shall under no circumstances whatsoever be the responsibility of LSE or the *host* institution. Information about the estimated costs of living abroad can be found on each institution's web-site.

Please direct any queries to: [academic\\_partnerships@lse.ac.uk](mailto:academic_partnerships@lse.ac.uk)

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## **Annex A**

### **Guiding Principles for the selection of LSE applicants for Partnership PhD Mobility Bursaries**

The selection panel will use the following guiding principles when deciding between applications from LSE PhD students:

1. Students will normally only be considered for support where they have passed their upgrade, but not yet submitted their dissertation. If a student is due to be considered for upgrade imminently, a statement from her/his supervisor on the likelihood of upgrade will be needed.
2. Each application will be considered on its academic merits, including:
  - A well developed understanding of their thesis;
  - A clear rationale for going to the Partner Institution;
  - A sound case for why they wish to work with the proposed academic scholar(s) at the Partner Institution.
3. It is expected that students will apply to visit a *host* institution to:
  - (i) gain access to archives or other material/data that directly supports their PhD dissertation;and/or
  - (ii) establish/build networks with colleagues at the partner institution.
4. Students are only eligible for funding on one occasion. Unsuccessful applicants are free to re-apply.

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