

# Apply to be a Hive Scholar

## SAGE Research Hive Scholarships 2022-23

The Library's Research Hive is a space dedicated for use by the research community at Sussex, open exclusively to doctoral researchers and academic staff. The Library, in partnership with the Doctoral School and SAGE Publications, is offering three SAGE Research Hive Scholarships to support the Research Hive and the needs of the research community at Sussex. Each scholarship attracts a fixed bursary of £3,575 for an eleven-month duration: from the start of September 2022 to the end of July 2023.

The scholarship holders will be required to contribute on average 25 hours per month for the duration of the scholarship period. These hours will be flexible and dependent on any planned activities and events. Some of this time will be spent on-site in the Hive at times to be agreed, but the Scholars will also be expected to manage their own time exploring the needs of fellow doctoral researchers and developing initiatives to support them. For previous Scholars this has included activities such as running *Shut Up and Write* sessions, peer-led panel discussions, an interdisciplinary methods conference and a creative *Collage Your PhD* event.

The Scholars will need to work together effectively and flexibly as a self-managing team, including regular contact by email/other social media and monthly face-to-face meetings.

These scholarships will provide an ideal opportunity for doctoral researchers to develop professional skills in a number of areas, including organising events; marketing; communication; and project management. The scholarship holders will be able to improve and expand their professional research networks, and to gain valuable insight and knowledge of issues affecting researchers at all stages of their careers. There will also be an opportunity to find out more about academic publishing and develop links with SAGE.

## How to apply

The scholarships are open to Sussex doctoral researchers who are currently registered and intend to stay registered until summer 2023. This opportunity is open to researchers already holding another scholarship, but it is the responsibility of the applicant to confirm that their existing scholarship would permit them to apply. Applications should take the form of a statement **clearly outlining how you meet the criteria listed in the person specification**, together with a **short CV**, and be sent to [library.researchsupport@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:library.researchsupport@sussex.ac.uk). The closing date for applications is midnight on **Sunday 3rd July** and interviews will be held on Wednesday 13th and Friday 15th July, online. Please specify in your application if you are unable to make one of these dates. Although the scholarship will not begin until September, the successful candidates will ideally be able to meet informally during the summer.

For an informal discussion about the scholarships, please contact Bethany Logan, Research & Scholarship Librarian [B.C.Logan@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:B.C.Logan@sussex.ac.uk)

## Key Responsibilities

The Hive Scholars will work together to:

- Contribute to marketing and awareness of the Hive by working closely with key contacts in the academic Schools (e.g. promoting the Hive as part of induction week meetings) and through social media including the Hive's blog, Twitter feed and Facebook page
- Promote the existence of both physical and virtual researcher communities within Sussex
- Engage with SAGE Publications on research trends and issues facing doctoral researchers
- Use social media to engage researchers, promote discussions and offer peer support
- Generate content for the Research Hive blog
- Support existing formal and informal researcher activities held by the Library / Doctoral School, including but not limited to Open Access Week events, professional development workshops, the Research Hive seminar series and the Festival of Doctoral Research.
- Initiate and organise relevant peer support activities and events through the Research Hive
- Produce an annual evaluation of the Hive and its usage
- Gather and share information on the use and development of the Hive with SAGE and the Doctoral School through written reports and presentations
- Any other duties in support of the Library and Doctoral School, as determined by the line manager

## Person specification

Skills / Abilities	Essential	Desirable
Ability to work effectively and flexibly as a team member	X	
Ability to engage with researchers at all levels, in a range of disciplines	X	
Excellent presentation skills	X	
Excellent written and oral communication skills	X	

Skills / Abilities	Essential	Desirable
An ability to manage a varied workload with periods of intense activity while remaining calm under pressure	X	
Able to work independently and use own initiative	X	
Knowledge	Essential	Desirable
Broad understanding of the challenges and issues facing individual researchers	X	
Awareness of current issues facing the UK HE sector		X
Awareness of support structures for researchers at Sussex		X
Experience	Essential	Desirable
Demonstrable experience of initiating and completing new projects	X	
Experience of organising and promoting events	X	
Previous experience of writing and producing high quality promotional materials and resources for a range of audiences	X	
Experience of using social networking tools		X
Experience of working with a range of researchers at Sussex and beyond	X	

Personal attributes and circumstances	Essential	Desirable
Currently registered as attending a programme of doctoral research at Sussex, and intending to remain registered until summer 2023	X	
Able to commit an average of 25 hours per month to supporting the Hive over the duration of the scholarship period	X	
A commitment to continuing professional development and attending relevant training courses	X	