



UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Hunt-Simes Visiting Chair of Sexuality Studies 2027 Fellowship Guidelines

The Hunt-Simes Visiting Chair of Sexuality Studies is a fellowship that recognises and supports outstanding early and mid-career researchers in the field of sexuality studies. The Fellowship aims to foster collaboration with researchers at the University of Sydney.

For 2027, the [Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre](#) (SSSHARC) will award visiting research fellowships for outstanding mid-career researchers in sexuality studies to collaborate with researchers from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) at the University of Sydney.

The following document sets out the guidelines, eligibility criteria, and terms and conditions of the award.

Key dates

- **Friday 6 March 2026:** Applications open.
- **Monday April 20 2026:** Applications close.
- **Friday 20 March 2026:** Information session, 9am-10am AEDT via Zoom. [Register here.](#)
- **Monday 18 May 2026:** Fellows announced.
- **February – November 2027:** Fellows visit the University of Sydney.

Please contact sssharc.research@sydney.edu.au if you have any questions.

Contents

About the Fellowship.....	2
Eligibility.....	2
Selection Criteria.....	3
Academic Host.....	3
Requirements and conditions.....	4
Additional support / facilities.....	4
How to apply	5

About the Fellowship

The University of Sydney has a generously endowed fellowship program in sexuality studies. Funded by the late Dr Gary Simes—a linguistic historian, bibliographer and University of Sydney graduate—the Hunt-Simes Chair of Sexuality Studies Bequest enables visiting fellowships until such time as a fully endowed Chair is appointed.

Visiting fellows will be hosted by a research collaborator (named in the application) from within Faculty. Applicants should approach potential hosts in advance of applying for the proposed Fellowship.

Fellows are expected to contribute to the intellectual life of SSSHARC and enhance research in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Sydney by:

- Advancing their own research program
- Actively collaborating with one or more University of Sydney researchers, on new or existing projects, co-publications and/or external grant applications, as appropriate
- Giving presentations such as workshops, seminars in senior undergraduate or postgraduate courses or Higher Degree Research (HDR) master classes, with the scale of the presentation program negotiated in relation to the duration of the Fellowship
- Where appropriate, contributing an outward-facing public talk, panel discussion, podcast, or insight piece facilitated by SSSHARC.

Fellowship support is available for up to \$10,000 AUD per month (pro-rate if less than a month) toward travel and accommodation while at the University of Sydney. The value awarded will depend on the Fellow's city of origin and the length of the Fellowship. No additional stipend or living allowance is attached to this fellowship.

Successful applicants will be known as Hunt-Simes Visiting Chairs or Hunt-Simes Visiting Junior Chairs depending on their career stage.

Eligibility

The Hunt-Simes Visiting Chair of Sexuality Studies Fellowship is open to distinguished mid-career researchers with an established record and international standing (relative to opportunity) in the humanities and social sciences.

Applicants must be:

- Institutionally affiliated with a university or equivalent research or cultural organisation outside of the University of Sydney
- An early or mid-career researcher (EMCR), with PhD or equivalent professional or creative practice experience
- Available to visit the University of Sydney between February to November 2027

- Seeking to spend a substantive period of time at the University of Sydney so as to progress collaboration (nominally, 2 weeks minimum)

The University of Sydney is committed to equity, diversity and social inclusion. Applications from all target groups are encouraged.

Selection Criteria

The applicant's proposed program of work should be in line with SSSHARC's mission to advance landmark research in the humanities and social sciences through critical scholarly research, policy or creative practice and engagement with wider audiences.

Applications will be reviewed by a selection panel including the Director of SSSHARC (Chair), Associate Dean (Research), Director of Research Development, and other internal and external colleagues as required. The following selection criteria will be considered:

- The degree to which the applicant is an outstanding researcher of international standing (relative to opportunity) in sexuality studies, including LGBTQ+ studies, queer studies, trans studies and their cognate fields
- The quality of the proposed research program
- The quality of statement of support from the FASS Academic Host and any other collaborators from across the University of Sydney
- The quality and quantity of research collaborations and anticipated outcomes shared between the applicant and University of Sydney researchers. Priority will be given to the competitive development of grant applications that diversify or internationalize FASS's existing funding streams
- The degree to which the applicant will enhance SSSHARC's reputation for advanced and engaged research
- The degree to which the applicant will enhance research culture in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- The degree to which the proposed collaboration will yield new insights.

Academic Host

Applicants must secure the support of a current FASS academic to host their proposed visit. The academic host should have similar or complementary research interests to those of the applicant. University affiliates (including honorary, adjunct, and emeritus professors) are not eligible to sponsor international visitors and cannot be nominated as your primary academic host.

Fellowship applications should be developed in consultation with the FASS researcher who will host the Fellow. All applications must be accompanied by a letter of support from the FASS host indicating the nature of the collaboration, proposed research

program, and any conflict of interest. FASS hosts must be up to date with reports on outcomes from previous SSSHARC Fellowships with which they have been associated.

Requirements and conditions

Applicants must agree to the following requirements:

- Fellows must reside in Sydney for the duration of their fellowship, the substantial part of which must coincide with the Australian academic year (February to November) unless circumstances dictate other times
- Visiting fellows should be present at the University of Sydney for the duration of the fellowship as specified in the letter of award
- Target funding schemes and rounds should be clearly identified with eligibility confirmed in advance
- Where appropriate, grant applications should specify the University of Sydney as the administering organisation
- SSSHARC should be acknowledged in all publications, presentations, and communications that proceed from the fellowship.
- Fellowships must be taken up and funding fully spent in 2027.

Visa requirements

It is the Fellow's responsibility to ensure they have the correct visa and travel insurance required for their stay. The Immigration and Relocation department at the University of Sydney will provide a letter of invitation to successful applicants which may be used for visa purposes.

Post-award

Fellows and hosts must submit a summary of activities undertaken at the end of the fellowship and, one-year later, a report on outcomes derived from the fellowship (publications, grant applications, etc). Report content may be published on the SSSHARC website and included in the SSSHARC annual reports. Copies of resulting applications, publications, etc, would be appreciated.

Additional support / facilities

As an affiliate of the University of Sydney, Visiting Fellows will have access to the following resources for the duration of their visit:

- Access to University's Wi-Fi network, intranet, and other University systems.
- Access to the Library's online databases and print collections.

- An affiliate card that provides access to SSSHARC's office and other relevant sites on campus.
- Desk space, including access to computing and printing facilities.
- Access to hybrid-enabled meeting rooms and workshop spaces.
- Expert advice and review of funding applications in development across the Fellowship as required.

Fellows and projects will be profiled on the SSSHARC website and social media channels.

How to apply

Applications must be submitted via the [online application form](#).

Please direct any enquiries to sssharc.research@sydney.edu.au. For further information about SSSHARC, visit: www.sydney.edu.au/arts/sssharc