### **THE LAURENT FELLOWSHIPS FOR RESPIRATORY HEALTH**

***APPLICATIONS CLOSE FRIDAY 24TH MAY 2024***

### **OVERVIEW OF THE LAURENT FELLOWSHIP FOR RESPIRATORY HEALTH**

Professor Geoffrey Laurent was a Western Australian who completed his Bachelor of Science at the University of Western Australia (UWA) in 1974 and his PhD in 1978. He was given his first opportunity to travel overseas via a postgraduate travel scholarship and started his international research career at the National Heart and Lung Institute in London before moving to University College London (UCL) where he spent a significant period of time. He made an enormous contribution to respiratory health research over many decades, particularly in the area of lung fibrosis. Sadly, he died unexpectedly in 2018. To honour his life and achievements, a group of his friends and colleagues got together and formed a fund-raising committee to establish the Laurent Fellowship for Respiratory Health with the overarching goal of inspiring the next generation of medical scientists and encouraging international collaboration. In 2019, this group together with UWA and UCL, established the [Laurent Fellowship for Respiratory Health](https://giving.uwa.edu.au/give-now/geoff-laurent-memorial).

The Fellowships are aimed at developing and expanding on Geoff Laurent’s life-long passions for meaningful research, exchange of knowledge, and the ability to lead academic partnerships between the universities he was most involved with, namely, UWA and UCL. To honour his life and achievements, a group of friends and colleagues got together to form a committee to raise funds to support a [Fellowship Program](https://giving.uwa.edu.au/give-now/geoff-laurent-memorial).

Their enthusiasm and dedication have now resulted in the accumulation of sufficient donations to create two Fellowships, namely, the ***Early to Mid-Career Laurent Fellowship in Respiratory Health*** and the ***Senior Laurent Fellowship in Respiratory Health****.* Both Laurent Fellowships will be offered annually and sufficient to support travel costs, living expenses and accommodation and, in the case of the Early to Mid-Career Fellowship, laboratory consumables.

### **The EARLY TO MID-CAREER LAURENT FELLOWSHIP**

This Fellowship represents an opportunity for an applicant to undertake respiratory health research in an internationally recognised centre of excellence which, in this scheme, involves laboratories in the highly ranked [Department of Respiratory Medicine at UCL](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/medicine/respiratory-medicine). The Fellowship will support travel costs, living expenses and accommodation as well as support for laboratory consumables. Funding will be available for a period of between one and three months.

The successful Early to Mid-Career Fellow will take up the position in one of the Department of Respiratory Medicine’s Laboratories at UCL. Presently, there are three large centres likely to be offering hosting opportunities for a candidate and include:

* The [Centre for Inflammation and Tissue Repair](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/inflammation-and-tissue-repair/),
* The [Lungs for Living Research Centre](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lungs-for-living-research/); and
* The [Centre for Respiratory Biology](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/respiratory-biology/)

The primary contact for the Laurent Fellowship at UCL will be Professor Rachel Chambers and with whom the possibility of a laboratory placement should be discussed well before submitting an application. Details of a suitable project and the laboratory host will be required for any application. To contact Professor Chambers, please send enquiries to Catriona Heredia at [c.heredia@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:c.heredia@ucl.ac.uk) in the first instance.

The Early to Mid-Career Laurent Fellowship in Respiratory Health is open to researchers with a doctoral degree awarded within eight years of an application being made and who are either:

1. currently employed at UWA,
2. adjunct staff in Centres associated with UWA affiliated medical research institutes or
3. have recently completed their doctoral degree in respiratory health research at UWA.

### **SENIOR LAURENT FELLOWSHIP IN RESPIRATORY HEALTH**

The Senior Laurent Fellowship in Respiratory Health is designed to encourage the establishment of viable research collaborations between senior respiratory health scientists at UWA and its Centres within affiliated institutes and those at UCL. Funding will be available for a period of between two to four weeks to enable a successful applicant to travel from UWA to UCL or vice versa. Senior Researchers at either institution will be eligible to apply.

### **SELECTION COMMITTEE**

The Selection Committee will comprise Professor Peter KIinken AC, Chief Scientist for Western Australia, Professor Rachel Chambers on behalf of UCL and Emeritus Professor Geoff Stewart on behalf of the Institute for Respiratory Health and UWA.

### **Conditions OF AWARD**

The following conditions apply:

1. Applicants will have attributes that reflect Professor Laurent’s leadership and values, namely, the ability to demonstrate a passion for meaningful research, exchange of knowledge, and the ability to lead academic partnerships.
2. Eligibility to apply for an Early to Mid-Career Fellowship (defined as a researcher within eight years of the award of PhD, unless claiming a significant career disruption, see [Investigator Grants Eligibility Fact Sheet 2020](https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/attachments/Investigator-Grants-Eligibility-Fact-Sheet-2020.pdf)) will be restricted to staff employed by UWA or to UWA adjunct staff members in a UWA Centre associated with an affiliated Medical Research Institute at 0.5 FTE or above and must be still employed at that institution on their return.
3. If the successful applicant is given leave of absence from an ongoing position/grant to spend time at UCL, the applicant is obligated to return to that position/grant for a period equivalent to the leave of absence granted by the managing Chief Investigator unless otherwise agreed upon.
4. The duration of the Early to Mid-Career Fellowship will be for a period ranging between one to three months, unless an extension is requested and approved.
5. Eligibility to apply for a Senior researcher Fellowship will be restricted to senior staff employed by UWA or to UWA adjunct staff members in a UWA Centre associated with an affiliated Medical Research Institute and UCL senior researchers.
6. The duration of the Senior Researcher Fellowship will be for a period ranging between one to four weeks, unless an extension is requested and approved.
7. Applicants must be currently working in research areas directly relevant to respiratory disease.
8. Applications for either Fellowship may be received from scientists working in the medical, biological, population, advanced imaging or operational and economic health service aspects of respiratory health or other research areas judged appropriate by the Selection Committee.
9. Applications for either Fellowship will be assessed by the appointed Selection Committee which will advise applicants of the outcome accordingly.
10. Eligible Early to Mid-Career applicants travelling to UCL may not necessarily be required to obtain a UK visa as per <https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa/y/australia/work/six_months_or_less> if eligibility requirements are met (<https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor>). However, it is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that they meet all entry requirements mandated by UCL well before departing for the UK.
11. Early to Mid-Career applicants must obtain a written assessment of the funds required to support the intended research project at UCL from the Laboratory Head prior to submission of any application.
12. The funding provided by the Fellowship is not Australian tax exempt and funds received must be reported in the appropriate manner.
13. If a successful Early to Mid-Career Fellow is in receipt of a salary during their stay at UCL, a per diem only will be provided for the duration of the Fellowship.
14. If an Early to Mid-Career Fellow is not in receipt of a salary, they will be offered a stipend equivalent to that of a new postdoctoral researcher at UCL using their salary scales, pro-rated.
15. Neither Fellowship will provide any financial support for accompanying family members.
16. Successful Early to Mid-Career Fellows will not be eligible to apply to a subsequent award although previously successful Senior Researchers may apply for another Laurent Fellowship in this category after three years.
17. If the award cannot be used in the year for which it is awarded, the Selection Committee will consider requests for a postponement of the uptake on the proviso that it will subsequently be used subject to all conditions relating to the Fellowship in general.
18. Applicants must use the official application form and submit it electronically as a pdf document.
19. The award will count as taxable income.
20. The Chairperson of the Selection Committee will have to authority to alter the composition of the Panel in light of any potential conflict of interest.
21. Any other awards, reimbursements or subsidies to attend the selected institution will need to be declared by the successful applicant and payment will only made for outstanding costs.
22. UWA-associated applicants will be covered by UWA Workers Compensation and Travel Insurance policies, and UCL applicants by the corresponding UCL policies.
23. The successful applicants must acknowledge the support provided by UWA and UCL as well as including UWA and UCL in the by-line of any publications or presentation facilitated by the award.
24. Applicants must agree to provide a final report and participate in periodic surveys by UWA or UCL requesting follow-up information on research outcomes resulting from the Fellowship.
25. The successful applicant must provide evidence of any required health and/or travel insurance as part of the acceptance of the award.
26. Research facilities, infrastructure and equipment will be provided by the host institution.
27. It is expected that the host (or an appropriate supervisor for any absence) will be available for the duration of the Fellow’s visit.
28. Prior to the uptake of the Fellowship, intellectual property assignments (e.g., to UCL, to UWA, to UWA affiliated MRI, to individuals) must clearly be agreed upon before commencement of the applicant’s arrival at UCL.
29. UWA linked applications should be submitted to the Institute for Respiratory Health by Friday 24th May 2024 via the email address below.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Please contact Sarah Cermak ([sarah.cermak@resphealth.uwa.edu.au](mailto:sarah.cermak@resphealth.uwa.edu.au)) at the Institute for Respiratory Health, regarding local applications or Catriona Heredia ([c.heredia@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:c.heredia@ucl.ac.uk)) for UCL-based applications.

### **THE LAURENT FELLOWSHIP Application form**

* Applications must be lodged electronically as a pdf version.
* The application form should contain a 2 cm margin all round with left aligned text using Calibri 11-point font.
* Each page of the application, including the title page, should be sequentially numbered.
* Include only the most relevant information.
* Applications must be submitted by **Friday 24th May 2024**.

1. **Applicant Details**

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| Title | First Name | Surname |
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| UWA School/UWA Affiliated MRI | Current Position |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Postal Address |  | | | | |
| Suburb |  | State |  | Post Code |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Telephone |  | Email |  |

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| Citizenship | PhD, Year of Award if applying for the Early to Mid-Career Fellowship |
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1. **Fellowship Details**

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| Please indicate Fellowship type: | |
| Early to Mid-Career Fellowship | Senior Researcher Fellowship |
| Proposed start date: | Proposed end date: |

1. **UCL Department of Respiratory Medicine Centre Host**

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| The [Centre for Inflammation and Tissue Repair](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/inflammation-and-tissue-repair/)  The [Lungs for Living Research Centre](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lungs-for-living-research/)  The [Centre for Respiratory Biology](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/respiratory-biology/) |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Title | First Name | Surname |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Telephone |  | Email |  |

1. **ECMR Profile and Fellowship Aims**

Please provide a summary statement (up to 3,000 characters) describing your current research program

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Please provide a description (up to 3,000 characters) of how your research aligns with the aims of the program and what benefits you hope to gain from the Fellowship

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Please provide a description (up to 3,000 characters) of the proposed slate of work and timeline of activities before, during and after the Fellowship period.

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1. **Senior Researcher Profiles and Fellowship Aims**

Please provide a summary statement (up to 6,000 characters) describing the aims of the intended collaboration and the outcomes anticipated.

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1. **Supporting Documentation**

Please attach an abridged CV (no more than five pages). If you have an online profile, please include the URL with your CV.

1. **Applicant Budget**

The Senior Laurent Fellowship will support travel costs, living expenses and accommodation for researchers travelling between UWA and UCL or vice versa for a period of up to 4 weeks.

If the applicant is an Early to Mid-Career researcher, the Fellowship will be available for a period of between one to three months. This Fellowship will support travel costs, a living allowance, accommodation and laboratory costs. If the applicant is in receipt of a salary from UWA or an affiliated MRI, the maximum award for living/accommodation costs will be $5,500 per month. If the applicant is not in receipt of a salary, the maximum award for living/accommodation costs will be $9,000 per month. Costs associated with the SR Fellowship are [based on the ATO which can be viewed here](https://www.ato.gov.au/law/view/document?DocID=TXD/TD20216/NAT/ATO/00001).

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| **EMCR Fellowship Cost Item** | **Cost ($AUD)** |
| Return Airfare |  |
| Total amount requested for living and accommodation if in receipt of salary (months requested x $5,500) |  |
| Total amount requested for living and accommodation if not in receipt of salary (months requested x $9,000) |  |
| Total amount requested for laboratory costs (to be determined in consultation with the Department of Respiratory Medicine Centre Head) |  |
| **Total amount requested** |  |

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| --- | --- |
| **SR Fellowship Cost Item** | **Cost ($AUD)** |
| Return airfare |  |
| Accommodation/incidentals ($3,220 per week x weeks requested) |  |
| **Total amount requested** |  |

1. **DECLARATION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (insert name) confirm that the information provided in this application is true and correct. I have read the conditions of the Laurent Fellowships for Respiratory Health and agree to be bound by them should my application be successful.

I declare that I am not in receipt of a salary for the duration of an EMCR Fellowship if applying for the maximum award available.

I confirm that should my application be successful, I will publicly acknowledge the support provided by UWA, UCL and IRH in any publication or presentation arising from the research work supported by the Fellowship and provide a report outlining the research outcomes no later than after 3 months following its completion.

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| **Applicants name** | **Applicant’s signature** | **Date** |
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Please send your application electronically to:

[sarah.cermak@resphealth.uwa.edu.au](mailto:sarah.cermak@resphealth.uwa.edu.au)

Subject: Laurent Fellowship Application 2024

Application addressed to: The Chairperson, Laurent Fellowship Selection Committee

Applications close: Friday 24th May 2024

Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.