

THE QUEEN'S FOUNDATION FOR ECUMENICAL THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Selly Oak Centre for Mission Studies

Scholar in Residence (10 months)

This scholarship is awarded at the Selly Oak Centre for Mission Studies (SOCMS), based at the Queen's Ecumenical Foundation in Birmingham, UK. (www.queens.ac.uk).

The Selly Oak Centre for Mission Studies

The Selly Oak Centre for Mission Studies is the successor to the United College of the Ascension, and carries out its activities as part of the Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education on its campus in Edgbaston, Birmingham. The SOCMS is sponsored by the Methodist Church in Britain (www.methodist.org.uk) and USPG, an Anglican mission society (www.uspg.org.uk). It focuses their work on preparing and receiving mission partners, engaging in mission education and research in global contexts, and developing a network of mission focused institutions. The Centre, within the Queen's Foundation, aims to form an international community of staff and students that reflects and embodies the diversity of the world church.

The Queen's Foundation

The Queen's Foundation is dedicated to excellence in theological education, ministerial training, mission studies and personal formation in the service of God. The Foundation incorporates four constituent groups – ministerial education in a residential setting (the Queen's college); ministerial education in a part-time non-residential setting (the West Midlands Ministry Training Course); research students and projects (the Research Centre); and global mission studies and training (the Selly Oak Centre for Mission Studies). Each constituency has its own distinctive identity and focus of activity, but each understands itself as part of a unitary body – the Foundation – and is committed to working in ways that are collaborative, supportive and self-critical. The Foundation and the Centre together aim to assist Christians and the churches in understanding how to engage in ministry and mission with integrity, in the light of Christian traditions, the many perspectives of the contemporary global Christian community and the challenges posed by the modern world. They both aim to maintain a learning and worshipping community that values diversity, dialogue and critical openness in pursuing education in mission and ministry and the promotion of research activities. The Centre within the Foundation builds on this, seeking to share in the mission of God in the world through helping the Church develop theologies and practices appropriate to the 21st Century.

The City of Birmingham

The vibrant, multicultural city of Birmingham, with its unique rich, social, ethnic, religious and academic resources, offers exceptional opportunities to students to explore the range of the challenges and opportunities presented to the Church in our time. By reflection upon their own faith in the light of the variety with which they are confronted, in the College community and in the city at large, students are equipped to engage in a variety of ministries in the worldwide church with energy, insight and imagination. The Foundation and the Centre is committed to theological education which is ecumenical, inclusive, engaging, flexible and practical. Through this we aim to form passionate, creative and imaginative disciples of Christ who are able to face the challenges of our world and the church in the 21st century where people must negotiate tradition, change, justice and diversity.

The Scholar in Residence

This scholarship is intended to provide someone from outside the UK with the opportunity to engage in research/writing in his/her field of interest, and to share gifts, skills, experience and insights within the Selly Oak Centre for Mission Studies, the Queen's Foundation, the Department of Theology in the University of Birmingham and churches and secular organisations in the UK. The research programme of the Scholar will be agreed with the Mission Centre, taking into account the requirements of the Scholar and his/her church. A companion from the Centre will be appointed to support and monitor the Scholar's research.

The Scholar in Residence will be identified in consultation with the Methodist Church World Church Office and the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the Centre's sponsoring bodies. S/he will be based at the Queen's Foundation campus and is expected to:

1. Pursue an agreed programme of mission research and reflection that will benefit his/her home Church as well as the Church in the UK.
2. Participate in some programmes and short courses at the Selly Oak Centre for Mission Studies
3. Participate in some Queen's Foundation's academic programmes
4. Speak to local Anglican and Methodist Churches, ecumenical and other groups.
5. Be a pastoral tutor to one or two students.
6. Participate in and lead worship services.
7. Participate in and encourage community activities.

The finer details of the Scholar in Residence's programme can be further discussed and agreed on arrival, taking into account their particular interests, experiences and aims for the year.

Terms and conditions

The Scholar is required to be in residence from September to June. Return travel, full board and accommodation is provided for the Scholar (and spouse, if appropriate). If a spouse accompanies the Scholar, it is anticipated that s/he will play a role in the life of the Foundation community. The Scholar will receive a personal allowance of £100 per week for the period of the scholarship. The Scholar also receives a UK travel allowance of £200 for travel related to research.

Applications may be submitted at any time of the year and should include:

- a detailed CV
- a plan of how you would use your time in Birmingham.
- a reference from your Bishop or church authority
- an academic reference

Applications should be sent to:

The Director, Selly Oak Centre for Mission Studies

Queen's Foundation

Somerset Road

Edgbaston

Birmingham B15 2QH

UK

Tel: 0121 454 1527 Fax: 0121 454 8171

Website: www.queens.ac.uk e-mail: enquire.missioncentre@queens.ac.uk