

Institute for Interdisciplinary Legal Studies – *Lucernaiuris*

VISITING FELLOWS PROGRAMME 2018

Guidelines for Applicants

1. The Institute for Interdisciplinary Legal Studies – *Lucernaiuris*

The Institute for Interdisciplinary Legal Studies – *Lucernaiuris* is a hub for cutting-edge teaching and research that crosses traditional boundaries between law, the humanities and the social sciences. It holds a distinctive position within the national and international academic landscape as an innovative forum for intellectual exchange and collaboration.

The institute's activities currently focus on the following main themes:

- Law, Media and Technology
- Law and Economics
- Histories of Law and Justice
- Law, Arts and Humanities
- Theory and History of Intellectual Property Rights
- Law and Biomedicine
- Law and Sustainability

2. Our Teaching & Research

▪ Teaching

At the core of our teaching philosophy lies a firm conviction of the importance of what in German are usually referred to as the 'foundational subjects' (*juristische Grundlagenfächer*) for the discipline of legal studies. Our courses encourage students to engage with the historical, philosophical, economic, social and cultural dimensions of law, in the belief that such an approach is vital in (i) strengthening contextual and foundational knowledge; (ii) enhancing methodological competence in understanding structural and systemic connections; (iii) promoting critical reflection on the meaning and validity of positive law; and (iv) boosting the skills needed for practice as a lawyer, including analysis, evaluation and communication.

Two further principles are also central to our teaching programme. The first is the view that legal education in Switzerland should strive for a more intensive exchange with neighbouring disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. Thus alongside conventional lectures in legal history, legal philosophy and legal sociology, we also offer a set of supplementary modules that pursue new and innovative interdisciplinary directions. The second is the belief that the study of law should also become more international in content and outlook. To this end, we aim to help familiarize students with other legal cultures and orders by opening up teaching to international guest lecturers, developing collaborative projects with partner universities, and nurturing student exchange relationships.

▪ Research

The institute is committed to advancing pioneering research and projects. We pride ourselves on being a hub of contact and exchange – an open laboratory for the discussion of issues and ideas, methods and theories. This openness is reflected in the work of our members, a great deal of which is based on innovative, often cross-disciplinary, collaborations with colleagues in Lucerne or at other institutions at home and abroad.

Each year, we run a varied programme of lectures, seminars, workshops and conferences. These activities enable us to not only foster a vibrant research community that brings together established and emerging academics, but to also consolidate existing national and international networks, and support new collaborations.

3. Visiting Fellows

It is in the spirit of furthering academic collaboration and exchange that the institute sponsors a Visiting Fellows scheme. The aim of the initiative is to enable visitors to spend a period of time in Lucerne, during which they can share and develop research and teaching ideas with our members. We believe that the academic and international diversity of our fellows greatly enriches the intellectual life of the institute.

Fellowships can be awarded in two categories:

- Young Scholars Fellowships (with grant): see **section 4**.
- Open Fellowships (without grant): see **section 5**.

4. Young Scholars Fellowships (with grant)

▪ Overview

Each year, the institute allocates a limited number of funded fellowships for PhD students and postdocs. The grant covers travel and accommodation costs (up to a designated maximum), with the possibility of an additional stipend to defray supplementary living expenses. Applications are submitted in response to an annual call.

▪ Eligibility

- The scheme is open to PhD and postdoctoral researchers.
- There are no restrictions on nationality or country of residence.¹
- The standard term limit for postdocs is up to five years after the completion of the PhD, whereby the reference date is 1 January (i.e. applicants should not have defended before **1 January 2013**).
- Exceptions to the above are possible. They must, however, be well founded and are made at the discretion of the assessment committee.

▪ Duration of Fellowship

- The standard period of tenure of a fellowship is between thirty and sixty days.
- Exceptions to the above are possible. They must, however, be well founded and are made at the discretion of the assessment committee.

▪ Requirements & Commitment

- During their stay, fellows are generally expected to:
 - participate in the institute's activities (workshops, seminars, lectures, conferences);
 - meet regularly with our members and other fellows;
 - avail themselves of further opportunities for exchange;
 - be in residence in Lucerne.

¹ Please be advised, however, that it is the responsibility of the applicant to check necessary visa requirements for visiting Switzerland. The University's Welcome Centre may be able to offer assistance in this regard (welcome-centre@unilu.ch).

- Agreements on specific work tasks are made prior to commencement of the fellowship in liaison with the Head of Institute, Associate Director and/or designated academic mentor. These will be tailored to the needs, expectations and experience of individual fellows. Options might include:

- presentation of a paper at a research seminar/colloquium;
- delivery of a guest lecture as part of a teaching module;
- (co-)organisation of a seminar or workshop; and/or
- submission of a working paper.

- Upon completion of their stay, fellows are requested to write a brief feedback report (ca. 500 words).

▪ Benefits

- In return for the above, fellows are provided with:

- workspace at the university;
- borrowing privileges for both the Lucerne central library and the institute's own reference collection;
- on-line services, including email and access to electronic journals;
- general administrative support;
- a varied calendar of lectures, seminars, workshops and conferences;
- a friendly and stimulating environment for discussion and reflection.

▪ Funding

- Fellowship grants are comprised of three main components:

- Reimbursement of return travel costs from country of residence to Lucerne (standard class, up to a maximum of **1'500 CHF**);
- Coverage of accommodation costs (studio apartment/shared flat in Lucerne);
- Living allowance of between **100 CHF** and **150 CHF** per week for the duration of stay (dependent on current appointment and salary).²

▪ Application Procedures

- Applications are submitted in response to an annual call.

- All candidates should submit:

- a completed application form;
- an up-to-date academic CV (including a list of publications, if applicable).

- Application forms can be downloaded from our website (www.lucernaiuris.ch).

- The deadline for submission for the 2018 scheme is **Thursday 30 November 2017**.

▪ Assessment Process

- Complete applications will be reviewed in a single stage by an assessment committee comprised of the institute directors.

- Submissions will be assessed against a number of criteria, including: originality of research design; quality of the proposal (inc. statement of motivation); relevance to the institute's own priority research areas; academic potential of the applicant.

- The institute will also apply a selection policy that takes account of gender equality and equality of people with disabilities.

- Decisions will be communicated within approx. four weeks of the submission deadline (i.e. by late December 2017).

² Please note that these contributions do not represent a salary replacement.

5. Open Fellowships (without grant)

▪ Overview

The institute welcomes enquiries from established academics who wish to use our facilities, contribute to our teaching and research programmes, and/or discuss potential collaborations. Awards made in this category do not provide direct financial assistance. We can, however, support applications to various national and international funding agencies. Submissions can be made at any time and are evaluated on a rolling basis. The granting of fellowships depends on the availability of workspace at the university.

▪ Eligibility

- The scheme is open to advanced postdoctoral researchers and senior academics.
- There are no restrictions on nationality or country of residence.³
- Applicants should be affiliated to a university or equivalent research institution.
- Applicants should have a higher research degree (or equivalent professional experience) and a substantial research profile (inc. publications).
- Exceptions to the above are possible. They must, however, be well founded and are made at the discretion of the institute directors.

▪ Requirements & Commitment

- During their stay, fellows are generally expected to:
 - participate in the institute's activities (workshops, seminars, lectures, conferences);
 - meet regularly with our members and other fellows;
 - avail themselves of further opportunities for exchange;
 - be in residence in Lucerne.
- Fellows are encouraged to actively contribute to the institute's research and teaching programmes. Opportunities might include:
 - presentation of a paper at a research seminar/colloquium;
 - delivery of a guest lecture as part of a teaching module; and/or
 - (co-)organisation of a seminar or workshop.
- Upon completion of their stay, fellows are requested to write a brief feedback report (ca. 500 words).

▪ Benefits

- During their stay, fellows are provided with:
 - workspace at the university;
 - borrowing privileges for both the Lucerne central library and the institute's own reference collection;
 - on-line services, including email and access to electronic journals;
 - general administrative support;
 - a varied calendar of lectures, seminars, workshops and conferences;
 - a friendly and stimulating environment for discussion and reflection.

³ Please be advised, however, that it is the responsibility of the applicant to check necessary visa requirements for visiting Switzerland. The University's Welcome Centre may be able to offer assistance in this regard (welcome-centre@unilu.ch).

- Funding

- Open fellowships do not provide any direct financial assistance (for travel, accommodation or living expenses).
- We can, however, support applications to various national and international funding agencies, including the [Swiss European Mobility Programme \(SEMP\)](#) or the [Swiss National Science Foundation's 'Scientific Exchanges'](#) scheme. We encourage all potential applicants to explore such possibilities prior to contacting the institute.

- Application Procedures

- Submissions can be made at any time directly to the institute.
- All applicants should submit:
 - a motivation letter (including planned research, events and/or discussions concerning collaborative projects);
 - an up-to-date academic CV (including a list of publications).

- Assessment Process

- Applications are assessed on a rolling basis by the institute directors.

6. Contacts

Applications and enquiries should be made to:

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