



FUNDING IN SUPPORT OF THE DOCTORAL STUDIES OF SU STAFF BY SUB-COMMITTEE A FOR 2012

Summary

Full time permanent staff in the Faculties of Arts and Social Sciences, Education, Law, Theology, Economic and Management Sciences and Military Science enrolled for their doctoral degrees in 2012 have until **20 January 2012** to apply for Subcommittee A research funds in support of their studies for 2011.

A. The project

The research project should be part of the research programme of a full time permanent staff member and must lead to a doctoral degree. It must also lead to recognized research outputs such as articles in accredited journals, books, chapters in books and postgraduate students.

B. Term

The funds will be available from the beginning of 2012 and can be carried forward for a maximum of one year.

C. Criteria

Applications will receive consideration on the basis of:

1. FORMAL REQUIREMENTS

- 1.1 Has all relevant information as requested on the application form been made available?
- 1.2 Is the applicant formally enrolled for the degree? (Proof of registration must be attached.)
- 1.3 Has the doctoral supervisor made a recommendation?
- 1.4 Has the departmental chairperson or his/her delegate made a recommendation?

2. SUBSTANTIVE CRITERIA

2.1 The applicant's record of research:

Has the applicant published previous research results? (The quantity, as well as quality of research outputs will be considered during the evaluation of an applicant's research record.) Has the applicant supervised postgraduate students?

2.2 Scientific quality of the application:

Is the suggested research project of outstanding quality? (Has the problem been stated clearly; what is the significance of the *objectives*; is the suggested *methodology* the most appropriate; what *value* will the investigation have for the field of study and can it be realised; which research outputs are envisaged?)

3. CRITERIA OF DESIRABILITY

In instances where good applications compete strongly for limited funding, the following additional criteria will be applied when the decision is made:

- 3.1 Will the research project promote regional and national co-operation?
- 3.2 Will the research project have advantages for the University, the local or the national community?
- 3.3 Will the research project exploit other sources of funding, where available?

D. Allocation of funds

The allocation of funds to applicants/projects that meet the above criteria is subject to the availability of funds. The committee retains the right to make a partial allocation or no allocation at all, even if the application should in all aspects be seen as worthy of support.

E. Guidelines for prospective applicants

1. The *form* on which the application must be submitted is available *by e-mail* – from Maléne Fouché (mfouche@sun.ac.za; x4622) and must be submitted as *a signed hard copy or pdf* (Admin B, B3218).
2. A **short** CV must be attached to the application.
3. The way in which the sub-committee deals with research budgets has a degree of flexibility. Applicants are free to specify needs for a specific project.
4. The 'investment' of research funds will be evaluated on the basis of a final report at the end of the relevant year.
5. Only *one* research project of a particular researcher can be funded for a particular period.
6. Applicants are encouraged to apply for NRF Thuthuka funding to support their research. Applicants who qualify for and choose not to apply for NRF Thuthuka funding will only be eligible for one year of support for their doctoral research from Subcommittee A.

F. Funding categories

A maximum total amount of R25 000 will be considered. Conference attendance will not be funded.

G. Allocation procedures and priorities

Research Sub-Committee A processes all applications according to an established procedure. Evaluators are assigned from among the members of the committee, when this is possible, but not from within the same department as the applicant. Evaluators may consult any expert for the evaluation of the application. Evaluators make a recommendation to the committee, but the final decision is taken by the whole committee. Committee members are required to declare any conflict of interests. Applications are arranged according to three categories: supportable, supportable with minor adjustments, or not supportable. In both latter instances the applicant is given feedback with the purpose of enabling such an applicant to submit a supportable application at a future date.

H. Closing date

The closing date for applications is **20 January 2012**. The processing of applications and the amount of time required for this process unfortunately make it impossible to accept late applications.