** Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowships 2025**

 The Department of Archaeology and McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research welcome applications for Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships. These highly competitive Fellowships provide career development opportunities for researchers with a proven record of research at a relatively early stage of their academic careers (within 5 years of submitting their PhD). The objective is for Fellows to undertake a significant piece of publishable research during the tenure of the award; the project proposed should therefore not be a reworking or mere extension of the candidate’s doctoral research. Successful candidates will join a large and dynamic group of postdoctoral research fellows at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research. In addition to research funding from the Leverhulme Trust, they will be eligible to apply for up to £5,000 a year from the McDonald Grants and Awards Scheme to cover any other research expenses.

 In Cambridge applications to Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowships are supported by matched funding from the Newton Trust. This year the Newton Trust has brought forward its applications deadline by nearly two months. As such I am writing to you now with notice that preliminary applications will need to be submitted to the McDonald Institute by **14th October at midnight.**

 Detailed information on the scheme can be found here: <https://www.newtontrust.cam.ac.uk/ECFs/LeverhulmeECF>

Guidance for applicants can be found here:  [LECF 2025: Information for Cambridge Applicants | Isaac Newton Trust](https://www.newtontrust.cam.ac.uk/ECFs/LeverhulmeECF/Leverhulmedepts/LECFnational)

 Please read these guidance notes thoroughly. Applications should be developed in collaboration with a proposed host academic. Applications will be subject to internal review and two will be selected to be forwarded to the Newton Trust by 15th November. Successful internal applicants will have the opportunity to revise their application with feedback from the internal selection panel in early November. It is expected that applicants who go on to secure Newton Trust funding will be notified in December 2024 and will then prepare a final application to be submitted to the Leverhulme Trust by 20th February 2025.

Applications should consist of the following in a single Pdf:

* **completed coversheet (attached)**
* **a brief c.v. (not exceeding two sides)**
* **a list of your major publications (maximum one side)**
* **a statement of your current research (maximum 250 words)**
* **a brief statement (maximum 150 words) explaining why the Cambridge University Department of Archaeology is the best place for this research to be undertaken**
* **a detailed statement of your proposed research (maximum two sides)**

In addition, **two letters of reference** are needed at the internal stage, one of which should come from outside Cambridge (the national stage of the Leverhulme competition requires a third reference as well, but this is not necessary for the internal INT competition).

Please send your applications to ngw25@cam.ac.uk by the deadline above. Please also ask your referees to send their letters directly to the same address by the deadline. Please ensure your application and reference letters have an appropriate file name (i.e. surname\_LECRF2025; ref\_surname\_LECRF2025).