

**SMMI STUDENTSHIP GUIDANCE AND APPLICATION
FORM 2016/2017**

Scheme Outline:

SMMI has an annual allocation of funds to support cross-disciplinary PhD research studentships, spanning supervision in at least two faculties. These studentships are offered competitively across campus and are open to SMMI members whose proposed project centres on interdisciplinary research. The candidate needs to have a degree with at least a Class 2(i) and be excellent as deemed by the selectors in the faculty where the student will primarily be based. The SMMI studentships are available to UK and EU students and in exceptional cases international students. The SMMI studentships will provide funding of up to £10k per year for three years, with the supervisors and their faculties finding the rest of the required funding. We expect students to be fully funded (fees, stipend, RTSG). PhD students should be recruited through open competition using the accepted processes of the host faculty or academic unit. It is anticipated that the SMMI will support up to 6 studentships per year.

Timelines:

1 December 2015:	Deadline for SMMI to receive completed application forms from SMMI Members.
December 2015:	SMMI Committee will review applications and make conditional awards.
December 2015:	Successful SMMI Members will be informed of conditional awards. Release of SMMI funding will be contingent on Supervisors securing the complete funding package and recruiting an excellent student.

Application Criteria:

SMMI Members are eligible to apply for SMMI studentship funds. To register, the attached application form should be completed and submitted by **1 December 2015**. Conditional awards will be notified in December 2015. The application form must contain the following information:

- Project title
- Names of joint supervisors and their Faculty/Academic Unit.
- Proposal of student research project (approximately 1000 words) to include:
 - Rationale
 - Methodology
 - Training
 - The project's relevance to the SMMI and its interdisciplinary 'cross-faculty' nature
 - Wider implications, Impact, and future funding potential.
- A short (2 page) CV of each member of the supervisory team including recent publications and funding.
- Brief description of student (if known), including a short (2 page) CV.
- A budget outlining ALL student fees, stipends and research costs and sources of matching funds.

Please return completed application form **as a single pdf file** including all CVs and electronic signatures.

Selection Procedure:

Applications will be reviewed by a committee led by the SMMI Deputy Director (Research). Review criteria will focus on the excellence and interdisciplinary nature of the proposal and the quality of the student and supervisory team. Projects will be shortlisted and the final awards made subject to the recruitment of an excellent PhD candidate.

The review will examine:

- Excellence of project, student, and supervisory team.
- Interdisciplinary nature of the project/application within the SMMI research remit.
- Alignment with Research Council strategies.
- Demonstrated access to required additional funding.
- Impact and future funding potential.
- Value for money.

Conditions and Reporting:

Supervisors awarded studentship funding will be required to:

- Select a student with a degree of at least 2(i) in compliance with the University of Southampton's regulations and Code of Practice for Research Candidature and Supervision. See <http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionV/code-practice.html>.
- Agree a lead supervisor who will be the main contact for SMMI and whose Faculty Finance Team will liaise with SMMI regarding the transfer of funds.
- Seek final approval by the SMMI by sending full details of the successful student to the SMMI Director by 1 September 2016.
- Produce a report at the end of each academic year for the SMMI Deputy Director (Research). This report will be due on 1 August each year and must include a review of challenges and successes, projected goals for the forthcoming year and document related abstracts, papers and grant proposals.
- Include an acknowledgment of SMMI support on all publications and posters resulting from this award.