Scotland’s Future Series

Fund Criteria

For staff and students at the University of St Andrews

Background

Throughout its long history, the University of St Andrews has been at the heart of events that have shaped Scotland. The coming years will be crucial to the discussion and debate about Scotland’s Future and it is important that we continue to play our role in helping to shape informed, respectful and productive discussion and debate.

The Scotland’s Future Series will demonstrate the University’s commitment to playing an active role in developing Scotland’s future by enabling our staff and students to contribute to and facilitate wider discussions. It will also enable the University to take a position of ideas leadership on how to meet the challenges of the future.

How much funding is available?

The University has created a £35,000 fund to showcase the work of our staff and students to support projects to enhance discussion and debate on issues pertinent to Scotland’s future. Projects can be wide ranging, from think-pieces that could be developed into research papers later, to hosting events and other engagement highlighting the work of staff and students to outside audiences. You can apply for funding of up to £1000 for small projects and up to £3500 for larger pieces of work that demonstrate visible interaction on a topic relating to Scotland’s future which engages audiences and stakeholders within and beyond the University.

Who assesses my application?

For all applications, the Scotland’s Future Series Panel currently consists of:

- Panel Chair – Professor Brad Mackay, Deputy Principal and Vice-Principal (International Strategy and External Relations)
- Professor Tom Brown, Vice-Principal (Research, Collections and Innovations)
- Ester Ruskuc, Vice-Principal (Strategy, Policy and Planning)
- Niall Scott, Vice-Principal (Communications)
- Stephen Gethins, Professor of Practice in International Relations and Strategic Adviser on External Relations
- Lindsey Alexander, Senior Communications Manager
- Heather Bain, PA to Stephen Gethins

Who can apply?

The project proposers must be either staff or students at the University of St Andrews. Colleagues from across Schools and Units and all students are invited to take part, and interdisciplinary projects are particularly encouraged.

What kind of projects will be funded?

The criteria for submissions is broad to encourage as much participation as possible and leave space for innovative engagement with the project.

There are some basic requirements:

- the project proposers must be either staff or students at the University of St Andrews
- the project should be focused on work in Scotland though other proposals that fit the criteria would be considered, such as events elsewhere in the UK or even in Europe
- the debate and discussion to be promoted would be respectful, fair and balanced
- the discussion would help inform an issue relevant to Scotland’s future and the policy discussions that are taking place around that topic.
What kind of projects will not be funded?

Funding will not ordinarily be provided for:

- Capital projects or to cover day-to-day running costs, e.g., staff costs, rent or building maintenance and subsistence
- We will also not normally fund the continuation of existing projects unless an improvement to the project can clearly be demonstrated
- We recognise that repeat funding for activities can be difficult and therefore we will consider repeat applications on a case-by-case basis and for a maximum of two times over a five-year period
- Individuals
- The promotion of religious or political beliefs
- Activities where there isn’t evidence of a will to engage positively with the University of St Andrews.

Additional Information

When will I hear if my application has been funded?
We aim to let you know no later than a month after the closing date for submitting applications.

Project start dates
Following on from the acknowledgement of a successful application, we expect that funding will be made by journal transfer to your cost code for staff and into your bank account for students within two to three weeks. We do not recommend that you start your project before the money arrives in your account.

What happens when my project ends?
Following on from the completion of your project, we will expect a report on the benefits of the awarded funds. This report could be written or a presentation (video, verbal, PowerPoint, etc). Your report should be submitted within one month of completion of the project unless otherwise agreed. You will also need to return any unspent money to us once your project ends.

Do I have to acknowledge the Scotland’s Future Series in my communications?
Yes. Successful organisations will sign a short funding agreement outlining our expectations and must acknowledge the support of the Scotland’s Future Series and the University of St Andrews in any materials published for the project. There is also a requirement to adhere to the University’s house style and brand guidelines. Please seek advice from the Scotland’s Future team with regards to any communications relating to your project.

Do I have to let the Scotland’s Future Series acknowledge me in its publicity?
Yes, but if there are, for example, privacy concerns regarding individuals involved (including the privacy of the applicant or grant-holders), we will work with you to ensure these are accommodated.

How often will we be in contact with Scotland’s Future Series during the project?
The only formal contact required once your project has been funded is the end-of-project report, however, we would like to get to know your project and its people as we are keen to develop sustainable relationships with our awardees and promote engagement and awareness of projects in various forms, including podcasts and blogs.

To enable us to promote the Scotland’s Future Series and raise the profile of your project, we may also wish to contact you to carry out interviews or take photographs of your project in action at any point in the funding year. Requests will be made prior to any visits and we appreciate that, dependent on the project or organisation in question, this request may not always be suitable.

Reapplying and appeals procedure
Unsuccessful applications will be provided with verbal feedback on their application as soon as possible and, where possible, unsuccessful applications will be advised on improvement opportunities. This does not guarantee success in the next funding round. Based on the Scotland’s Future Series clear criterion on projects it will and will not fund, we will not consider appeals.

Additional questions
Please contact the team on scotlandsfuture@st-andrews.ac.uk.