



Bonavero Institute Research Visitor Programme

PROGRAMME PURPOSE:

The Research Visitor Programme encourages mid-career and senior scholars, judges, practitioners, post-doctoral researchers and policy-makers engaged in the field of human rights law to visit the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights.

The programme is designed for visitors who plan a period of *self-directed study* to spend time at the Institute to undertake research. Graduate students, whether at doctoral or master's level, are not eligible for this programme, and we suggest you look at the University of Oxford's website detailing the [recognised student scheme](#). For early career scholars, practitioners and post-doctoral researchers we also have a specific non-stipendiary '[Early Career Fellowship Programme](#)'.

Research Visitors to the Institute will have the opportunity to participate in many of the activities of the Institute and are encouraged to contribute to the collegial research environment. Research Visitors will be entitled to make use of the University's research facilities and libraries, and to attend seminars and lectures and other academic gatherings open to the university community.

Please note that the Institute levies a termly fee for visitors. Further details are provided under the '**programme fees, funding, finances and visas**' section below.

PROGRAMME AIMS:

- Visiting scholars, practitioners, judges and policy-makers will be afforded an opportunity to pursue their research in a supportive and collegial environment.
- The programme will develop and promote research links with other universities, institutions and practitioners both within the UK and beyond.

- The programme will contribute to a vibrant research and learning environment in the Institute.

PROGRAMME DURATION:

Visits can be for periods from one university term to a full academic year. Applications may be made at any time and will be considered and accepted on the basis of a range of considerations including scholarly merit, practical value as well as relevance to the key research themes of the Institute. Research Visitors will ordinarily be required to demonstrate that they have the necessary funds to cover the costs of their visit. Applicants are encouraged to plan their stay to coincide with at least one academic term. The dates of University terms can be found [here](#).

Research Visitors wishing to have access to the University libraries but who plan to spend less than four months in Oxford, should apply directly to the [Bodleian Library](#) for a temporary Reader's Card.

PROGRAMME FEES, FUNDING, FINANCES & VISAS:

There will be a programme fee of £700 per term and a further fee of £175 per month or part-month thereafter. Applicants who are able to demonstrate that they cannot afford this fee may apply for a programme fee reduction, which will be considered by the Institute. In all cases, the fee must be paid in full in advance of arrival in Oxford.

The Faculty does not provide a salary or other payments to Research Visitors. Research Visitors should seek research funding from their home institution or elsewhere. Research visitors are responsible for all travel, accommodation and living expenses. The Institute hopes to establish a fund to support outstanding applicants who are unable to cover the costs of their visit to Oxford, but that fund has not yet been established.

The Institute cannot make applications for visas on behalf of Visitors but will provide the necessary documentation to confirm a stay as Visitor to the Institute. Appropriate visas must be obtained before arrival. For useful information regarding the type of visa you need to apply for a visit, please refer to the [University Visa and Immigration information](#). If your application is accepted you will be asked to bring your passport and visa documentation on arrival to confirm your right to visit.

PROVISION OF RESOURCES:

For the period of their visit, Research Visitors will receive:

- Desk space at the Institute for the duration of your visit - an allocated desk within the Institute's open plan Helena Kennedy Reading Room will be provided. This is an open plan space where researchers, senior colleagues, fellows and resident students come to work. This is not a library, though the reading room does contain a small collection of monographs and law reports. We encourage users to use these materials on-site while visiting. Use of the

room does not require complete silence; and interaction with other users is very much encouraged;

- A University Card - A university card will enable your @law email address, printer, WiFi and email access, access to Mansfield resources plus access to the Bodleian library and on-line library resources;
- The sponsorship of a Faculty of Law or Institute staff member – your sponsor will meet with you and provide guidance and advice when you first arrive in Oxford. It should be noted that it is up to you as visitor to arrange this initial meeting with your sponsor;
- Termly sponsorship meetings to underpin and support your links with the Institute;
- Full access to the Bodleian Law Library and all other Oxford University Library Services;
- A University email address;
- Access to electronic holdings, databases and journals;
- Permission to attend lectures and seminars run by the Faculty and Institute (by arrangement with the lecturer);
- Permission to join in the activities of the various discussion groups that are active during term time (by arrangement);
- The visitor's email address will be added to the Institute and Faculty mailing lists, so that he/she is notified of any Faculty events that may be of interest or relevance;
- A listing on the Institute [website](#); and
- Invitations to participate in other appropriate Institute events.

Research Visitors are invited to bring laptops for their own use in the Institute. All laptops must have suitable and up-to-date anti-virus software. We may ask to check this on arrival.

AN INSTITUTIONAL SPONSOR

Before applying to this scheme, you will need to establish a 'sponsor' who will support your visit. Your sponsor should be an academic member of the Institute or one of its [Academic Affiliates](#). Please email your chosen sponsor with a brief description of your work, the reason and dates of your proposed visit, along with a request that they act as your 'sponsor'. If your sponsor is willing (and able) to host your visit, you will be in a position to complete the application form. Identifying a suitable sponsor does not guarantee that your application will be successful.

CONSIDERATIONS TO BE MADE BEFORE APPLICATION

Research Visitors should have no official affiliation to the University of Oxford or Mansfield College. The scheme is designed for periods of independent, self-directed research work. It is not a training course, nor is it applicable for people wishing to apply for a student visa to study on a course or a working visa to work on a project.

Though your sponsor is available for general advice, it is not the intention of this scheme to provide mentorship or supervision. Unfortunately, we are unable to assist with visa applications though we can provide a reference letter confirming the period of your stay on request.

Research Visitors from outside the European Economic Area, who do not have the right to visit the UK, must ensure they have the appropriate visa. The visa must be obtained before arrival. All Research Visitors will be required to produce proof of their visa and immigration status when they arrive. Research Visitors from outside the European Economic Area are encouraged to contact the Personnel Officer at the Faculty of Law (personnel@law.ox.ac.uk) and/or their local visa office, for advice on the type of visa required at an early stage, and before making any arrangements to travel to the UK.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Once you have the support of a sponsor, please download and complete the Research Visitor Programme application form and send it to the Programmes Coordinator: bonavero-programmes@law.ox.ac.uk. Clearly mark the subject of the email 'Bonavero Institute Research Visitor Application'. The form should be accompanied by the following documents, ***each of which should be no longer than 2 sides of A4 and which should be submitted as 1 single pdf document:***

- A CV or resume
- a list of publications
- a research outline
- two references
- a letter of support from the Head of Department (or equivalent) of the Research Visitor's home institution. This letter will state that the visitor is a full-time staff- member or employee (or equivalent) of that institution, and the proposed visit has their full support.

APPLICATION ASSESSMENT

Applications are considered throughout the year and should be submitted at least two terms before a proposed visit. The completed form and supporting documents will be reviewed by the Institute Management Committee, which convenes termly in week 5. A decision will normally be made and communicated by the end of the term in which the Committee considers the application.

Prior to arrival, Research Visitors will be asked to provide the Faculty with a short biography, digital photo, and an overview of their research. This information will be posted on the Research Visitors' section of the Institute website and can be amended upon request.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE VISIT

If your application is successful, you will be asked to sign a 'Research Visitor agreement' and present your work once a term in the form of an academic visiting seminar. If there is a particular Institute project that is of relevance to your work, you may be asked to participate at project meetings.