



Universidade do Minho
Escola de Letras, Artes e Ciências Humanas



ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A RESEARCH INITIATION FELLOWSHIP

Research Initiation Fellowship (1 vacancy)

(Ref .: CEHUM-BI-09-2023)

A call for applications is now open for the attribution of 1 (one) research initiation fellowship for undergraduate students within the scope of the R&D Strategic project Centre for Humanistic Studies of the University of Minho - CEHUM, reference UIDB/00305/2020, financed by national funds through FCT/MCTES (PIDDAC), under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: Arts / Performing Arts

Recipients: Undergraduate students in Theater Degree at the University of Minho

Requirement for granting the fellowship:

- The applicants may apply without prior registration in the course for which the fellowship is open. The requirement to enrol in degree-awarding course will be verified on the date of contracting the fellowship.
- Only fellowship whose selected applicants present a valid proof of enrolment in the degree-awarding course will be contracted, according to the type of fellowship, issued by the academic services of the Higher Education Institution, respectively indicating the current academic year or its duration. (start and end).
- Applications will only be considered if, by the application deadline, candidates can demonstrate an average grade of 16 points or higher in their undergraduate or master's degree.

Applicants eligibility: Applicants must comply with the eligibility conditions laid down in article 9 of the Research Grants Regulation of the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (2019).

Workplan:

Design

With this project, the aim is to both question and simultaneously implement specific actions that contribute to the establishment of dynamics of interaction and sharing among 'cohabitants' of Teatro Jordão (Visual Arts, Music and Theatre), as well as their interrelations with the surrounding territory, as well as their interrelationships with the surrounding territory. This involves enhancing interactions to be developed between the student community and the institutions involved in the city's cultural and artistic creation and dissemination, as well as strengthening relationships between students and the surrounding population of the new educational, cultural, and artistic hub in the city of Guimarães, namely, the Jordão School Theatre (Teatro-escola Jordão).

The research question is formulated as follows: from the Jordão School Theatre (Teatro-escola Jordão), what meanings and actions can be implemented to enhance inter-relationships between individuals and institutions that cohabit in this geographical and social 'heart' of the city? This central research question leads to other more specific questions: What meeting spaces and interaction platforms can be established to foster interconnectivity and collaboration between the different communities involved in this project? Moreover, within the scope of education (both formal and informal), what interfaces and projects can be designed with the aim of promoting exchanges



between various artistic disciplines? What on the ground actions can contribute to a more effective involvement of the surrounding population with the Theater school in accessing to what is produced within the nucleus of that training center? And finally, what knowledge and learning may these dynamics of civic participation potentially offer to the different communities involved in the project?

As a project that intersects the field of training, it is important to highlight two of its structuring assumptions: promoting actions that contribute to the establishment of relational co-creation networks among people with different cultural and professional backgrounds presupposing that this encounter will enhance learning. Likewise, these same actions are likely to develop, among all participants, the development of civic engagement. It is assumed, that tensions, divergences and common aspects that arise from different meetings and actions, will encourage the development of innovative, critical and divergent thinking, as well as a socially more participative and engaged attitude.

Foundations

Taking into consideration the design presented above, it is considered that, in epistemological terms, this project calls for both a participative and an interventive approach: participative because the involved procedures inherently needs to engage individuals with different origins and training into dialogue; and interventive because the different knowledge and different actions aim to contribute to the social transformation of a specific ecosystem, in this case, the Couros neighborhood in the city of Guimarães. It is from these purposes that the most appropriate methodology to employ appears to be that of action research. This is because, the preliminary study is associated with concrete actions to be implemented and which aim, in some way, to transform the relational dynamics existing in that territory. Furthermore, the proposing researcher assumes as an active and vested role in the actual action to be undertaken. In this context, it is important to clarify in this context that “action research is distinguishes itself from applied research in that the former assumes and integrates the subjectivity of the researcher and their presence in the research field with the objects of investigation, whereas applied research seeks to eliminate and neutralize the researcher's presence near the object to be investigated”¹.

Relevance and background

The Jordão School Theater (Teatro-escola Jordão), from which the research aims to radiate, has recently undergone rehabilitation and, therefore, a vast number of students have now become integral to the physical and social landscape of the institution. In this context, there are envisioned possibilities for interaction between artistic disciplines and communities, but they require concrete intervention actions for these dynamics to become truly effective. The challenges align with the potentials and as an integral part of the ecosystem, I wish to contribute, as a researcher, educator, and artist, to its real implementation. In other words, in this research I propose to affirm a “‘yes’ to the desire and need for activation and involvement of interested parties”, as well as a “‘yes’ to a closer proximity of the researcher (...) to his community or object of study”². This impulse intensifies as I inhabit the new Jordão Theatre (Teatro Jordão), but it is worth mentioning that this commitment has antecedents that are worth explaining: i) conception and curation of the project ANDANDO – an exhibition showcasing works from the Guimarães Schools of Arts - which had three editions (2014, 15 and 16); ii) supervision of various creation labs that involved students from the Theater Degree at UM and students from the Design and Visual Arts Degrees at the same University, and which, in some cases, also involved elements of the population of Couros; iii) presentations at scientific colloquia on these same projects; iv) publication of articles in specialized journals, as

¹André, V. (2021). Participation in Science and action research. In , Catarina N, (org .), *Creative Processes in Sciences and Arts. The issue of public participation* (p. 67). Ed. Confrontation

²Alves, F. (2021). Participatory action research: Pandora's box or transformative science. In , Catarina N, (org .), (p. 42), *op. cit* .



well as chapters in books - Porteiro, T., & Providência, B. (2018). In box / Project on Performing Arts and Design. In A.G. Pinto, P.R Pinto, & T.V. Furtado (Eds.), *Cross media arts – Social arts and transdisciplinarity* (pp. 382-407). Casal de Cambra: Caleidoscópio; Porteiro, T. (2019). Dialogues with the Territory: city and public space in three Pedagogical-Artistic performative projects. (Couros/Guimarães. Case study). In H. Cruz, I. Bezelga , R. Aguiar (Coord .), *Artistic practices: Participation and community* (pp. 231-249). Edition: CHAIA/UE Center for Art History and Artistic Research - University of Évora. In this context, the last one stands out due to the fact that we can find identical foundations of the action research project that is now presented: Porteiro, T. (2021). Community(ies) and artistic training: intersection exercise. Guimarães C Visível, N° 1 Apr /Dec 2021. (pp.130-135). ISBN – 978-972-8050-66-5. Legal deposit – 483299/21. Director. Adelina Pinto; Editor: Paulo Lopes Silva; Guimarães Municipality. Bairro C.

Phases and tasks

Being an action research project based in participation and dialogue implies accepting that there are no predetermined and fully defined variables. They are, therefore, subject to a more precise during the underlying interactive processes. Nonetheless, it is now possible to identify various work phases, as well as some of the tasks in which the collaborator will be called upon to participate:

1. State of the art and fieldwork
 - Literature analysis on key concepts involved in the project, such as: citizen participation in the field of education and the arts - models, types and levels of decision-making; community; citizenship; collaborative methodologies;
 - Data collection and analysis – definition of the most appropriate instruments (surveys, interviews, focus groups, among others); process of gathering information from the involved communities; processing the collected data;
2. Design and implementation of actions, taking into account the results achieved in the 1st phase of the project
 - Identification of expectations and constraints; intervention design; implementation of actions;
3. Evaluation and critical analysis of results
 - Writing an article - critical analysis of the work carried out, reserving principles and ideas for potential continuation and expansion of the project in similar contexts for future actions.

To conclude

The present proposal arises in the wake of a path previously taken, but it is now crucial to adapt this same trajectory to the opening of the Jordão School Theater, which will enhance both the relevance and the field of intervention of this action research. It should also be noted that being able to involve a collaborator with this project will enable what previously did not exist, the sharing of ideas and tasks. In summary, the researcher endorsing this project aims to be able to expand the work already carried out, both in terms of reflection and analysis and, equally, in the dimension of participatory actions to be implemented.

Applicable legislation and regulations: Research Fellowship Holder Statute, approved by Law no. 40/2004 of August 18, in its current version published by Decree-Law no. 123/2019 of August 28; Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in “Diário da República,” 2nd series, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021 and Regulation of Research Studentships and Fellowships, no . 950/2019 of 16-12-2019, of the Foundation for Science and Technology, IP - in force.



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Host/Contracting institution and scientific supervision: The workplan will be carried out at the Center for Humanistic Studies of the School of Arts and Humanities of the University of Minho, located on the *Campus* of Gualtar, 4710-057 Braga, under the scientific supervision of Professor Tiago Mora Porteiro.

Fellowship duration: The grant will take place for a period of six months, with a provisional starting date in March 2024.

Amount of the research grant: The amount corresponds to 541.12 euros, in accordance with the stipends values published by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT I.P.) in the country (Annex I – Monthly Stipends Values for the maintenance allowances of the FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships) and Annex II of the Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in “Diário da República”, 2nd series, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021, according to the applicable regulation.

Payment is made on the 23rd of each month, through bank transfer to the Bank Identification Number of the fellow identified in the contractualization process.

Other benefits: Reimbursement of Voluntary Social Security (Social Security contributions), corresponding to the 1st level of discounts of the contributory incidence base and Personal Accident Insurance.

Exclusive regime: The grantee will perform the activities under exclusivity, as foreseen in article 5º of the Research Fellow Statutes and applicable regulations.

Selection panel:

The first effective member will substitute the President of the selection panel in case of impediment, being nominated the first substitute member in the place of the first effective member.

President:

Francesca Clare Rayner, Associate Professor at the Department of English and North American Studies, University of Minho

Effective Members:

José Eduardo Leite Fernandes Silva, Assistant Professor at the Department of English and North American Studies, University of Minho.

Tiago Manuel Monteiro Mora Porteiro, Assistant Professor at the Department of English and North American Studies, University of Minho.



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Substitute Members:

Vítor Manuel Ferreira Ribeiro Moura, Associate Professor at the Department of Philosophy, University of Minho.

Ana Lúcia Carmo Almeida do Amaral Curado, Assistant Professor at the Department of Portuguese and Lusophone Studies, University of Minho.

Criteria and procedures for applications assessment and selection: The applications assessment will focus on the candidate's Merit, following evaluation criteria, valued on a scale of 1 to 20 values:

Applicant Merit - AM (100%):

- a) Academic path (resulting from the calculation of the weighted average of the credits of the grades obtained in the curricular units of the course in which you are enrolled, among all the curricular units that should have been completed by the date of the opening of the competition), with a weighting of 60%;
- b) Personal curriculum (considering professional and scientific background), with a weighting of 20%
- c) Motivation letter, with a weighting of 20%.

The final classification of the applicant's merit will be achieved through the following formula:

$$MC=(a\times 0,6) + (b\times 0,2) + (c\times 0,2)$$

The academic degrees and diplomas documents, or their respective recognition when awarded by foreign higher education institutions are not mandatory in the application phase, being replaced by a declaration of honor of the candidate with the contents of academic results. The documents of academic qualification or respective recognition will be required in the contracting phase and must attest facts that occurred on a date prior to the application. In situations of divergence between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation submitted for contracting the grant, only the information contained in the latter will be considered. If the documents proving the ownership of the academic degree and diploma, or the respective recognition under the terms of Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16, do not correspond to the classifications awarded in the evaluation of the academic path, which can change the candidate's ranking, the fellowship won't be contracted.

Notes: Applicants with degrees obtained abroad must present proof of recognition of qualifications in Portugal and conversion of the final classification obtained in them to the Portuguese classification scale or declaration under the terms indicated in the previous point. For candidates who do not comply with one of these provisions, the selection panel will assign a "0" in the grade of the graduation and/or master course. Candidates will be evaluated on the remaining parameters.

Disclosure of results: The provisional results of applications, based in the selection panel Minutes, will be sent to the applicants by email within 90 working days from the applications deadline.

If the outcome is unfavorable, the candidates have a period of 10 working days to comment, if desired, in a prior hearing to interested parties, pursuant to articles 121 and 122 of the Code of Administrative Procedure (DL no. 4/2015 of January 7th).



(The exemption of the hearing for interested parties must be justified in accordance with article 124 of the CPA)

Complaint and appeal procedures: The final results of the evaluation will be published through an ordered list (alphabetically), posted in a visible and public place of the host unit, as well as by email to all applicants, enclosing for that purpose, the minutes of the jury deliberations.

The selected candidate must inform its willingness to accept the grant, in writing. In case of rejection, the fellowship will be awarded to the next candidate in the ordered list of applicants.

The final decision can be contested within 15 working days, by sending to the President of the jury the corresponding claim. Interested parties may also submit an optional hierarchical appeal, in the terms of the number 3 of article 13 of Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC).

Application deadline and submission: The call for applications is open from 18-12-2023 to 03-01-2024.

Applications must be formalized by sending an application letter with the following documents: curriculum vitae; qualifications certificate or declaration of the applicant; motivation letter; statement proving that meets the conditions for the grant typology, according to the application requirements; other documents important to the evaluation process).

Applications must be sent by email to margarete@elach.uminho.pt, indicating the reference of the call for applications in Subject. Applications submitted by other means will not be accepted.

Formalization of the contract of the fellowship: The granting of the fellowship will be attributed by signing a fellowship contract between the University of Minho and the fellowship holder, according to the contract minute (annex IV of the Regulation of Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC)– published in “Diário da República”, 2nd Série, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021), as indicated in 2.4 of the FCT document: “Rules for Granting and Management of Grants within the scope of R&D projects, including infrastructure projects, the multi-annual financing program for R&D units and other FCT financing instruments (Version 2021)”.

The contract may only be concluded after all required documentation is collected, depending on the type of fellowship, which must occur within a maximum period of 6 months.

After receiving all of the documentation, the contracting entity has a period of 15 working days to conclude the fellowship contract. Once received, the fellow must return the contract duly signed within 15 working days.

The activities under fellowship contracts can only begin after the proper authorization by the contracting entity.

Term and cancellation of scholarship contracts: Without prejudice to the other causes provided for in the applicable fellowship regulations (FCT and UMinho) and in the Statute of the Research Fellow, the fellowship ends with the completion of the workplan, as well as with the expiration date for which it was granted or renewed.

At the end of the fellowship, the fellowship holder is obliged to present the Final Report of the work carried out, in accordance with the objectives and evaluation criteria defined with the scientific advisor, within 30 days after the end of the fellowship.



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The **final report** must be prepared in accordance with Annex I of the Scientific Research Fellowships Regulation of the University of Minho (RBIC), – published in “Diário da República”, 2nd Série, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021.