

UK-China Science Bridges: R&D on (B)4G Wireless Mobile Communications

Work Package 2: Staff Exchange

UK-China Visiting Fellowships Call For Proposals

1. Introduction

The “UK-China Science Bridges: R&D on (B)4G Wireless Mobile Communications” (UC4G) project was awarded by the Research Councils UK (RCUK) as one of the four prestigious UK-China Science Bridges projects. The project starts on 1 Aug. 2009 and ends on 31 July 2012 (3 years). The ultimate aim of the UC4G project is to create a *UK-China Joint R&D Centre for Future Wireless Communication Networks*, enabling long-term sustainable collaboration between the UK and China by supporting collaborative research, mutual visits, exchange of researchers, and rapid technology transfer and commercialisation.

The UC4G project is organised into 6 work packages (WPs). WP2 is designed to promote full interactions of UK and Chinese consortium members by exchanging 30 researchers, preferably academic staff, and forming UK-China collaboration partnerships. The 30 UK-China Visiting Fellowships will be awarded to eligible researchers for visiting one or multiple UC4G consortium members in the other country for up to 3 months. The Visiting Fellowships aim to provide seed money for collaborative research that will forge long-term sustainable collaboration between the corresponding partners, promote knowledge transfer from academia to industry and between the UK and China, and commercialise some of the research through developing industrial links and securing industry and other funding. Significant outcomes are expected from WP2, such as joint publications, (B)4G standard proposals, project and IPR applications, which will serve as an excellent platform for the UK-China Joint R&D Centre to be established.

2. Terms of Award

- The funding for each fellowship is in maximum £6,690, which covers travel costs (including visa fees) of up to £800 for a single visit, bench fees of up to £1,000, and accommodation/subsistence of £4,890 for up to 3 months (£1,630 per month). For visits with durations less than three months, the bench fees and accommodation/subsistence will be adjusted on a pro rate basis. The travel cost will be reimbursed based on invoices.
- A fellowship award sponsors an eligible researcher to visit one or multiple UC4G consortium members in the other country (UK or China). The fellowship funding can be used flexibly to support one or multiple visits **within the budget of £6,690**. Applicants are also encouraged to apply for extra funding from other funding bodies to complement the fellowship, e.g., to support longer stay.

3. Conditions of Award

- The total length of the proposed visit should be no less than one month.
- It is a condition of the fellowship award that the visitor and the host(s) complete a joint summary report and submit to the Project Management Committee (PMC) no later than one month after the completion of the visit(s). The summary report (template to be provided) should cover the following aspects:
 - Main research activities;
 - Joint research outcomes, e.g., joint publications, joint project applications, joint patent applications, and joint (B)4G standard proposals, arising from research undertaken during the visit(s);
 - Planned follow-up collaboration activities and expected outcomes after the visit(s);

- Key (B)4G technologies to be possibly prototyped, tested, and commercialised.
- Any (joint) publications resulting from the fellowship award, during and after the visit(s), should acknowledge the support of the project as follows: “We acknowledge the support from the RCUK for the UK-China Science Bridges Project: R&D on (B)4G Wireless Mobile Communications”.
- The PMC must be consulted on, and informed of any changes to, the proposed visit. Failure to consult the PMC about proposed changes could result in funding being withdrawn.

4. Eligibility Criteria

- The eligible Visiting Fellowships are from the following UC4G consortium members:
 - **6 UK Academic Partners:** Heriot-Watt University, University of Edinburgh, University of Bristol, University of Southampton, University of Bedfordshire, and University College London;
 - **4 UK Associate Academic Partners:** Kings College London, University of Strathclyde, University of Surrey, and University of York;
 - **7 Chinese Academic Partners:** Beijing University of Post and Telecommunications, Huazhong University of Science & Technology, Shandong University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Southeast University, Tsinghua University, and Xidian University;
 - **2 Chinese Research Institutes:** Shanghai Research Centre for Wireless Communications (WiCO) and China Academy of Telecommunications Research (CATR).
- The proposed joint research project must fall within the area of (B)4G wireless mobile communications and must be between an eligible UK (Chinese) institution and one or multiple eligible Chinese (UK) institutions.
- Applicants must currently hold a permanent or fixed term post in an eligible UK/Chinese institution. The fixed term post must cover the duration of the fellowship.

5. Assessment Criteria

- The Applicant and Host Researcher(s):
 - Current standing and track record of the applicant and the host researcher(s) in the area of the proposed research;
- The proposed research:
 - Novelty and quality;
 - Impact, mutual benefits, and planned outcomes/deliverables;
 - Industrial interests/supports and prototype/commercial potentials;
 - Length of the visit (longer visits preferred);
- The Research Environment:
 - Ability of the applicant, hosting researcher(s), and their teams to deliver the proposed research;
 - Support from the applicant’s head of institution (a signed supporting letter required), indicating consent for the applicant to spend time away from their institution;
 - Support from the host researcher’s head of institution (a signed supporting letter required), indicating consent to the visit and the period;
- Planning of the proposed visit and time commitment of the host researcher(s) during the visit;
- Balance of different research topics in the (B)4G area;
- Balance of the Visiting Fellowships allocated to eligible UC4G partners.

On the UK side there are 6 Academic Partners and 4 Associate Academic Partners. As a general guideline, each will get 2 Visiting Fellowships (=20), 1 outgoing to China and 1 incoming to the UK, with the

remaining 10 Visiting Fellowships (incoming and/or outgoing) to be allocated amongst the 6 Academic Partners. On the China side, CATR will get 1 (either incoming or outgoing) Visiting Fellowship, while 7 Chinese Academic Partners and WiCO will each get 2-4 (incoming and/or outgoing) Visiting Fellowships. The Visiting Fellowships need not to be reciprocal. This means that UK Institution *A* may second someone to Chinese Institution *B*, but Chinese Institution *B* may instead second someone to UK Institution *C*.

6. Application Procedure and Assessment Process

- Eligible UK (Chinese) applicants shall contact potential Chinese (UK) host researcher(s) in eligible host institution(s) to discuss joint research proposals and visiting plans. The WP1 summary report and the slides presented in the 2009 Beijing Workshop showing the research strengths and suggested collaboration topics of all the UC4G consortium members can be found in the member area of the project website uc4g.eps.hw.ac.uk. Contact details of all the consortium members are also provided in the Appendix.
- The eligible UK (Chinese) applicant and the Chinese (UK) host researcher(s) should submit a joint research proposal in the area of (B)4G wireless mobile communications. Proposals involving multiple visits to one or multiple host institution(s) are allowed, as long as the research activities are coherent and the total cost is within the specified budget. Complementary funding secured or planned to apply should also be indicated in the proposal.
- The applicant and host researcher(s) are strongly encouraged to contact the (Associate) Industrial Partners and obtain supporting letters highlighting the company endorsements and commercial potentials of the proposed research.
- Applications will be assessed by the PMC and an Industrial Steering Group, consisting of a number of UC4G Industrial Partners and (some Industrial Members of) Mobile VCE.

7. Estimated Timescales

The 30 visiting fellowships will be awarded in three separate rounds. Application deadlines for these three rounds are 5 March, 31 May, and **30 Sept 2010**. The PMC, together with the Industrial Steering Group, will aim to assess the applications and announce the UK-China Visiting Fellowship Awards within 1 month after the application deadlines. All the proposed visits should aim to start before 1 March 2011 and end before 31 May 2011.

8. Required Documentation

- Application form;
- CVs (maximum two sides of A4 for each CV) of the applicant and host researcher(s);
 - Employment history, listed in reverse order;
 - Academic history, listed in reverse order;
 - Track record of research funding including start/end dates, funding body, value of award, your role on the grant (PI, Co-I, Researcher etc.);
 - Current teaching/administrative commitments;
 - Professional activities, e.g., journal editors, conference organizations, and committee membership;
 - Selected publications relevant to the proposed research;
- A supporting letter, signed by the applicant's head of department or school, indicating consent for the applicant to spend time away from their institution;
- Supporting letter(s), signed by the head(s) of the host department(s) or school(s), indicating consent to the visit and the period;

- Supporting letter(s) from (Associate) Industrial Partners, if any.

When submitting the application, all documents should be compressed in a .zip file and emailed to Dr Cheng-Xiang Wang (cheng-xiang.wang@hw.ac.uk) and Dr Xuemin Hong (x.hong@hw.ac.uk) and cc to all the host researchers before the application deadlines. Paper copies are not required.

9. Enquiries

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