VolkswagenStiftung

STIAS POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP MODULE (SPFM)

INFORMATION SHEET

stias

STELLENBOSCH INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
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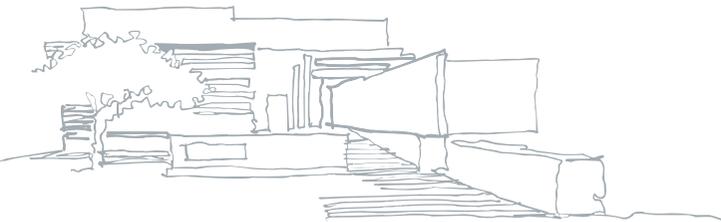
Following an agreement with the Volkswagen Foundation, STIAS is pleased to make its facilities available to post-doctoral fellows in the Volkswagen Foundation's "Knowledge for Tomorrow" programme, to enable them to pursue research and scholarship in all fields of study, within the following guidelines and conditions:

1. A STIAS post-doctoral fellowship module (SPFM) shall be awarded on the basis of an application to STIAS to pursue or complete a project or part of a project. The SPFM project shall be related to the applicant's Volkswagen Foundation fellowship award in the "Knowledge for Tomorrow" programme. In addition, the applicant should mention whether the project is related to one or more of the STIAS research themes, and should also nominate one or two names of possible mentors for the SPFM.

2. The STIAS website (www.stias.ac.za) can be consulted for more information on the STIAS research themes, the STIAS fellowship, and the application procedures to be followed. Applications should be clearly marked SPFM (or STIAS post-doctoral fellowship module).

3. STIAS shall, in consultation with successful applicants, appoint a mentor for each SPFM. The post-doctoral fellow shall maintain regular contact with the mentor, at least for the duration of the SPFM.

4. The SPFM should normally be between three to four months' duration, but in any case not less than six weeks or more than five months. The precise period of the module shall be negotiated with STIAS, taking into account availability of office space at STIAS or other facilities necessary for the SPFM.

5. It is a condition of the Volkswagen Foundation post-doctoral fellowship programme that the SPFM should fall within the period of the Volkswagen Foundation post-doctoral fellowship. Prospective applicants are advised to contact STIAS at least twelve months before commencement of the SPFM.

6. STIAS fellowships and modules shall be residential, that is, fellows will normally be expected to be on the premises of STIAS during working hours, where the fellow will be granted office space and facilities for the duration of the SPFM. Absences for any reason should be discussed with the responsible STIAS staff members and/or the mentor.

7. For the duration of the SPFM, fellows shall be provided access, including online access, to the extensive academic library services of Stellenbosch University as well as Calico – a consortium of eight academic libraries in the Western Cape. Should any other research facilities be needed for the successful completion of the SPFM, they should be mentioned in the application. Access to such facilities will be arranged by STIAS on the recommendation of the applicant. In the event that such facilities cannot be made available, STIAS reserves the right to review the application to determine whether the scope of the project is sufficient to warrant continuation of the project in the absence of the research facilities.

8. Prospective applicants shall approach STIAS first to submit an application to STIAS, stating the preferred dates of the SPFM. If their applications are acceptable, the actual dates of the SPFM will be negotiated with such applicants. STIAS will also assist successful applicants with arrangements for suitable accommodation in Stellenbosch.

9. STIAS will issue an invitation, which will include the estimated costs of accommodation, to the applicant only after a satisfactory agreement between the applicant and STIAS is negotiated on all aspects of the SPFM. The applicant shall then submit his or her SPFM-invitation to the Volkswagen Foundation as a proposal for a supplementary grant to their Fellowship.

10. The proposal in (9) shall be considered by the Volkswagen Foundation and the outcome shall be communicated to both the applicant and to STIAS.

Any further questions regarding the SPFM (STIAS post-doctoral fellowship module) should be addressed to prof Johann Groenewald (email: jpg@sun.ac.za).

26 February 2015