

UKRI Future Leaders Fellowships

UKRI's Future Leaders Fellowships support talented individuals needed to ensure a vibrant environment for research and innovation in the UK. The scheme welcomes researchers and innovators from across Europe and the world. We are open to applicants from across business, universities, and other organisations.

Each fellow receives an investment of up to £1.5 million over four years, with the ability to extend to up to seven years, enabling them to benefit from outstanding support to develop their careers, and to work on difficult and novel challenges.

Meet some of our Future Leaders Fellows below:



Sonja Vernes, University of St Andrews

Mammalian vocal communication as a model for human language; from genes and brains to behaviour

Sonja is co-founder of Bat1K, the global initiative to sequence the genomes of all 1300 living bat species. Her fellowship is exploring the behavioural abilities bats need in order to learn new vocalisations and the neurobiological, molecular and genomic factors contributing to these abilities.



James Aird, University of Edinburgh

Connecting the lifecycles of galaxies and their central black holes

James is closely involved in preparations for Athena, the European Space Agency's next large X-ray observatory, due to launch in 2031.



Eleanor Brooks, University of Edinburgh

Better Regulation for Better Health

Eleanor's research is concerned with the political determinants of health and focuses upon the European Union's health policy. Eleanor is a scientific advisor to the European Public Health Alliance in Brussels.



Anna Kristina Hultgren, The Open University

English as a Medium of Instruction in European Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities for Europe and the UK

Anna's fellowship brings together linguistics and political science to consider why many European higher education institutes now teach in English. Her work will strengthen collaboration between the UK and Europe in the area of English-language teaching.



Maxwell Hansen, University of Edinburgh

New Physics meets the Strong Force

Maxwell's fellowship combines cutting-edge high-performance computing with an advanced theoretical framework to inform experiments challenging the Standard Model. He leads a team in calculating decay rates crucial for interpreting D (charmed meson) decays being measured by the Large Hadron Collider beauty (LHCb) experiment at CERN.

To read more about the Future Leaders Fellowships and find out how to apply: www.ukri.org/flf