



## **MASTS Protocol for the Visiting Fellowship Scheme**

### ***Rationale:***

The MASTS Directorate has the capacity to allocate funding to a number of a Visiting Fellowships. The main objective of the Visiting Fellowship Scheme is to stimulate and enhance MAST-related research. Application forms can be downloaded from the MASTS website and will need to be completed by the agreed deadline and submitted by email to: [masts@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:masts@st-andrews.ac.uk)

### ***Criteria:***

1. The duration of MASTS fellowships will normally range from one to six months. The start date of the fellowship must be within one year of the fellowship being awarded.
2. The maximum value of a single Fellowship will be £25k.
3. Fellowships can cover travel, subsistence, and salary contributions.
4. Research costs will be met by the host institution(s) and local arrangements for the Fellow will be organised by the host.
5. Proposals should originate in MASTS partner institutions and multi-partner supported proposals are encouraged.
6. Fellows will be resident outside of the UK.
7. Fellows can be at any stage in their careers, so enterprising young postdoctoral researchers and established scientific leaders are all encouraged to apply.
8. Preference may be given to applicants able to demonstrate additionality – having sourced some funds from elsewhere (non-MASTS funds).

### ***Protocol:***

The assessment of VF proposals is based on a simple scoring system. Each proposal will be assessed by two or three independent reviewers who will score each proposal against three statements: 1) The application is directly relevant to the provision of MASTS science and represents research or relevant activity of the highest scientific quality; 2) the results of funding this application will be of interest to the wider MASTS community; and 3) The results of funding this application represent good value for money. Each reviewer will also state whether the proposal should be accepted or declined. The proposals are then ranked. Due to the relatively small sums of money involved we do not ask for lengthy textual justification or feedback following the ranking. The Directorate are therefore not able to provide the type of feedback that may be provided by much larger external funding schemes. Applicants will be notified by email and the decision of the referees will be final. Recipients of funds will be required to provide an account of the way the funds have been used, engage with members of MASTS institutions (not just the host institution) and where appropriate MASTS may also request that an article for the MASTS Newsletter be provided. This information will need to be delivered within one month of the completion of the fellowship.

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 13.00 on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2013**