WHAT IS THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACADEMY?
The former Higher Education Academy (HEA) - from April 2018 now called Advance Higher Education (Advance HE) - as a result of a merger - not only champions teaching excellence across the globe, it works to shape higher education. Although based in the UK with an increasing international reach, the Advance HE works with governments, ministries, universities and individual academics to champion the contribution of teaching as part of the wider student learning experience.

WHAT IS THE HEA FELLOWSHIP SCHEME?
The HEA Fellowship Scheme (now under the umbrella of Advance HE) is an opportunity for individual staff - both academic and professional all around the world - to have their learning and teaching practice internationally recognised. This scheme welcomes and recognises the variety of ways staff support education practices in universities: from professional staff who carry out learning support in the library, a Course Quality officer, a curriculum developer, a PhD student who is a tutor or lab demonstrator, to a unit coordinator, ACA, DAP, Director and Dean, and even the Vice-Chancellor! The Fellowship scheme provides staff at all levels with the chance to have their practice internationally recognised.

As a result, the HEA scheme offers four categories of Fellowship. You can apply to become an Associate Fellow, a Fellow, a Senior Fellow or a Principal Fellow. No matter the category you apply for (it should be the one that best matches your practice), you will need to produce a written application (different word lengths for each category) that demonstrates how your practice meets a set of criteria - called Descriptors - outlined in the UK Professional Standards Framework (UKPSF). To accompany your application, you will also need to provide statements of support and verification from one or more referees.

Once your application is ready, it is sent for assessment by a panel of experts comprised of HEA Accreditors (also HEA Fellows from all over the world). Should your application be successful, you can use the post-nominals: AFHEA (Associate Fellow), FHEA (Fellow), SFHEA (Senior Fellow) and PFHEA (Principal Fellow) as evidence of your new fellowship status. By doing so, you are joining a community of HEA Fellows all over the world and you have access to a world of resources and conversations intended to continue your professional learning journey.

At present, there are several universities in Australia that offer or are piloting the HEA Fellowship Scheme in some way including UNSW, Sydney, ANU, La Trobe, Wollongong, Queensland, Macquarie, Tasmania, QUT, UNE, Griffith, and Murdoch among them. Currently, there are around 2,000 Australian Fellows, and approximately 100,000 Fellows around the world.

In these universities too, Fellows are not only staff who teach students but also those that work in learning support, in libraries, in curriculum planning, quality enhancement, researcher development, and in a variety of roles such as project officer, research assistance, IT helpdesk etc. Do not rule yourself out of contention due to the role you occupy. Anyone can apply to be a Fellow if they feel they can make a case according to the UKPSF. Have a conversation first to determine whether your practice can be described using the UKPSF!

WHY BECOME A HEA FELLOW?
Many universities offer learning and teaching awards and grants to recognise and scale up curriculum, learning and teaching innovation. The HEA Fellowship Scheme adds to this suite of opportunities by providing you with a chance to:

- reflect on your role, and articulate the impact of your work on learners (broadly defined to include students and staff);
- obtain external peer review of your practice against an international set of standards;
- add evidence to a ‘teaching’ case for promotion;
- integrate the range of evidence you might already have about your practice; and
- join an international community of practitioners and scholars focused on enhancing learning, teaching and professional learning.

The scheme is not intended to only reward elite teachers working at the cutting edge of pedagogical practices in their disciplines and professions. While those teachers are always welcome to apply, the Fellowship scheme recognises the important and significant work of staff engaged in every-day practices that support the educational success of the university.
WHAT IS THE EDUCATIONAL FELLOWSHIP SCHEME?
The University is now a HEA ‘Access Partner’. This means we are now supporting staff to apply to become HEA Fellows at half the usual cost. At Western, we do this through our own local Educational Fellowship Scheme.

From August 2017 - January 2018, a pilot of the Fellowship scheme took place with teams of staff involved in leading School Curriculum Pilots (through the 21C project). These staff:

- were provided with support and resources to prepare their applications by the 21C staff in the Learning Transformations team;
- participated in focused sessions designed to develop their applications, including a Shut Up and Write session;
- had access to exemplar applications; and
- had an opportunity to obtain formative feedback on their draft application from an existing HEA accreditor, and to improve it before formal submission to the HEA.

Not all staff will require a support process to prepare an application for Fellowship. From May 2018, there will be essentially two Pathways you can pursue: (1) Do-It-Yourself and (2) Supported.

Do-it-Yourself (DIY) Pathway

The DIY path acknowledges that some staff will already have the expertise to craft a Fellowship application and will not need to be supported in doing so.

This means you can start at any time, submit at any time, and the cost of the application is borne by you (or you might wish to negotiate this as part of your professional development through your School, Unit or Institute). As Western staff, the institutional Access Membership means that the fee paid to the HEA is half the usual cost.

In preparing your application, you are welcome to access the stand-alone resources provided by the Learning Transformations team or to organise a conversation with an existing HEA Fellow at Western but essentially, the DIY pathway is yours to navigate with timelines and milestones you set for yourself.

Supported Pathway

This Pathway provides staff with scaffolded support through the Fellowship process; resources are available; sessions will be organised to support you interpret and engage with the UKPSK; and the University (through 21C) will meet the cost of the half price application fee. It is expected that Supported Pathway applicants will be available to participate in sessions designed to develop high quality applications, and that the Fellowship applications will be submitted as a cohort by 31st October 2018.

CURRENT HEA FELLOWS AT WESTERN

Below is a list of the HEA Fellows currently at the University. Please note that staff may have joined the University as HEA Fellows and we will continue to update our records as new information comes to hand.

Associate Fellows (AFHEA)
- Sue Blyth, Professional staff, Office of Quality and Performance
- David Roach, Professional staff, Learning Transformations
- Dr Dominique Wilson, Professional staff, Learning Transformations

Fellows (FHEA)
- Dr Hilal Hurriyet, Academic, School of Business
- Dr Michelle O’Shea, Academic, School of Business
- Dr Keith Parry, Academic, School of Business
- Prof Simon Burrows, Academic, School of Humanities & Comm Arts
- A/Prof Alana Lentin, Academic, School of Humanities & Comm Arts
- Dr Mohamed Moustakin, Academic, School of Education
- Dr Julien Brugniaux, Academic, School of Science & Health
WHAT IS THE COST?

There is a fee involved in submitting a Fellowship application to the HEA for assessment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Usual fee</th>
<th>Fee for Western staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate Fellow</td>
<td>£200</td>
<td>£100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellow</td>
<td>£400</td>
<td>£200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Fellow</td>
<td>£600</td>
<td>£300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Fellow</td>
<td>£1000</td>
<td>£500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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HOW DO I SUBMIT MY FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION?

Applications are submitted online, and uploaded at the HEA website but first, you will need to register to do so via My Academy (your own online portal with the HEA). There is no cost to register with My Academy but you must do so in order to submit your Fellowship application for assessment.

HOW CAN I APPLY FOR THE SUPPORTED PATHWAY?

A call for applications for the Supported Pathway will open in early May 2018. Staff will need to complete application form.

While the Supported Pathway is open to any staff member - professional and academic (including those who are continuing, on contract with at least 2 years remaining, sessional staff enrolled in a doctorate at Western, and full-time doctoral students at Western), the target cohort for this intake will be Directors of Academic Programs (DAPs) and the teams involved in the 21C Flagship Curriculum Projects.

You will have the best chance of completing the application form if you take the time to follow these steps:

1. Read this 2018 Information Pack carefully.
2. Visit the Educational Fellowship Scheme website to access all the forms, information, guidance and exemplars.
3. Download the application form to apply for the Supported Pathway.
4. Watch a selection of videos produced by the HEA about the benefits of the Fellowship scheme.
5. Download and read the UK Professional Standards Framework (UKPSF), which includes the Descriptors. The UKPSF and the Descriptors will help you decide on the category of Fellowship that best matches your practice (don’t worry too much if this changes later on).
6. Talk to a current HEA Fellow at Western to learn what’s involved in putting together a Fellowship application (hint: see the list of people in this Information Pack)
7. Read a selection of the exemplar successful applications provided by our existing Western HEA Fellows.

All the forms and information you will need to complete your application form to access the Supported Pathway are available at the Educational Fellowship Scheme website.

Complete the application form for the Supported Pathway and email it as an attachment to 21C@westernsydney.edu.au by 5pm on Thursday 31 May 2018.

You will learn the outcome of your application by the close of Friday 15 June 2018.

For additional information, contact Dr Tai Peseta (t.peseta@westernsydney.edu.au) or (02) 9678 7046.