**RAICo Expansion Programme: Fellowship Scheme**

**Guidance Notes for Applicants**

Purpose of the Scheme

This scheme is designed to enable women and early career researchers to gain experience of working with the nuclear industry and to understand how they might identify a pathway to commercialisation for their research.

The aims of the scheme are to:

* Grow the research expertise within RAICo.
* Develop links to other academic partners and share the research challenges across the NDA estate and UKAEA with a broader range of academic researchers.
* Support the translation of academic research into commercial solutions to address nuclear decommissioning challenges.

Eligibility

RAICo Fellows must be members of academic staff or postdoctoral research associates at a UK research institution. They should identify as women and/or be within 5 years of completing PhD in the broad field of robotics.

RAICo Junior Fellows should be PhD students at a UK research institution, completing a PhD in a subject that is broadly related to robotics.

All Fellows must be prepared to visit the RAICo1 facility in Whitehaven, Cumbria or relevant nuclear site regularly during the duration of the award,

Completing the Application Form

The RAICo Academic Project Manager will provide support with preparation of submissions to the scheme.

Section word limits are strict and proposals will be rejected if they are not adhered to.

Eligible Costs

RAICo Fellow: Total requested costs can be up to £20k.

RAICo Junior Fellow: Total requested costs can be up to £5k.

* Staff costs
* Consumables: up to £10k
* Travel and subsistence: up to £10k
* Other costs as required

All costs should be charged at a maximum of 100% FEC.

Assessment of applications

Applications will be assessed by RAICo’s Expansion Scheme Panel and assessment will consider:

* The benefits to the research partner and the member of staff/student involved.
* The likelihood that the project plans will deliver the expected outputs and benefits.
* How well the application supports the aims of the RAICo programme.

Application Submission

Applications will be evaluated by the RAICo Academic Project Manager for content and eligibility before being sent to the RAICo Expansion Scheme Panel for consideration.