

Department of Archaeology, Conservation and History

PhD Research Fellowship in Conservation

One PhD Research Fellowship is available for a Paintings Conservator to contribute to the project 'After the Black Death: Painting and Polychrome Sculpture in Norway, 1350–1550' (ABD). The position is funded by The Research Council of Norway between 2014 and 2017.

ABD aims to generate scientific knowledge about a collection of late-medieval liturgical objects owned by the Museum of Cultural History (KHM), University of Oslo. The collection includes altarpieces and polychrome sculpture, the majority of which were imported to Norway from northern Germany and the Netherlands prior to the Reformation. Within this, the mechanisms of ageing and the deterioration of painted objects from this historical period are of specific interest. The project is based in Conservation Studies, in the Department of Archaeology, Conservation and History, University of Oslo (UiO). More information about the project can be found here: <http://www.hf.uio.no/iakh/english/research/projects/medieval-painting/index.html>

The successful candidate will develop a thesis around a limited number of objects in the KHM collection, comparing these with others across Norway, Sweden and Denmark. The study will focus on clarifying the meaning of material differences between objects tied to a Netherlandish tradition and those associated with north German workshops. The researcher will examine paint, gilding and structural elements, which themselves point to origins in distinct northern European centres of production, as well as notions of 'quality', given that objects in Norway are often considered to be of lower quality than similar comparable objects in Sweden and Denmark. It is hoped that a significant part of the project will focus on the ways that past treatments and current condition alter and hinder our ability to assess the appearances and origins of late-medieval church art.

The successful candidate must participate in the research training program organized by the Faculty of Humanities (cf. [regulations and supplementary provisions](#) for the faculty's researcher education) and must engage in the designated research activities on a full-time basis. The purpose of the PhD Research Fellowship is research training leading to the successful completion of a doctoral dissertation (monograph or article-based) to be defended at a public defense for the doctoral degree. The person appointed will be affiliated with the Faculty's organized research training. The academic work must result in a doctoral thesis that will be defended at the Faculty with a view to obtaining the degree of PhD. The successful candidate is expected to join the existing research milieu or network and contribute to its development. Read more about the [doctoral degree](#).

The fellowship requires admission to the PhD program at the Faculty of Humanities. The successful candidate shall, within three months after taking up the position, apply for admission to the PhD program by sending in a full project description.

The appointment is for a duration of three years and the doctoral thesis is expected to be completed within the given time frame.

Qualifications

- Relevant first degree and a post-graduate qualification in conservation, preferably Paintings Conservation.

In evaluation of the applications, emphasis will be placed on

- Academic achievements and an aptitude to complete an inter-disciplinary research degree at PhD level.
- Personal suitability and motivation for the position
- Excellent spoken and written English-language skills are required.
- Experience of a collaborative working environment would be an advantage.
- Good cooperative skills, and the ability to successfully join in academic collaboration within and across disciplines.

The successful candidate is expected to strengthen and contribute to the relevant research areas addressed in the project description and to operate within the project network, both within the University of Oslo and internationally.

The appointed researcher will develop a project description with members of the project team.

We offer

- Salary level 50–xx (NOK xxxxxx–xxxxxx), depending on experience, for three years of study
- A challenging and stimulating working environment
- An international network
- Attractive welfare benefits
- Exercise during working hours, 1.5 hours per week

Applications

Applicants must submit the following attachments with the electronic application, preferably in pdf format. See <http://uio.easycruit.com/index.html>. Applications must include:

- Letter of intent, with specific reference to how the applicant can contribute to the themes to be addressed in the After the Black Death project (maximum 2 pages).
- Curriculum Vitae, including a summary of education, grades and employment.
- Complete list of publications and relevant academic papers.
- Names and contact details for three academic referees (name, telephone, email and relation to candidate).

Academic certificates, Masters theses and the equivalent are not to be submitted with the application. Short-listed applicants may be asked to submit such information at a later date.

Please note that all the documents must be in English.

Application deadline**Interviews and appointment**

The short-listed candidates will be called in for an interview at the University of Oslo or we will arrange for an interview on Skype.

See also [Guidelines for appointments to research fellowships at the Faculty of Humanities](#)

The University of Oslo has an agreement for all employees, aiming to secure rights to research results a.o.

The University of Oslo aims to achieve a balanced gender composition in the workforce and to recruit people with ethnic minority backgrounds to academic positions.

Expected start date

September/October 2014

Reference number

xxxxx

Home pages

<http://www.hf.uio.no/iakh/english/>

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