Alan Williams
Health Economics Fellowships:
CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Alan Williams Health Economics Fellowships

Professor Alan Williams, the internationally renowned health economist, passed away in June 2005. Over a long and distinguished career, Alan made important methodological and policy contributions in the fields of public finance, the economic theory of local government, water resource economics and economic evaluation in general. He is, perhaps, best known for having pioneered a wide range of approaches to problemsolving in the field of health economics, especially in the analysis of health care systems, health technology assessment, health state preference measurement and equity in health care and health. He was a leading member of the group that developed the Euroqol EQ-5D measurement instrument, which has become one of the most widely used in the world.

Through his research, writing and teaching, Alan made outstanding contributions to the field of health economics, probably trained more health economists than any other single economist and greatly promoted health economics worldwide through his assiduous attendance at conferences, especially the pioneering Health Economists’ Study Group in the United Kingdom.

The University of York is keen to recognise these achievements in a lasting tribute to Alan and his work, and has established the Alan Williams Health Economics Fellowship Fund. The University of York is the major donor, supplemented by donations from his friends and associates, individuals and institutions. The purpose of the fund is to award Fellowships to enable economic researchers from anywhere in the world to spend time in York working with health economists and for health economists at York to spend time working elsewhere. The fellowship award will support fellows by contributing to travel and living expenses. Alan’s reasoning was that, at a critical time in his own career, he had benefited greatly from funds that were made available for him to travel to Sweden to interact with researchers there. In his view, the establishment of a Fellowship Fund at York would give others the same opportunity that he had.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Applications for an Alan Williams fellowship are invited from researchers currently working in university departments or research institutes outside the United Kingdom wishing to visit the Centre for Health Economics. The value of the fellowship is £5,000, intended as a contribution towards living and travel expenses associated with the visit.

Criteria:

- Applicants should be early stage career researchers currently employed in a university or research institute outside the UK. They will probably have completed a PhD in health economics or related topic within the last three years, or have equivalent experience.
- Applicants should have a clear research plan associated with the application in any area of health economics, broadly defined within the current research interests of the Centre for Health Economics.
- The proposals should be for a visit to the Centre for Health Economics of between two and six months duration.
- Applicants should have secured agreement from a member of the Centre for Health Economics to act as host for the term of the visit.
- The normal expectation is that fellows should produce a discrete piece of research during the visit, suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed academic journal.
- Fellows will be expected to present their research to a CHE Seminar.

Applicants should send the following information to Trish Smith, Centre for Health Economics, University of York, Heslington, York, YO10 5DD, United Kingdom, or email pfs1@york.ac.uk BY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2006:

- A two page description of the proposed research plan, including:
  - An outline of the proposed research
  - The proposed visit dates
  - Dissemination plans
- A CV
- A letter of support from their supervisor at their home institution.