

TILT Teaching and Scholarship Sabbatical Scheme

Overview of the TILT sabbatical scheme 2020/21

The TILT Sabbatical Scheme provides individuals or groups with dedicated time to pursue scholarship which will impact positively on learning and teaching at NTU.

Expressions of interest are invited, which propose one or more specific outputs with demonstrable potential to enhance an aspect of learning, teaching or assessment.

Examples of recent projects funded by the Scheme include:

- Mark Sergeant (SSS) investigated approaches to Academic Integrity, developed a scalable system for early intervention and developmental support for students, and created a Practice and Scholarship Group for ongoing practice exchange.
- James Leinster (NBS) and Mike Coffey (SST) shared a sabbatical to develop their working prototype educational resource, "Creative Connections", as a game-based learning aid, pedagogically evaluating the game in multi-disciplinary environments and developing a business plan for commercialisation of the game.
- Sandra Kirk (SST) investigated inclusivity in STEM, and produced guidance for decolonising the science curriculum.
- Andy Coppins (CSCE/SCCO) researched community engagement and volunteering to enhance NTU's approach to partnering with community organisations; outputs included framework for embedding community engagement into the curriculum; and a TILT Practice and Scholarship group.

Funding is available to schools or departments to release sabbatical holders in the form of salary buy-out. The scheme is competitive: **expressions of interest are welcome from both individuals and groups by 22 January 2020**. Up to three proposed projects may be selected to go forward to the next round: these will receive mentoring to develop a detailed proposal.

Individual sabbaticals

Colleagues can apply for salary buy-out for up to six months, to take place within academic year 2020/21. Colleagues may also use a portion of the funding to pay for the involvement of one or more students.

Tiger team sabbaticals

Inspired by NASA, "Tiger Team" refers to a high-functioning team of specialists who come together to complete a specific project. New for 2020/21, TILT team sabbaticals aim to enable unique and innovative collaborations between academic and/or Professional Services staff.

The funding offered is equivalent to a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer salary for up to six months. It can be divided among colleagues and used any time during the next academic year, to create short- or longer-term and sequential or overlapping team working opportunities. Expressions of interest proceeding to full proposal stage will be

offered support to develop a detailed proposal, including how the funded time will be divided among participants. Some suggested examples are below:

- A group of four colleagues working on a project full-time for up to 6 weeks.
- Six colleagues working sequentially on a project for up to 1 month each
- Four colleagues working half-time on a project for 12 weeks.
- Five colleagues each working on the project one day a week for 6 months.
- Colleagues may also use a portion of the funding to pay for the involvement of one or more students.

Application process

Potential applicants for individual or team sabbaticals are encouraged to contact the TILT Coordinator to discuss support with submissions at any stage, including “critical friend” support with initial ideas.

Stage 1: Applicants submit an expression of interest by **22 January**. This should include:

- A *broad outline* of the proposed work and key output(s), and their potential to enhance learning, teaching or assessment at NTU, in line with strategic goals;
- Name(s) and role(s) of colleague(s) involved, and *in-principle agreement* to their involvement by their line managers;
- Indicative information on proposed methods, approaches, and scholarship or research on which the project is based;
- Initial ideas for further dissemination of the work.

A panel of relevant TILT community members will consider the expressions of interest and select those that demonstrate potential to make a credible and innovative sabbatical proposal.

Stage 2: Applicants shortlisted at stage 1 will be assigned a mentor from the TILT community, who will work with them to develop a detailed proposal by **April 2020**.

Stage 3: A Sabbatical Review Panel, chaired by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and including student representation, will consider shortlisted applications and will make the awards. Successful projects will take place in 2020/21.

Unsuccessful proposals at all stages will be offered support from the TILT community to enhance their project ideas for submission to future TILT or external awards.

Eligibility to apply

- Academic and Professional Services staff are eligible to apply;
- Applications must be supported by the relevant line manager(s);
- Applicants (or lead applicants for tiger team applications) must have achieved or be demonstrably working towards Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy;
- In line with NTU Sabbatical Leave policy, applicants (or lead applicants for tiger team applications) should have worked at NTU (including Confetti) for a minimum of three years.

The broad parameters governing the Scheme are the same as those in NTU’s Sabbatical Leave Policy Procedure. Colleagues may also find it useful to refer to NTU’s Secondment Policy. Both can be found here: <https://www4.ntu.ac.uk/staffnet/human-resources/hr-policies.html#S>

TILT Sabbatical Scheme Expression of Interest for 2020/21

[Link to online form.](#)

If you have questions about the TILT Sabbatical scheme, or experience problems accessing the form at the link above, please contact tilt@ntu.ac.uk

The online Expression of Interest form includes the following sections:

Applicant information

- Info on lead applicant including contact details and HEA Fellowship status
- Other colleagues involved in the proposed Sabbatical project
- Line manager or HoD information for all members and confirmation that they have given in-principle agreement to the involvement of the relevant colleague(s).

Expression of interest—proposed project outline

The questions are intended to give colleagues the opportunity to demonstrate the potential of their project idea: it should involve outputs that are achievable in the time and with the resource available, and which show clear potential to enhance learning and teaching at NTU.

- 1) Working title of proposed project
- 2) Outline of key outputs
- 3) Alignment to strategic goals
- 4) Broad outline of proposed programme of work
- 5) Proposed timings and, as relevant, involvement of tiger team colleagues
- 6) Links to scholarship
- 7) Key aims for dissemination of the work
- 8) Indicative proposal for measuring impact of the work
- 9) Outline of applicants' suitability and expertise for the proposed work

Stage 1 (Expressions of interest) is a competitive process. Fully worked-out details are not required at this stage. Those selected for further development will be offered support to provide a fully worked-out plan for the proposed Sabbatical (stage 2). Depending on the quality of final proposals received at stage 2, it is hoped that all projects proceeding to this stage will be funded.