



## ACH Crisford Charitable Foundation Development Grants

We're delighted to announce that the ACH Crisford Charitable Foundation will be supporting a number of Development Grants of up to £5000 each to support innovation & entrepreneurship for School of Computing students. This year the grants, launched as part of Celebrating 50 Years of Computing Excellence, are aimed at Level 6 students completing their final year projects and who wish to commercialise their work. The grants will provide financial support to undertake further development of a product or service and to help start on the path to commercialisation - for example, the grant might cover something as simple as covering travel expenses to visit a company, through to the formation of a tech start-up company, licensing agreements, and the management of intellectual property, etc.

The grants are an excellent opportunity for applicants to demonstrate their technical creativity and high-impact transformative innovations as digital pioneers - ***the next Google could start here!***

Applying for the grant is an easy three-staged process: **(1)** discuss your project with your project supervisor and complete and submit the application form; **(2)** Attend GradEx on the 13<sup>th</sup> May; **(3)** Winners attend the campus Community Day on the 14<sup>th</sup> May.

### Further details:

1. Level 6 School of Computing students completing a final year project are eligible to apply.
2. Applications should comprise:
  - 2.1. An overview of the proposed product or service, associated background context and any market research that you have undertaken (maximum of 600 words).
  - 2.2. A statement outlining what you would do with the grant. Explain why you need this and include specific objectives that would be met and any specific outputs such as software or hardware that you would produce (maximum of 600 words)
  - 2.3. Provide an overview project plan. This doesn't have to be detailed, but should demonstrate that you have thought about the proposition in a diligent and professional manner. Include key milestones and the dates by which you will achieve these.

- 2.4. Your supervisor needs to complete part of the application form saying why they think that your project has commercial potential.
3. Completed applications, in Microsoft Word or PDF format should be sent by email to Dr Stuart Brown, Head of Enterprise & Innovation – Research, Business & Employability Services. Email: [Stuart.Brown@staffs.ac.uk](mailto:Stuart.Brown@staffs.ac.uk)
  4. The deadline for submitting applications is **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2016 11:59pm**. Applications received after this deadline cannot be considered.
  5. Applications will be evaluated by the enterprise & innovation team from Research, Business & Employability Services.
  6. During the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> May you may need to attend a meeting to discuss your project with the enterprise & innovation team from Research, Business & Employability Services who will have evaluated your application. This ideally will take the form of a meeting on campus, but a Skype call may be considered an appropriate alternative if necessary. The evaluation team will be looking to validate the commercial potential of your project and your proposed actions and milestones. If your grant application is successful then the team may suggest amendments to your proposal, with a view to you incorporating these.
  7. All applicants will be required to showcase their final year project at GradEx on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May**. Advice on confidentiality will be given where appropriate by the enterprise & innovation team from Research, Business & Employability Services. Grant winners will be announced on this day at the closing Prize Winners ceremony. GradEx entries can be submitted at: <https://gradex-entry.fc.es.staffs.ac.uk/> - Contact [gradex@staffs.ac.uk](mailto:gradex@staffs.ac.uk) for further information regarding this event.
  8. Grant winners will be required to attend the campus community day on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May** to showcase their GradEx entry, and to discuss their work with visitors. Details of the community day can be seen at: [www.staffs.ac.uk/50yc](http://www.staffs.ac.uk/50yc) - follow the 'Events' link – Contact [50yc@staffs.ac.uk](mailto:50yc@staffs.ac.uk) for further information regarding this event.
  9. The grant does not need to be repaid. However, award of the grant and associated staged payments may be subject to specific criteria being met – for example, completion of milestones, and compliance with University commercialisation policy and practice.