

January 17th, 2024

Call for Application for Ladislav Šmejda Postdoctoral Fellowship 2024

Ariel University (AU) is focused on promoting research through international scientific collaborations. As such, AU is distributing this call for application for a postdoctoral Fellowship named after a close friend of the university, who promoted research collaborations between Ariel University and academia in the Czech Republic.

Professor Ladislav Šmejda (26th August 1975 - 27th November 2022) was a distinguished Czech scholar known for his profound contributions to theoretical archaeology and pioneering advancements in remote sensing methodologies. His research encompassed a wide spectrum, ranging from the application of computer techniques to environmental archaeology and cultural anthropology, often delving into historical realms. His dedication to learning and expanding research methodologies was evident in his multidisciplinary approach, a hallmark reflected throughout his extensive studies and publications.

Beyond his scholarly pursuits, Prof. Šmejda fostered a strong bond with Ariel University, playing a pivotal role in establishing a collaborative partnership between Czech universities (Czech University of Life Science, Prague, and University of West Bohemia), and Ariel University. His legacy remains an inspiration to the academic community.

In light of the above, this dedicated call for application is now published.

Eligibility Requirements for Applicants¹:

1. The Ladislav Šmejda Fellowship is intended for scholars from the Czech Republic, who have shown exceptional excellence and originality, and whose research contributes significantly to academia and inter-disciplinarity.

¹ Researchers from AU – Note additional conditions as described in the Hebrew version.

2. Scholars are selected competitively with no preference for a specific field of study.
3. Applicants must have a Ph.D. by the call deadline. Researchers who have successfully defended their doctoral thesis but who have not yet been formally awarded the doctoral degree are eligible to apply.
4. Applications will be accepted from candidates who completed their doctoral degrees no earlier than September 1, 2019.
5. Candidates who have not yet completed their degrees may apply if they will have submitted their dissertations by the call deadline. If awarded the Fellowship, their acceptance will be conditional upon approval of their doctoral degree by the Fellowship start date.
6. Applicants must locate a senior faculty member at Ariel University to guide him/her through the Fellowship period.

For information on research interests of Ariel University faculty so as to facilitate securing an academic advisor, visit <https://cris.ariel.ac.il/>.

Please contact postdocs@ariel.ac.il for any additional assistance. Make sure to include in the email subject line: "Call for Application for Ladislav Šmejda Postdoctoral Fellowship 2024."

Terms and Conditions:

1. The Ladislav Šmejda Postdoctoral Fellows receive a scholarship of 96,000 NIS per year.
2. The Fellowship period is one year, with an opportunity to extend it for a second year, based on the academic achievements during the first year and upon the decision of the AU postdoctoral committee.
3. Fellowship start date: arrival to Israel between June 1, 2024 – September 1, 2024.
4. The scholars will devote their time to research and may not be employed elsewhere, apart from teaching at Ariel University.
5. Postdoctoral Fellows are required to be present at the university five days a week.
6. Postdoctoral Fellows may teach up to one annual course (2 hours per week), according to the academic department needs and course availability in English.

7. For teaching hours, the Fellow will get a salary, subject to the institution's regulations.
8. Ladislav Šmejda Postdoctoral Fellows must submit a research progress report at the end of the first year. This report should summarize all academic achievements during the reviewed year and describe their academic goals for the next period.
9. During the Fellowship period, 3,600 NIS will be allocated for travelling to professional conferences. Fellows must apply to the AU authorities to receive it.
10. The Fellowship is subject to Ariel University postdoctoral guidelines.

How to apply?

1. Please fill out the [Application Form](#) and include it in your candidate file.
2. Please submit the following documents, in PDF format:
 - Passport Copy.
 - Curriculum Vitae, including list of academic publications (please mention IF when available).
 - Dissertation Abstract – Up to one page.
 - PhD Certificate (to be submitted in English only) – In case it's not available yet, you can submit a certificate from the PhD-granting institution, stating that dissertation work has been submitted.
 - Research Plan – Please describe the proposed research plan in up to 5 pages (excluding references). The plan should emphasize the relationship between the researchers submitting the proposal, explaining why the candidate will carry out the research with the advisor he chose at Ariel University.
 - Two letters of recommendation – Please ask two scholars who know you and your work to send letters of recommendation.
 - Statement of Purpose – Please describe in up to 1,500 words (and up to one page of bibliography) your academic research goals and intentions for the next couple

of years. In your statement, please explain inter alia the relationship of your project to your doctoral work and whether it is feasible to pursue it in Ariel.

- Academic Writing – Please upload an academic publication or writing sample, up to thirty pages in length.
 - A letter from the AU academic advisor, detailing his desire and reasons for accepting the applicant (the letter will be addressed to the post-doctoral committee at Ariel University).
 - A letter from the AU academic advisor, including his/her commitment to additional funding for a post-doctoral scholarship.
- 3 Applications should be submitted by the AU academic advisor only, via one email, to the mailbox: postdocs@ariel.ac.il

Submission Deadline:

Deadline for Applications: 12:00pm on April 1, 2024.

The decision of the AU postdoctoral committee will be sent to each of the applicants during May 2024.

Good luck to all researchers for a productive collaboration,

Professor Itzick Shai



Vice President & Dean for R&D

Ariel University