

Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council  
Polaris House, North Star Avenue  
Swindon SN2 1ET

## RESEARCH PROPOSAL

You should read 'EPSRC Research Grants' before completing any research proposal. The form EPS(RP) must be accompanied by a case for support. The EPSRC will reject research proposals which are incomplete.

### 1 DETAILS OF PROPOSAL

#### Organisation where grant would be held

Organisation or Institution University of Brighton  
Division or Department ITRI  
Address Lewes Road  
Brighton BN2 4GJ

FOR EPSRC USE

Date received

Apcon code

Grant type

#### Investigators

Total number of investigators

1

Please give details of each investigator below.

Details	Principal Investigator	Co-investigator 1	Co-investigator 2
Title/Initials	Prof		
Surname	Donia Scott		
Post held	Head of School		
Organisation	University of Brighton		
Division or Department	ITRI		
Telephone	01273 642901		
Fax	01273 642908		
E-mail	Donia.Scott@itri.brighton.ac.uk		
Hours/week on project	1		
First EPSRC proposal?	No		
Changed organisation?	No		

#### Title of Research Project

(Please do not exceed 108 characters, including spaces)

The 3rd Annual CLUK Doctoral Research Colloquium.

#### Programme Area

a. If you wish, indicate the EPSRC programme area which you believe should consider this research proposal.  
Information Technology and Computer Science

b. If this proposal has been submitted in response to a specific call for proposals please give details, including date of issue and title of call.

c. If there is more than one organisation submitting an EPS(RP) for this project, please identify.

d. If this proposal is a resubmission, please give previous research grant proposal Ref no.

#### Summary of EPSRC Resources Required for Project

##### a. Financial resources required

	Total £
Staff	
Travel and Subsistence	1310
Consumables	150
Exceptional items	
Equipment	
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>1460</b>
Indirect costs	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1460</b>

##### b. Summary of staff effort

	Months
Post Graduate RAs	
Post Doctoral RAs	
Technician	
Other	
<b>TOTAL</b>	

##### c. Facilities total

##### d. Duration of the grant (months)

##### e. Proposed start date

## Joint EPSRC/MOD/DERA Research Grants

Are you willing to have your research proposal considered under the joint scheme, and to accept additional terms and conditions of joint support if the grant is awarded?

No

Name of any contact in MOD/DERA

Detail any MOD/DERA facilities which are needed for the research, and the usage required.

### Objectives

List main objectives of the proposed research in order of priority. These objectives should be those which you would wish the EPSRC to use in the evaluation of your work.

The annual CLUK Doctoral research colloquia are low-cost events which were established:

- to offer UK doctoral students in Computational Linguistics/NLP a platform where they can (a) gain experience of presenting their work, and (b) receive feedback from established researchers in the field;
- to improve communication between young researchers with related interests at different institutions and to combat isolation.

The main objective of this application is to increase the impact of the event, in particular by securing three well-established figures in the field to present keynote addresses, and by keeping costs low while making it an appealing event for both doctoral students and more senior researchers alike.

In addition, it will provide a small fund for students without financial support.

### Summary

Describe the proposed research in about 200 words.

The first two CLUK Doctoral colloquia, which were held respectively at the University of Sunderland in January 1998 and at the University of Essex in January 1999, were both successful events. They were organised as mini-conferences, with refereed submissions presented in sessions attended by established researchers.

We aim to broaden participation of mature researchers at the 3rd Annual CLUK Doctoral Research Colloquium, which will be run to a similar pattern in Brighton on April 6th and 7th 2000. We shall meet the expenses for three invited speakers (Prof. Johanna Moore (University of Edinburgh), Prof. Harold Somers (UMIST), and Dr. John Carroll (University of Sussex)).

The current application seeks to make the event more attractive for doctoral students and senior researchers without increasing the cost to students. Current fees of 55 pounds have been maintained at last year's level.

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*Keywords describing areas of proposal.*

Natural Language Processing

### Beneficiaries

Describe who will benefit from the research.

Research students working in CL/NLP will benefit from increased interaction and the opportunity to write up, present and discuss their work.

The wider research community will benefit from increased contact with young researchers and information about their work.

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*Keywords describing beneficiaries.*

Natural Language Processing Researchers and Research Students

**Staff** Not entered.

**Travel and Subsistence**

Destination and Purpose	Total £
Travel for three invited speakers	500
2 UK return fares (student travel)	100
Accommodation (three invited speakers / two students)	260
Banquet	450
<b>Total £</b>	<b>1310</b>

**Consumables**

Specify	Total £
Proceedings	150
<b>Total £</b>	<b>150</b>

**Exceptional Items** Not entered.

**Equipment** Not entered.

**Facilities and Services** Not entered.

**Other Support** Not entered.

**Collaboration** Not entered.

**Declaration**

In completing this proposal, we confirm that:

- a. We have read 'EPSRC Research Grants';
- b. if a research grant is offered we will accept the EPSRC Terms and Conditions;
- c. we have not entered into any obligations which may conflict with these.

**Signatures**

**Name in BLOCK CAPITALS**

**Date**

Principal Investigator

Co-investigators

Head of Department

Administrative Authority  
(position held)

# 2 OTHER INFORMATION

*This information will NOT be circulated to referees or panels.*

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## Referees

Please give details of three expert referees whom the EPSRC may approach for assessment of this research proposal.

### Referee 1

Name Prof Gerald Gazdar  
Position held Professor  
Organisation University of Sussex  
Cognitive and Computing Sciences  
Address University of Sussex  
Brighton BN1 9QH

### Referee 2

Name Prof Henry Thompson  
Position held Reader  
Organisation University of Edinburgh  
HCRC  
Address 2 Buccleuch Place  
Edinburgh EH8 9LW

### Referee 3

Name Dr Ted Briscoe  
Position held Lecturer  
Organisation University of Cambridge Computer  
New Museums Site  
Address Pembroke Street  
Cambridge CB2 3QG

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## Personal Information

Not entered.

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# Third Annual CLUK Doctoral Research Colloquium: Case for Support

## Previous Research and Track Record

The **Information Technology Research Institute (ITRI)** at the University of Brighton is a centre for research on Language Engineering and Computational Linguistics, with 20 research staff and doctoral students working in this area. Our work covers document generation, lexical representation, corpus-based lexicography, information extraction and multi-media/multimodal interfaces. Current projects include: *ICONOCLAST (Integrating Constraints on Layout and Style in Natural Language Generation)*, *RAGS (Reference Architectures for Generation Systems)*, *CLIME (Computerised Legal Information Management and Explanation)*, and *WASPS (A Semi-Automatic Lexicographer's Workbench for Writing Word Sense Profiles)*.

The ITRI has solid experience of organising and hosting workshops and conferences. Recent experience include:

- 8th International Natural Language Generation Workshop (INLG96), Herstmonceux Castle, Sussex, 1996
- 13th European Conference on Artificial Intelligence (ECAI98), Brighton, Sussex, 1998
- 1st Workshop on the Evaluation of Word Senses (SENSEVAL98), Herstmonceux Castle, Sussex, 1998
- Workshop on Reference Architectures for Generation Systems (RAGS), Edinburgh, 1999
- AAI Symposium on Layout in NLP, Cape Cod, 1999

## Background to the proposal

CLUK (Computational Linguistics UK) is a special interest group for UK researchers in Computational Linguistics, which aims to provide a forum for the community, and to offer a channel to collect and represent views of the community with funding bodies and policy makers. The organisation is committed to minimal management and is centered around a mailing list and a website<sup>1</sup>. Membership is free.

The annual CLUK Doctoral Research Colloquia are low-cost events which seek to benefit both young researchers and the wider community. They were established:

- to offer UK doctoral students in Computational Linguistics/Natural Language Processing a platform where they can

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.dcs.shef.ac.uk/research/cluk/>

- a. gain experience of presenting their work, and
- b. receive feedback from established researchers in the field;
- to improve communication between young researchers with related interests at different institutions and to combat isolation;
- to improve dissemination among established researchers of ongoing work at this level, and to introduce young researchers into the wider community.

The 1st CLUK Doctoral Research Colloquium was held at the University of Sunderland in January 1998, the 2nd at the University of Essex in January 1999. Both were successful events. They were organised as mini-conferences aimed specifically at UK doctoral students. Candidates submitted a 500 word abstract which was subjected to a refereeing process. Successful papers were presented in conference style sessions with participation of established researchers in the field. Fees were set at £55 to cover meals and refreshments, and to meet the cost of duplication and administration.

### **The proposed Colloquium**

The 3rd Annual CLUK Doctoral Research Colloquium will be held in Brighton on the 6th and 7th of April 2000.

The event will be run along the same lines as the previous two colloquia, but aims to broaden the attendance of senior researchers – from students to professors – by:

- inviting three speakers (Prof. Johanna Moore from the University of Edinburgh, Prof. Harold Somers from UMIST, and Dr. John Carroll from the University of Sussex);
- taking advantage of the larger Natural Language Processing research community in Brighton, both at the University of Sussex and at the University of Brighton.

In addition, we hope to combat isolation for students without financial support by offering two student bursaries.

### **Costs**

We are seeking to cover the expenses for the three invited speakers and to subsidise the central costs and banquet for all participants. In addition, we hope to offer two bursaries for doctoral students. An outline budget for these items is given below.

### Colloquium Budget

Travel for three invited speakers	£ 500
2 UK return fares (student travel)	£ 100
Accommodation (three invited speakers / two students)	£ 260
Banquet	£ 450
Proceedings	£ 150
<b>Total budget</b>	<b>£ 1460</b>

### Dissemination

Proceedings will be published before the Colloquium. All publications of the Colloquium will acknowledge the support of the EPSRC.

### Management

The Colloquium will be organised by three CLUK Committee members, Dr. Adam Kilgarriff (ITRI), Mr Darren Pearce (University of Sussex), and Ms Carole Tiberius (ITRI). The team will be coordinated by the Principal Investigator, Professor Donia Scott.