



The Software Sustainability Institute presents

Fellowship Programme 2019 Launch Webinar



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH



UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

Supported by



Project funding from



Welcome



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My name is Raniere Silva
and I'm your host today.

Image by Prayitno available at <https://flic.kr/p/ddcLtF> under CC-BY.

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Practicalities



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- If you're experiencing problems, please put a note in the chat and we will try and help
- Please type in your questions into the chat
- We will be recording the webinar
- Twitter: @SoftwareSaved



Aim to cover



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- Introduction to the Software Sustainability Institute
- Fellowship Programme
- Fellowship experiences
- Answering your questions, please ask your questions on the chat

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Agenda



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14.00 - 14.05 Welcome by Raniera Silva

14.05 - 14.10 Introduction to the Software Sustainability Institute

14.10 - 14.20 About The Fellowship Programme

14.20 - 15.10 Fellows experiences

15.10 - 15.25 Audience Questions and Answer

15.25 - 15.30 Wrap-up



The Software Sustainability Institute



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A national facility for cultivating world-class research through software

- Better software enables better research
- Software reaches boundaries in its development cycle that prevent improvement, growth and adoption
- Providing the expertise and services needed to negotiate to the next stage
- Programmes, events, policy and tools to support the community developing and using research software

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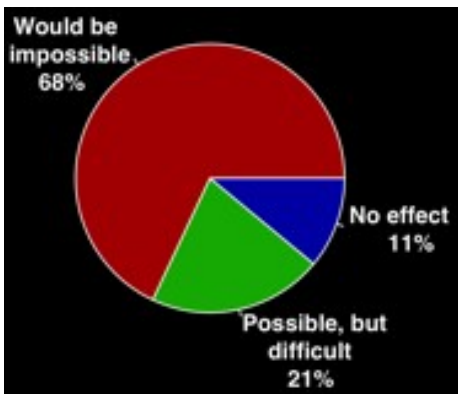
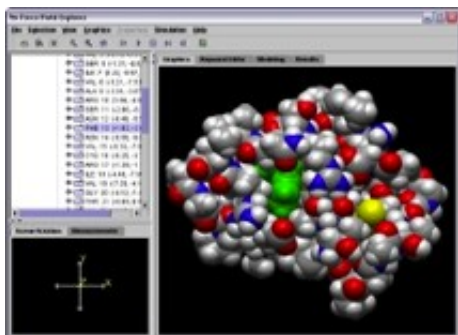
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Teams



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Software

Helping the community to develop software that meets the needs of reliable, reproducible, and reusable research

Training

Delivering essential software skills to researchers via CDTs, institutions & doctoral schools

Outreach

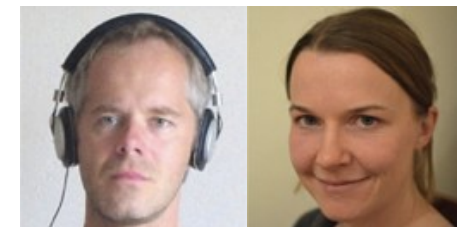
Exploiting our platform to enable engagement, delivery & uptake

Policy

Collecting evidence on the community's software use & sharing with stakeholders

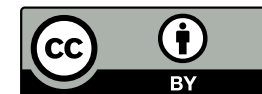
Community

Developing Communities of Practice by supporting the right people to understand and address topical issues



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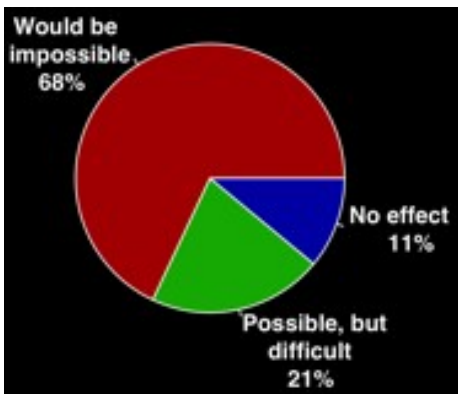
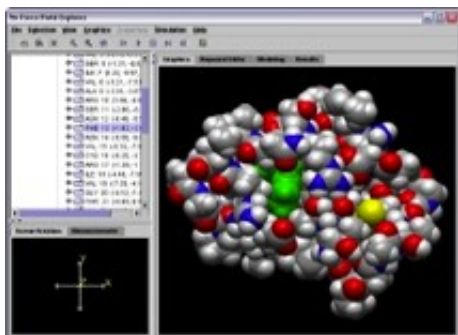
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Teams' activities



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Software

70+ project consultancies

200+ evaluations

4 surgeries

Training

100+ Carpentry workshops

2500+ learners

80+ guides

Outreach

170+ external contributors

20k unique visitors/month

5k+ followers

Policy

650+ RSEs engaged

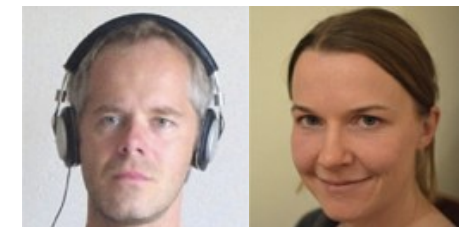
2k signatures

13 issues highlighted

Community

113 Fellows

25+ workshops organised



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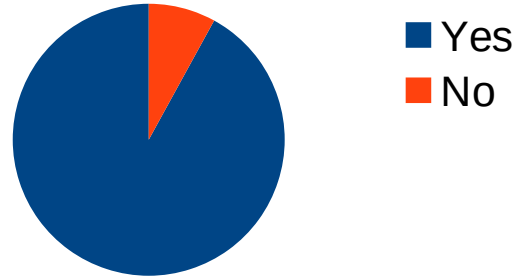


The UK research community relies on software

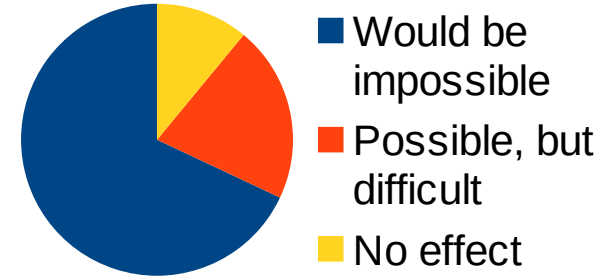


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Do you use research software, e.g. software for data clean and analyse?



What would happen to your research without software?



Survey of researchers from 15 Russell Group universities conducted by the Software Sustainability Institute between August – October 2014. 406 respondents covering representative range of funders, discipline and seniority.

Why Fellows



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- Engaging with natural ambassadors of better software practice from the research community
 - The promotion of better more sustainable software is best done by those in the domains
- Supporting those involved with improving software practice; helping form communities of practice
- Discovering important information about software in domains
- Helping guide our training, policies, community work and consultancy engagements



Who are we looking for



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- Junior
 - PhD candidate, Junior Research Software Engineer
- Early
 - Research Assistant, Lecturer, Research Software Engineer (RSE)
- Mid / Recognised
 - Senior Lecturer, Reader, Senior RSE
- Established / Experienced / Senior
 - Professor, Director of Research Computing, Chief Data Scientist



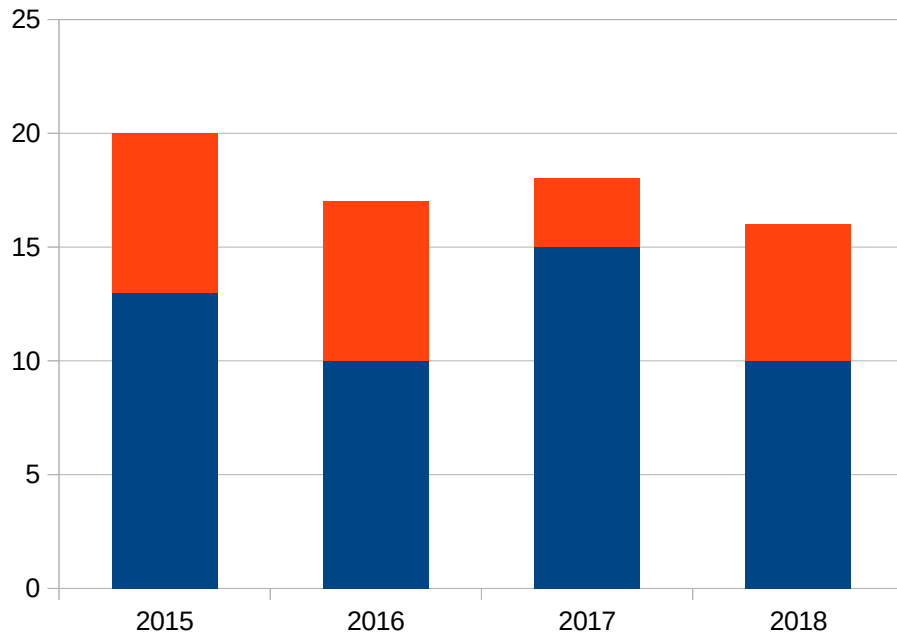
Previous Years



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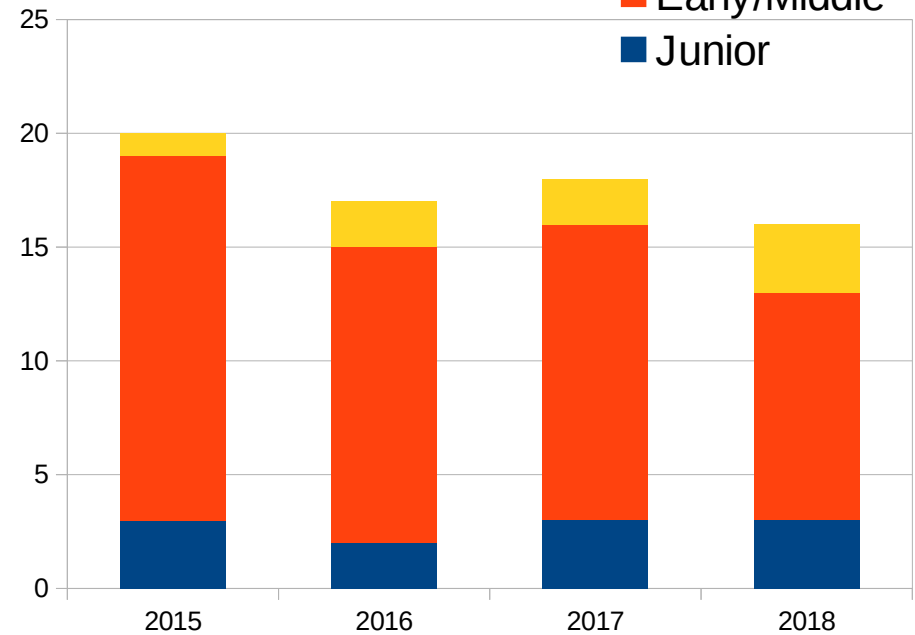
Gender

Female
Male



Career stage

Late
Early/Middle
Junior



What are we looking for (1/3)



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- People supported by
 - RCUK (AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, NERC, STFC)
 - Other funders, e.g. EU, Wellcome
- Specific interest in software, e.g.
 - Use or develop software in your or others research
 - (optionally) been involved in technology standards
 - (optionally) promote the use of software in your domain
 - (optionally) blog about software related matters



What are we looking for (2/3)



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- Be champions of improved software practice in your domain/institute
- Effective researchers collaborators
 - Enjoy working with others
 - Good at promoting their work to a wide audience
 - e.g. blogging or tweeting etc



What are we looking for (3/3)



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- Contribution towards your research community
 - e.g. papers, presentations, datasets, data models, software, standards
- Linked/embedded in at least one research network (e.g. of their own domain)
 - Can you communicate your ideas beyond your niche
- Do you have the time to engage?
 - It's approx. 9 days in the year of being involved in win-win activities.



What we expect (Junior career stages)



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- Having the time and inclination to contribute
- To engage with your research domain or institution
- Attend and organise events (travel when necessary)
- Share experiences, insights and outputs from event participation
- Use their platform as a Fellow to promote better software practice in research
- Align with and promote the Institute and its mission
- Attend any required events (more later)

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What we expect (Early and Middle career stages)



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- All of Junior career stage points plus
- Help seed or nurture a **community of practice** in a research software related area
- Run workshops to promote software training/best practice in their domain/institute - (optional) work with other Fellows
- Contribute to policy
- Help Institute with review (e.g. of Open Call projects)
- Give a talk on behalf of the Institute
- (optional) Undertake The Carpentries Instructor Training

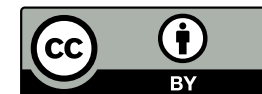


What we expect (Senior career stages)



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- All of Early and Middle career stage points plus
- Organise and chair networking events to help create policy on Institute priorities: better software, more recognition of software development and developers in research and software in the reproducible research agenda
- Promotion of Institute mission to research leaders their Institutes, research councils and government.
- Possible attendance at Advisory board meetings
- Co-review outputs from Middle career fellows



We are open to other suggestions or ideas



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Our promise



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To:

- Listen
- Be responsive
- Deal with you as one of the team
- Support your work and ideas as a Fellow
- Be fair and flexible where possible
- Help develop your community development skills



Fellows benefits (1/2)



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- £3k event fund
- Raise your profile
- Organise and attend events
- Present your work
- Have your opinion heard

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Fellows benefits (2/2)



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- Teaching experience
- Informal publishing opportunity
- Join a dynamic network of Fellows
- Higher visibility within institution, potential new collaborations
- Thought leader in area
- A platform to influence research software policy



Requirements



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- Agree to Terms and Conditions document
- Write a blog post for each supported event (more later)
- Attend the Fellowship Programme inaugural meeting
- Attend two of three community development skill events (online)
- Attend Collaborations Workshop 2019 and 2020
- (optional) Attend an all Fellows meeting
- Take part in a survey on your participation on the Fellowship Programme



Blogs



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- Once Fellows have attended a conference, run a workshop or another event they write a blog post
- Why a blog post
 - Blogs not only report, but have key take home messages for the wider community and can point towards other resource, they are also the main output that is read by those who visit www.software.ac.uk and with 15K visitors a month your work should be well read
- Blog posts about Fellows expertise and advice are welcome
- Blog posts are enjoyable to write and encourage outreach skills development



Timeline



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- Sunday, 3 February, 2019 at 11.59pm - Application closes
- Monday, 25 February, 2019 - Shortlist announced
 - Invitation to attend Collaborations Workshop 2019 for free sent out
- Wednesday, 6 March, 2019 - Online Selection day (10.30am to 4.00pm)
- Friday, 22 March, 2019 - Offers of fellowships to successful candidates
- 1-3 April, 2019 - Collaborations Workshop 2019
- Friday, 12 April, 2019 - Official announcement of 2018 Fellows



Application form



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Visit bit.ly/ssi-fellows2019-apply

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Previous Fellows activities (1/2)

- Organised their own workshops
 - Software and Research Town Hall by Allen Pope, Melody Sandells
 - Agent Based Modelling by Iza Romananowska
 - Benchmarking by Sarah Mount
 - Reproducibility workshop in brain imaging by Cyril Pernet
 - Coding Retreat by Eilis Hannon
 - Containers for HPC by Krishna Kumar
 - Python in Astronomy by Thomas Robitaille and Brigitta Sipocz
 - Northwest Universities R Day by Reka Solymosi

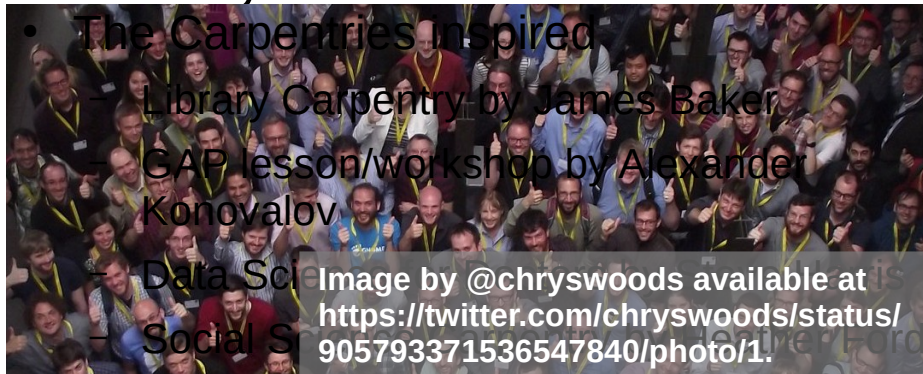




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Previous Fellows activities (2/2)

- Research Software Engineer
 - Michael Croucher
 - James Hetherington
 - Robert Haines
 - Alys Brett



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Fellows inaugural meeting



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- New Fellows expected to attend (May 2019)
- Intro to the Institute and themes
- Networking
- Read about the last one bit.ly/ssi-fellow2018-inaugural



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Collaborations Workshop 2018 (CW18)



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- 3 days at The School of Mathematics, Cardiff University
- Focus on Culture Change and Productivity
- Talks, keynotes, discussions, hackathon and more
bit.ly/CollabW18-YouTube
- Many Fellows re-attend



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Collaborations Workshop 2019 (CW19)



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Bring together researchers, developers, funders, publishers and educators to explore best practices and research software.

CW19 will take place from 1st to 3rd April 2019 at Loughborough University, Loughborough.

Visit software.ac.uk/cw19.



Image by Loughborough University.

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Collaborations Workshop 2019 (CW19)



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Focus on interoperability, documentation, training and sustainability.

- Catherine Stihler, Open Knowledge International
- Franziska Heine, Wikimedia Deutschland
- Sarah Maddox, Google, and Sharif Salah, Google



Image by Loughborough University.

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Continuing Fellowship



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- Once a Fellow always a Fellow
- Benefits
 - Communal pot for attending/organising events
 - Asked for opinions
 - Networking
 - Influence continues (e.g. act as reviewers or recruitment of new Fellows)



Image by Britta Gustafson.
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Links



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- About the programme: bit.ly/ssi-fellows2019
- Application form: bit.ly/ssi-fellows2019-apply
- FAQ: bit.ly/ssi-fellows2019-faq
- **2018** Terms and conditions: bit.ly/fellows2018-t-and-c
- Twitter: twitter.com/SoftwareSaved
- E-mail: fellows-management@software.ac.uk



Fellows experiences



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Questions



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A background image showing a crowd of people with their hands raised, suggesting a Q&A session or a meeting. The image is slightly blurred, focusing on the hands in the foreground.

Please add them to the chat.
Application form at bit.ly/ssi-fellows2019-apply

Image by Jeff Wright available at <https://flic.kr/p/5Tnnw2> under CC-BY.

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Thank you



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- Thank you to:
 - All who attended
 - Especially the Fellows
 - The Institute team for some of the slides/pictures and information
 - Our funders: UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) through grant EP/H043160/1 and EPSRC, BBSRC and ESRC Grant EP/N006410/1.
- Material
 - Slides will be available on the Institute website soon
 - A video of webinar will also be available

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Addendum



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- The Fellowship does not support paying for hardware or for staff time for developing software; if you are interested in getting support in terms of effort for help with improving software then please check out the Institute's Open Call for projects <http://www.software.ac.uk/open-call>
- The Fellowship is primarily focused on supporting you at, for and leading events. Bringing people together to talk about the best way to integrate different codes as a workshop is in scope, paying for staff time to do a design is not. Any further questions please contact us at fellows-management@software.ac.uk

