

The Software Sustainability Institute presents

Fellowship Programme 2020 Launch Webinar



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH



The University of Manchester



Supported by EP/H043160/1, EP/N006410/1 & EP/S021779/1



Science & Technology
Facilities Council



Welcome



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My name is Rachael Ainsworth
and I'll be your host today!

A photograph of a neon sign. The word "open" is written in a white, cursive-style neon font. The sign is set against a dark background and is surrounded by several concentric, glowing orange neon rings that create a circular frame around the text.

Photo by Finn Hackshaw <https://unsplash.com/photos/FQgl8AD-BSg>



Practicalities



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



Agenda



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- 15:00 - 15:03 Welcome by Rachael Ainsworth
- 15:03 - 15:10 Introduction to the Software Sustainability Institute
- 15:10 - 15:20 About The Fellowship Programme
- 15:20 - 15:45 Fellowship experiences
- 15:45 - 15:55 Audience Questions and Answer
- 15:55 - 16:00 Wrap-up



The Software Sustainability Institute



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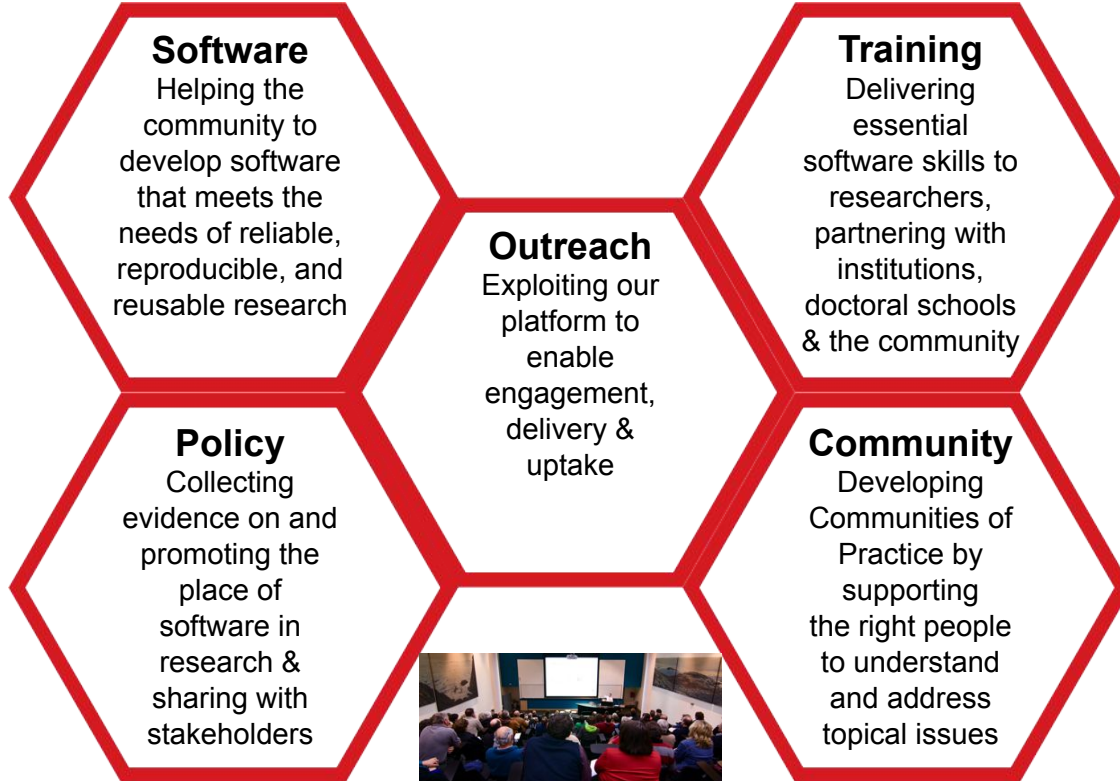
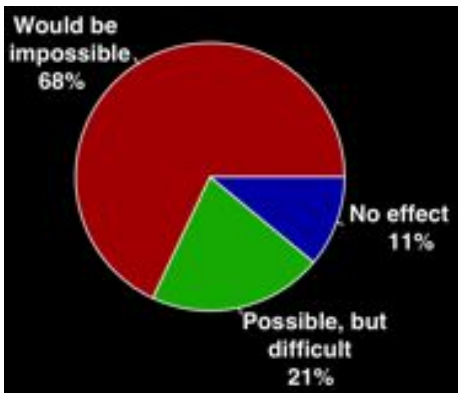
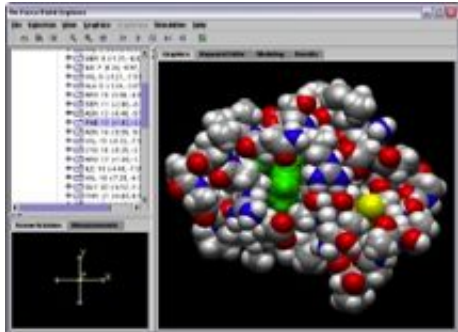
- A national facility for cultivating world-class research through software
- **“Better Software, Better Research”**
- Software code/processes/community reaches boundaries in its development cycle that prevent improvement, growth and adoption
- Providing the expertise and services needed to negotiate to the next stage
- Programmes, events, policy and tools to support the community developing and using research software
- **We advocate for all things Research Software**



Teams



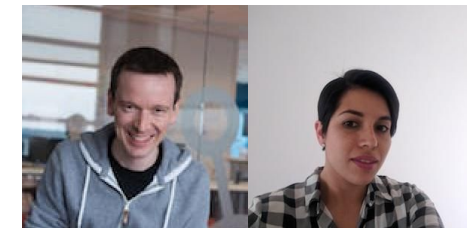
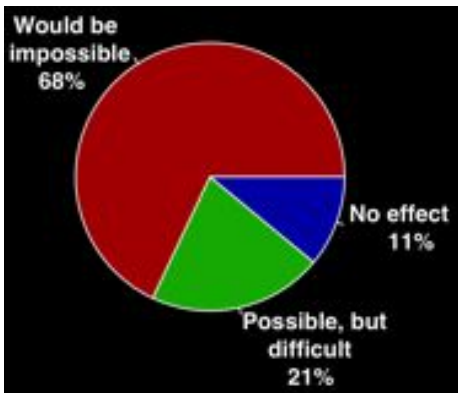
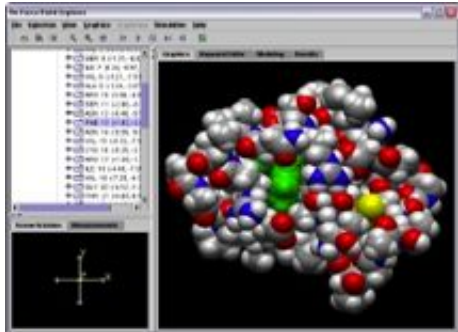
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Teams' activities



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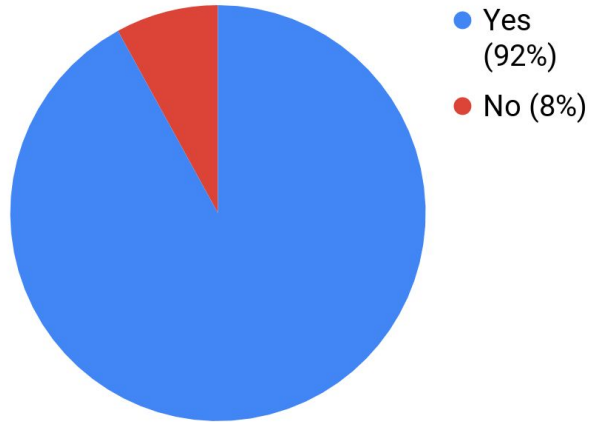


The UK research community relies on software

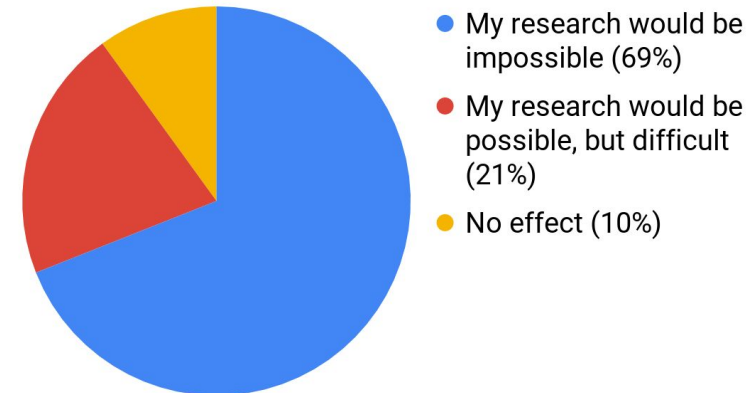


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Do you use research software?



What would happen if you could no longer use research software?



Survey of researchers from 15 Russell Group universities conducted by SSI between August – October 2014. 406 respondents covering representative range of funders, discipline and seniority: bit.ly/software-7-out-of-10



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
- Help SSI discover important information about software in different research domains
- Help 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

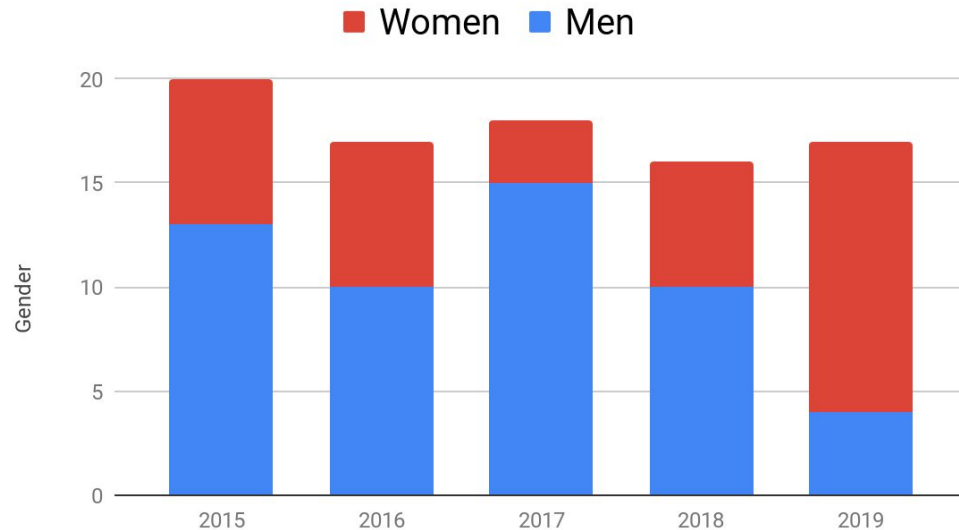


Previous Years

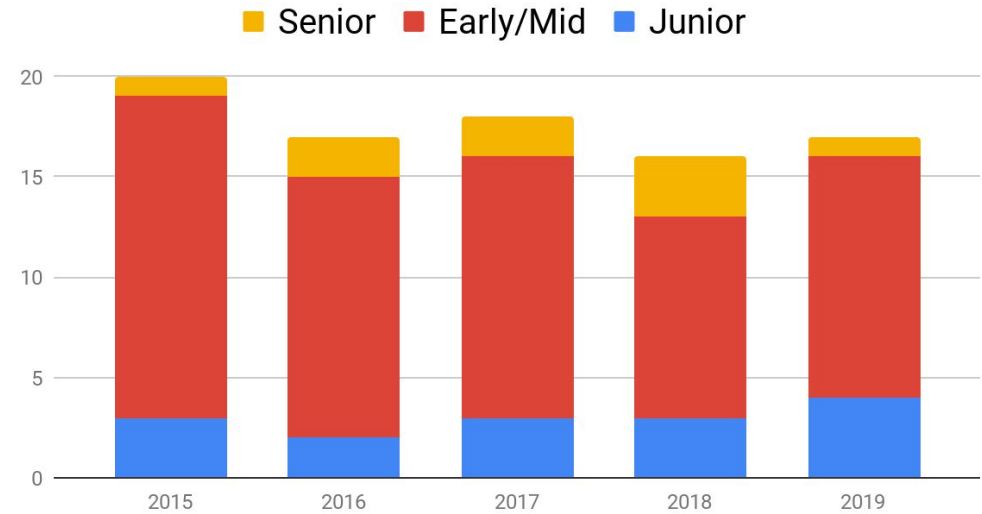


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Gender



Career Stage



What are we looking for (1/5)



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- People supported by
 - UKRI (AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, NERC, STFC)
 - Other funders, e.g. EU, Wellcome, Jisc
- You must be based in the UK or have a formal affiliation with a UK based institution or office.
- Your plan must be primarily focused on improving UK capability.



What are we looking for (2/5)



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- You should be one or more of the following:
 - a researcher who uses software
 - a developer who writes tools for researchers
 - a research software engineer who supports the work of researchers with software
 - an advocate for best practice in software use for your research domain
 - in a leadership role in projects or organisations that make heavy use of software
 - a user of research software
 - passionate about software in research in any way!



What are we looking for (3/5)



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- Be champions of improved software practice in your domain/institute
- Effective 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 (4/5)



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- Contribution towards your community
 - e.g. software, papers, presentations, datasets, data models, standards
- Can you communicate your ideas beyond your specialisation?
- Do you have the time to engage?
 - It's ~9 days in the year of being involved in win-win activities



What are we looking for (5/5)



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- Involved in Communities of Practice (optional)
 - e.g. as a member, founder or contributor
- Collaborating with or taking an existing Fellows' work further (optional)
 - Are you a natural successor to an existing project or do you collaborate with any of our existing Fellows?

<https://www.software.ac.uk/about/fellows>



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)

- 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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Photo by You X Ventures <https://unsplash.com/photos/X8H8vPceIPk>



Our promise



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To:

- Listen
- Be responsive
- Work with you as one of the team
- Support your work and ideas as a Fellow
- Be fair and flexible where possible
- Help you 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



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
- Pedagogy training opportunities



Requirements



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- Agree to Terms and Conditions document
- Write a blog post for each supported activity (more later)
- Attend the Fellowship Programme inaugural meeting
- Take part in a mid-term review
- Attend Collaborations Workshop 2020 and 2021
- (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 resources
 - They are also the main output that is read by those who visit www.software.ac.uk (20k visitors a month)
- Blog posts about Fellows expertise and advice are welcome
- Blog posts encourage outreach skills development



Timeline



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- Tuesday, 29 October 2019 at 23:59 - Applications close
- Thursday, 21 November 2019 - Shortlist announced
 - Invitation to attend Collaborations Workshop 2020 for free sent out
- Thursday, 5 December 2019 - Online Selection day (10:00-16:00)
- Thursday, 12 December 2019 - Offers of fellowships to successful candidates
- Friday, 10 January 2020 - Official announcement of 2020 Fellows
- 31 March - 2 April 2020 - Collaborations Workshop 2020



Application form



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A hand holding a black Sanyo camcorder against a clear blue sky. The camcorder is a Sanyo EM504L model. A semi-transparent grey banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text 'Visit bit.ly/ssi-fellows2020-apply'.

Visit bit.ly/ssi-fellows2020-apply

Photo by Thomas William <https://unsplash.com/photos/4qGbMEZb56c>





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Previous Fellows activities (1/2)

- Organised their own workshops
 - ReproHacks by Anna Krystalli
 - Reproducible Data Visualisations Using R & Binder by Andrew Stewart
 - Northwest Universities R Day by Reka Solymosi
 - Python in Astronomy by Thomas Robitaille and Brigitta Sipocz
 - Benchmarking by Sarah Mount
 - Reproducibility workshop in brain imaging by Cyril Pernet
 - Coding Retreat by Eilis Hannon
 - Containers for HPC by Krishna Kumar





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Previous Fellows activities (2/2)

- Research Software Engineer
 - Michael Croucher
 - James Hetherington
 - Robert Haines
 - Alys Brett
- The Carpentries inspired
 - Library Carpentry by James Baker
 - GAP lesson/workshop by Alexander Konovalov
 - Data Science for Doctors by Steve Harris & Danny Wong
 - Social Science Carpentry by Heather Ford
 - Geography workshop by Thomas Etherington



Image by @chryswoods available at <https://twitter.com/chryswoods/status/905793371536547840/photo/1>.



Fellows inaugural meeting



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- New Fellows expected to attend (February 2020)
- Intro to the Institute and themes
- Networking
- Read about the last one bit.ly/ssi-fellows2019-inaugural



Collaborations Workshop 2019 (CW19)



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- 3 days at Loughborough University, Loughborough
- Focused on interoperability, documentation, training and sustainability.
- Interviews from participants bit.ly/CollabW19-YouTube
- Many Fellows re-attend



Collaborations Workshop 2020 (CW20)



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- Bringing together researchers, developers, funders, publishers and educators to explore best practices & research software
- CW20 will take place from 31st March to 2nd April 2020 at Queens University & Ulster University, Belfast
- Visit [software.ac.uk/cw20](https://www.software.ac.uk/cw20)



Collaborations Workshop 2020 (CW20)



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- Focus on:
 - Open Science/Research
 - Data Privacy/Ethics
 - Software Sustainability
- 2-day discussion workshop + hackday
- Visit [software.ac.uk/cw20](https://www.software.ac.uk/cw20)



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)



Links



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- About the programme: bit.ly/ssi-fellows2020
- Application form: bit.ly/ssi-fellows2020-apply
- FAQ: bit.ly/ssi-fellows2020-faq
- **2019** Terms and conditions: bit.ly/fellows2019-t-and-c
- **2018** Successful applications: bit.ly/ssi-fellows2018-videos
- Twitter: twitter.com/SoftwareSaved
- E-mail: fellows-management@software.ac.uk



Fellows experiences



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Anna Krystalli



Mozhgan Kabiri chimeh



Questions



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Please add any questions to the chat.
Application form at bit.ly/ssi-fellows2020-apply

Image by Camylla Battani available at <https://unsplash.com/photos/AoqqGAqrLpU>



Thank you



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- Thank you to:
 - All who attended, especially the Fellows!
 - The Institute team for some of the slides, photos, information and helping out
 - Our funders: UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) through grant EP/H043160/1 and EPSRC, BBSRC and ESRC Grant EP/N006410/1 and EPSRC, BBSRC, ESRC, NERC, AHRC, STFC and MRC grant EP/S021779/1
- Material
 - These slides have been remixed and reused from Raniere Silva 2019, doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2538020 under a CC BY license
 - These slides are available on the Institute website and Zenodo: doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3479489
 - The recording of the webinar will also be available



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

