**Internationalisation of higher education:**

**Developing values-based intercultural research approaches**

**A workshop for early career researchers**

Under the Researcher Links scheme offered within the Newton Fund, the British Council and the Thailand Research Fund will be holding a workshop on the Internationalisation of Higher Education in Bangkok on 6-9 January 2016. The workshop is being jointly coordinated by Newcastle University and Kasetsart University, and will have contributions from leading researchers—Professor Sue Robson, Professor Steve Walsh, Dr Tony Young, Associate Professor Dr Mangkorn Rodprapakorn, Dr Navaporn S. Snodin and Dr Parichart Phootirat.

The workshop will address a growing, global, intercultural and educational phenomenon - the internationalisation of higher education (HE). The UK has long been among the most popular destination countries for internationally mobile HE students and staff, but patterns of global HE mobility are changing and one of the fastest growing destination regions is South East Asia. Thailand is a key player in ASEAN's HE integration efforts and policy formation, and internationalisation is a now a growing strategic priority for most Thai HE institutions.

The potential benefits of internationalisation to universities are academic and cultural as well as financial, but these benefits are under-exploited. In the UK and other 'western' nations, commercially-driven, recruitment-oriented approaches are increasingly being challenged by advocates of more sustainable, values-driven and socially responsible approaches. An approach to internationalisation that is internally driven, partnership-focused and cooperative in process is a more challenging and sustainable prospect than a symbolic, market-driven one. Emerging nations have thus far been significantly excluded from this debate.

The proposed workshop will address the challenge of promoting values-based, intercultural internationalisation by convening a multidisciplinary group of established and emerging researchers from the UK and Thailand to explore how the internationalisation of HE can become more inclusive, sustainable and academically and culturally beneficial. It will support participants in examining the ways internationalisation is carried out, and to develop fresh perspectives on a field dominated by recruitment and performativity agendas. The workshop theme will centre on four interrelated areas of development: (1) Internationalising the curriculum for qualitative learning outcomes; (2) Enhancing the quality of international student and staff mobility experiences; (3) Developing more transparent and sustainable transnational HE partnerships; (4) Promoting ethical, equitable and socially responsible HE practices and research. Specific workshop objectives include (i) enabling early-career researchers from across disciplines to meet peers with similar research interests and explore collaborative research opportunities; (ii) facilitating learning and knowledge exchange between leading and early-career researchers from both countries; (iii) establishing a bilateral research and practice network with the aim of developing research proposals for future funding.