

**WRITTEN EVALUATION FORM**

**FOR REVIEWERS**

**IAS 2025 DISTINGUISHED PROJECT**

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| **«Project\_acronym»** | **«Project\_title»** |

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| **Name of the Hosting PI** |  |
| **Fac/IC** |  |

The reviewers' assessments and conclusions may be provided to the candidates on request and in an anonymous manner. It is essential, therefore, that reviewers provide a constructive comment of at least five lines for each selection criterion and for the conclusion. This will enable candidates to better appreciate the evaluation outcome.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and we would kindly ask you to send the completed evaluation form before the deadline to: [ias@uni.lu](mailto:ias@uni.lu).

Please refer to the guidelines for reviewers for more details on the written evaluation procedure.

**Introduction**

The main objective of the DISTINGUISHED programme is to enable and encourage research groups of the University of Luxembourg to engage with distinguished international scientists, policy makers, or representatives of the arts, the government or the industry.

DISTINGUISHED visiting fellows should strengthen UL’s activities and reinforce the development of new ideas in research and innovation, in teaching approaches, and for addressing global challenges, thereby enriching Luxembourg’s academic and intellectual environment.

To ensure that a wide cross-section of the University community and Luxembourg society benefits from the impact of the visit, IAS DISTINGUISHED visiting fellows will participate in activities such as: (i) interdisciplinary research, including the preparation of research projects and proposals with members of UL (ii) training events targeted at early career scholars, (iii) public events to engage society, together with the UL community and other IAS visiting fellows, (iv) and, where appropriate, teaching activities.

The DISTINGUISHED call is open to all disciplines and sectors and is driven by interdisciplinarity and excellence. Applications must be supported by an academic member of UL. Candidates to the DISTINGUISHED programme will be assessed by the College of IAS Fellows.

**Specific characteristics of a DISTINGUISHED project at UL:**

Funding can be requested for visits of a minimum of 2 weeks and a maximum of 3 months. Funding is granted on a competitive basis and once awarded, it remains valid for a period of 12 months, from 1 January to 31 December of a calendar year to facilitate the organization of the stay. After this period, the grant expires. The budget is not transferrable from one calendar year to another.

Additional information is available in the “DISTINGUISHED - Call description and guidelines for candidates” available on-line ([Documents - University of Luxembourg I Uni.lu](https://www.uni.lu/research-en/ias/documents/)).

**The following criteria should be considered during the reviewing process:**

1. **Academic excellence**
   1. **Competence of the DISTINGUISHED fellow and PIs**

Evaluate the research profile of the DISTINGUISHED fellow and PIs, and how they propose to overcome the current frontiers of knowledge. Their scientific excellence is the warrant of the project’s coherence and success, and of its suitability to pave the way towards the development of new research areas at UL.

* 1. **Strength of the consortium**

The members of the consortium shall present a clear complementarity to reach an interdisciplinary research goal. Without this interdisciplinarity, the project could not be successful. The project should foster collaboration at the University of Luxembourg and/or collaboration with national or foreign institutions if the complementary discipline is not available at UL.

* 1. **Description of the visit**

DISTINGUISHED fellows will take part in activities such as conducting interdisciplinary research, including the preparation of research projects and proposals with members of UL, training events targeted at early career scholars, public events to engage society together with the UL community and other IAS visiting fellows and, where appropriate, teaching activities.

The proposal should explain how the visit will be organised and the content of the DINSTINGUISHED visit, incl. at least one conference addressing the wider public in Luxembourg.

1. **Audacious character of the project idea:**

The project is outstanding by its audacious and risky approach while being strongly supported by the complementarity of the PIs competences in various disciplines.

* 1. **Novelty**

The event targets an area of research that is still untouched, as it is generally considered too complex, too risky or too difficult to address in conventionally funded programmes at national or international level.

* 1. **Originality**

Not only the project idea is novel, but the approach proposed by the PIs to generate new knowledge is also original.

* 1. **Risky**

The proposed idea, methodology and consortium composition are unconventional, but necessary to aim for scientific breakthroughs and new solutions to the challenges facing society.

1. **Interdisciplinarity**

We understand interdisciplinary research as “*a mode of research by teams or individuals that integrates information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts, and/or theories from two or more disciplines or bodies of specialized knowledge to advance fundamental understanding or to solve problems whose solutions are beyond the scope of a single discipline or area of research practice*” (Facilitating Interdisciplinary Research, Committee on Facilitating Interdisciplinary Research, National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, 2005)

Does the project encourage interdisciplinary working? How do the PIs ensure a vibrant interdisciplinary research team?

“Interdisciplinarity” and “Excellence” are essential criteria for the proposal evaluation. A DISTINGUISHED visit shall aim at strengthening interactions and collaboration between PIs of different disciplines, or Departments in a Faculty, or different research groups in an Interdisciplinary Centre, or different Entities of UL, and reinforce the international visibility of UL. The criterion of "interdisciplinarity" must cover at least two academic disciplines. The proposal should illustrate how the visit will support an interdisciplinary approach and how this extends to other disciplines (e.g., methodologically, in terms of research questions/hypotheses, results or societal impacts).

1. **Added value to UL**

Is the contribution to advancement of knowledge and UL’s research community well described? How will the DISTINGUISHED fellow contribute to knowledge production, career training and doctoral education? How will the results be exploited and disseminated within the research community? How will the project outcomes contribute to the promotion of interdisciplinarity across UL, the advancement of the state of the art, the development of the scientific community, and the UL and its entities in terms of capacities, competencies, visibility and attractiveness?

**Evaluators' assessments and conclusions will be communicated to candidates anonymously.**

**Scoring (5 is the highest and 1 the lowest score):**

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| ***Score 5*** | Work is audacious and at the **forefront of knowledge** and will most likely have an **important and substantial impact** on science internationally. |
| ***Score 4*** | Work is expected to make a **significant contribution**; nationally at the forefront of research. |
| ***Score 3*** | Work is **competitive at the national level** and will probably make a **valuable contribution** in the international field. |
| ***Score 2*** | Work that is **solid but not exciting**, will add to our understanding and is in principle worthy of support. It is considered of less priority than work in the above categories. |
| ***Score 1*** | Work that is neither solid nor exciting, flawed in the scientific and or technical approach, repetitions of other work, etc. **Work not worthy of pursuing**. |

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| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | 1. **Academic Excellence**   (Please tick only one box per line, 5 is the highest and 1 the lowest score) |
|  |  |  |  |  | Competence of the DISTINGUISHED fellow and PIs |
|  |  |  |  |  | Strength of the consortium |
|  |  |  |  |  | Description of the visit |

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| **Academic Excellence: detailed justification of the evaluation**  (at least five lines are mandatory) |

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| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | 1. **Audacious character of the project idea**   (Please tick only one box per line, 5 is the highest and 1 the lowest score) |
|  |  |  |  |  | Novelty |
|  |  |  |  |  | Originality |
|  |  |  |  |  | Risky |

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| **Audacious character: detailed justification of the evaluation**  (at least five lines are mandatory) |

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| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | 1. **Interdisciplinarity**   (Please tick only one box per line, 5 is the highest and 1 the lowest score) |
|  |  |  |  |  | Project’s ability to encourage interdisciplinary working |
|  |  |  |  |  | Interdisciplinarity of the project consortium internally and/or externally |

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| **Interdisciplinarity: detailed justification of the evaluation**  (at least five lines are mandatory) |

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| **1** | **2** | | **3** | **4** | **5** | 1. **Added value for UL**   (Please tick only one box per line, 5 is the highest and 1 the lowest score) |
|  | |  |  |  |  | Contribution to advancement of knowledge and UL’s research community well described |

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| **Added value for UL: detailed justification of the evaluation**  (at least five lines are mandatory) |

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| **5. Conclusion and your overall judgment**  (at least five lines are mandatory) |

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| **6. Any further remarks and recommendations for the candidates** |

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**Confidentiality:**

Reviewers' assessments and conclusions will be communicated to candidates anonymously.

**Reviewer’s contact details:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Last Name and First Name:** |  |
| **Faculty/IC and Department/Group** |  |

I, the undersigned, certify that I will treat as strictly confidential all information I have received and will receive in connection with the evaluation of the project.

Date of signature:

Signature: