

IPP20

Student Project Pitch Panel

How Do Projects Get Funded and Papers Published?

- ~ 26% reported funding rate from EPSRC (UK) in 2024
- ~ 11% for European Research Council (ERC) in 2025
- ~ 24% for NeurIPS papers for main conference in 2025
- ~ 20% reported for NIH (USA) in 2025

All down to 'peer review'

Peer Review

- Used for Scientific Papers and Research Grants (i.e. projects).
- Lots of variations on models
 - Let's choose one that is common and focus on grants.
- Each grant/project is assigned to a grant panel by broad subject theme.
- There are maybe 30 grant panel themes covering the bulk of UK research.

Key players

- Applicant (you)
- Programme Manager (expert administrator - focus on process)
- Independent Referee – a domain expert assigned to review a grant
- Panel Member – an experienced general expert assigned to help rank all the projects.

Process (1)

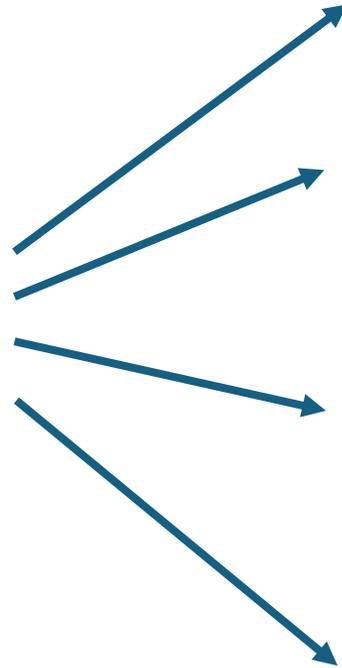


Applicant submits project proposal.

Project proposal is first read by **Programme Manager**

Programme Manager identifies Panel Members and Referees for project

Process (2)



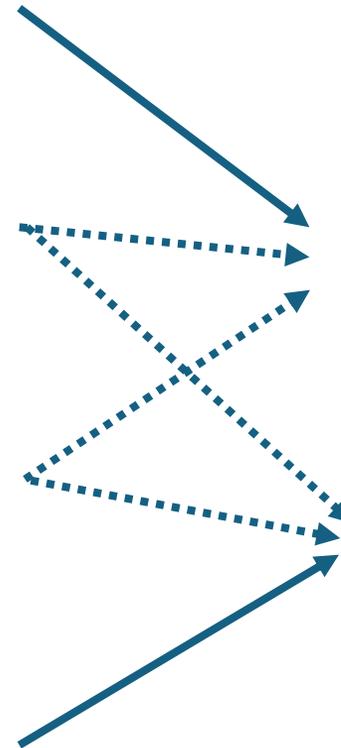
Project proposal is read by a mix of **Referees** and **Panel Members** (often around 2 of each)

Process (3)

Panel members also read the **referee's** reviews

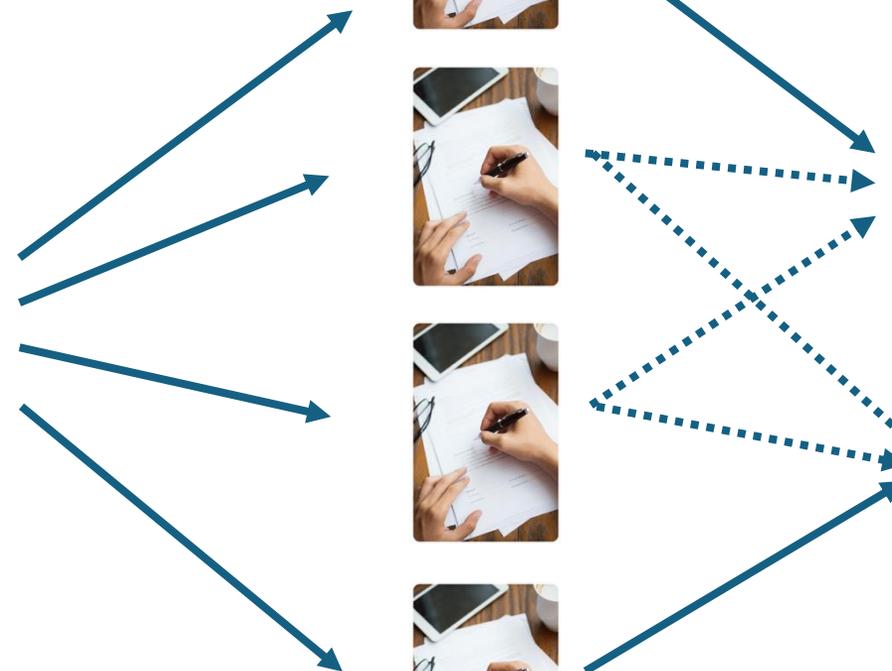
Panel members then present a summary to the Panel

The panel ranks the proposals in order.



Technically correct and robust

Exciting and Impactful



Today you are the panel **VIDEO OFF AT THIS POINT**

- Split into groups
 - You may wish to migrate around the room a little
- Discuss your projects
 - Your 60s pitch is a great start
- Within group vote on the most exciting project (n=1)
- Discuss who will present it to the class
 - Not the proposer

Pitch Presentations

START PITCH TIMER

IPP20 feedback

- This course is designed to prepare you for DISS
- Each year we gather feedback **from you** and act on it
- By request we merged the literature review course content with IPP
- By request we moved the timings so project allocation was aligned with IPP (you had our project shortly after the start of IPP).
- By request we teach the course hybrid (in person and recorded)
- Please look out for the feedback questionnaire and please complete them.

IPP 20 2026/2027

- Currently 3 project ‘types’
 - Staff proposed research (majority)
 - Self proposed research (<10%)
 - Industry proposed research (<5%)
- Looking to make 3 changes.
 - Increase number of industry proposed research projects
 - **Practical Cluster Projects**
 - **Industry/external internships.**

Practical Cluster Projects

- Clusters of academics, support staff and students (30-50 people)
- Working on common challenge, dataset or approach
- Engagement over summer with experts and visiting lectures
- Optional summer poster / networking events

Vibe / AI driven software engineering and testing

Data security in modern AI methods

AI/computer vision applications for challenge datasets

Industry/external internships

- Short external internships
- No research requirement
- End of placement reflection/report
- Offered by UofE partners
- Can also be existing contacts

If those options were available to you; which would you have selected, even better could you rank them

QUESTIONNAIRE TO FOLLOW IN COMING DAYS

Feedback on the IPP20 Student Pitch Panel Session



[Feedback on the IPP20 Student Pitch Panel Session – Fill out form](#)