GOLD D1 Associate Fellow – Supporting Statement Proforma

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| **IMPORTANT INFORMATION – Please read before using this proforma**  This supporting statement proforma is only intended for candidates that are using the PSF 2023 and who enrolled onto our GOLD scheme **after 1 September 2024**. Please do not use or make any reference to UKPSF 2011 here for a GOLD candidate using PSF 2023.  If the candidate you are completing this proforma for enrolled onto the GOLD scheme before 11.59pm 31 August 2024, they will be developing and submitting an application using the UKPSF 2011 version. There is a separate supporting statement proforma that you must use for this, which our team can send to you if you do not have a copy.  If you are or think your mentee is to use UKPSF 2011, please **DO NOT** use this PSF 2023 version as it is different from UKPSF 2011. Please confirm with our GOLD team before going ahead please email [GOLD@greenwich.ac.uk](mailto:GOLD@greenwich.ac.uk). |

# Introduction

Thank you for agreeing to provide a supporting statement to authenticate practice within a GOLD fellowship application using PSF 2023. This is a requirement of by Advance HE to accompany an application for any category of fellowship. Candidates who are applying for AFHEA require only **one supporting statement**, which can only be provided by their GOLD Mentor. Please read this proforma carefully and in conjunction with the GOLD D1 Associate Fellow - Guidance for Referees PSF 2023 document before completing the supporting statement. The guidance document is available on the GOLD website.

# What is the purpose of the supporting statement?

Please note that the statement supporting a GOLD application is not a job application reference. The award of Associate Fellowship is based on peer recognition of professional practice and as such you are being asked to support, verify and endorse this application as a peer who has expertise in teaching and/or supporting learning in higher education (HE). During the GOLD review process the independent supporting statements provided by the referees will be used to confirm that the submission presents a fair and accurate reflection of the applicant’s higher education practice.

# Am I the right person to provide a supporting statement for the applicant?

As a GOLD Mentor you will have current experience of working in higher education and will hold at least FHEA. You will have worked closely with the applicant, have first-hand knowledge of their HE professional practice and will be in a position to comment on and substantiate the applicant’s record of effectiveness within the context in which they teach and/or support learning. You should be able to confirm that the applicant has represented their practice accurately and provide your opinion that they demonstrate the requirements of the relevant descriptor and criteria of the PSF 2023.

The application for Associate Fellow (AFHEA) is based on current and recent HE practice (within the last 3 years). Please note that supporting statements should reflect professional relationships; i.e. not be from family members or based on personal friendships. The statement will be your independent and authentic account in support of the application. If you feel, having read this guidance, that you are not in a position to give a supporting statement then you should decline the request.

# What should I include in the supporting statement?

You can refer to specific elements of the GOLD application in your supporting statement and/or independently supply further evidence on their behalf, as appropriate. In either case, you should explicitly refer to descriptor statements for Associate Fellowship and to relevant dimensions of PSF 2023. You should provide examples to support your statement wherever possible.

In completing this Supporting Statement, you are confirming that you have read theGOLD D1 Associate Fellow - Guidance for Referees PSF 2023 document. You should use the [**Descriptor 1 criteria of the PSF 2023**](https://advance-he.ac.uk/knowledge-hub/professional-standards-framework-teaching-and-supporting-learning-higher-education-0?_ga=2.218154137.1225319294.1676230091-984464210.1638205624) (Figure 1) as a guide to writing your one page GOLD Mentor Supporting Statement. Descriptor 1 is suitable for individuals whose practice enables them to evidence some Dimensions. Effectiveness of practice in teaching and/or support of learning is demonstrated through evidence of:

* **D1.1** – Use of appropriate Professionals Values, ***including at least V1 and V3***
* **D1.2** – Application of appropriate Core Knowledge, ***including at least K1, K2 and K3***
* **D1.3** – Effective and inclusive practice in at least two of the five Areas of Activity

You should comment on the following in your supporting statement:

* your own personal experience of the applicant’s recent and effective HE practice;
* any inclusive practice and/or contribution to developments by the applicant in teaching and/or supporting learning within their context as appropriate;
* your perspective on the practical examples provided within the application to illustrate the Associate Fellowship requirements;
* comment about the teaching observation that you undertook (only for mentees who are claiming for A2).

Supporting statements that do not specifically and explicitly articulate the experience of the GOLD candidate with the specific dimensions of the PSF 2023 may risk jeopardising the application. If in doubt about any aspect of the supporting statements, please contact [gold@greenwich.ac.uk](mailto:gold@greenwich.ac.uk) for further guidance.

# Supporting Statement - Details

**This is an OPEN reference for a GOLD Associate Fellowship Application.**

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| **Candidate’s Name** |  |
| **Your Name** |  |
| **Your Job Title** |  |
| **The category of Fellowship you currently hold** | Associate Fellow  Fellow  Senior Fellow  Principal Fellow |
| **GOLD Mentor Confirmation**  By marking this box, you confirm that you are an approved GOLD mentor and have been this candidate’s GOLD mentor.  GOLD mentors must hold the same or higher category of fellowship to that the candidate is applying for. | I confirm |
| **Name of your Institution/Workplace** |  |
| **Name of your Faculty/Department/ School/Office/Directorate** |  |
| **Your email address**  Please provide your professional workplace one where possible |  |
| **How long have you known the candidate?**  Please put in the number of calendar years and months |  |
| **Date of teaching observation**  This only needs to be completed if the candidate is claiming A2 |  |
| **In what capacity can you comment on the applicant’s professional practice?** |  |

# Supporting Statement – Main statement

We recommend that the supporting statement is around 500 words (one side of an A4 page). Please ensure that you include mapping to the PSF 2023 where applicable in your statement and authenticates the candidate’s practice they have written about in their application

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# Declaration

In submitting your supporting statement, you are confirming that the applicant’s submission relates to their higher education professional practice and that your statement is your own work and has been written specifically for this applicant. If the professional integrity of the supporting statement is in question, it will not be accepted.

I declare that this supporting statement is written by me. I grant permission for this application to be processed through plagiarism detection software and/or for any other checks to be made regarding the accuracy of the information included in this supporting statement.

I confirm that I have read and agree with the declaration above:

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| --- | --- |
| **Your signature** |  |
| **Date** |  |