

6 December 2024

Dear Dr Xiaojun Feng,

At the recommendation of the Department of Development Studies, I am pleased to offer you the status of Visiting Scholar at SOAS University of London for a period of 3 months from early 2025 (the start date is dependent on visa) for the project "Employment of the rural elderly in China".

I hope that your association with the Department of Development Studies will bring tangible benefits both to you and to the department in terms of scholarly exchange and the development of collaborative initiatives. We encourage all our Visiting Scholars to play a full and active part in the intellectual life of the School, equivalent to that of an academic member of staff.

The status of Visiting Scholar entitles you to attend public seminars and use the SOAS Staff Common Room (SCR). You will have full access to our collections (including our special collections and archives). Photocopying facilities are available in the Library at additional cost. It is recommended that you bring a memory stick if you wish to save electronic information such as journal articles. You should also be able to connect your own laptop to the School network. Unfortunately, we do not provide office facilities or administrative assistance to Visiting Scholars.

During your time as a Visiting Scholar at SOAS, your main collaborator will be Professor Carlos Oya. You can contact them at co2@soas.ac.uk. For any administrative queries, please contact Carol Miles (cm17@soas.ac.uk) and codef-hub@soas.ac.uk.

Two weeks prior to your arrival I would ask you to please get in touch with your main collaborator and administrative contact to arrange a SOAS login and email account for you. They will also request to have your SOAS ID/Library card issued, and make sure that all relevant access has been arranged.

As a Visiting Scholar a bench fee is charged. See <https://www.soas.ac.uk/research/honorary-appointments> for current charges. Bench fee charges are paid via the online store: <https://store.soas.ac.uk/product-catalogue/university-services/visiting-bench-fee>.

Please be aware that SOAS does not have any residential accommodation of its own, so we ask Visiting Scholars to make their own arrangements. You may find the University of London Accommodation Office helpful: <https://housing.london.ac.uk/>.

In the event you are visiting SOAS from outside the European Union, it is your responsibility to ensure that you make appropriate visa arrangements if necessary. You may wish to refer to <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration>. Please note that this appointment does not constitute an offer of employment.

Once again, welcome to the SOAS community, and I hope your association with us will be both profitable and enjoyable.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laura Hammond', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Professor Laura Hammond FAcSS
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SOAS University of London
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cc Professor Carlos Oya
Carol Miles
codef-hub@soas.ac.uk