



2025 KLC Project Proposal

Thank you for your interest in starting a project and furthering the mission of Christ in the world. KLC aims to use its resources to ensure that your project is well conceived, better resourced, and maximises its impact – for the common good.

This application helps to lay out some of the basic foundations of your project so that we are able to assess whether KLC is a project partner for you and, if so, to help us assess next steps and to set up your project page on our website.

Your answers don't need to be long or fully formed; they're just telling us what is in place so far. For more information see the notes at the end.

A. Contact Person

1. Name:

2. Email:

3. Date:

B. Project Team

4. Has your project emerged from within a KLC community (hub, seminar or collective)?
If so, which one?

5. Who is the project leader or leaders (i.e., the ones doing the majority of the planning, authoring, etc.)?

6. Are there any other collaborators (i.e., in a support role) attached to the project?

7. Is this research being conducted under the auspices of any other organisations? E.g., a church, a university, a book publisher etc.

C. Problem Statement and Approach

8. Under what broad discipline(s) or topic area(s) does this project fall?

9. What is the specific problem that this project has been convened to address? This should be as clear and concrete as possible. Feel free to list any other motivations too.

10. Do you have any proposed solution(s) in mind?

11. Do you have an approach to your research in mind (a methodology, such as experiment, quantitative surveys, biblical exegesis, etc.)?

D. Production

12. What product(s) do you hope to have at the end of this project (e.g., an academic/popular book, a conference, a course, new legislation, etc.)?

E. Impact

13. What will be the hoped-for effect of this project on the problem (whether for the church or the world)?

14. What would be your definition of success? How would you measure this impact?

F. Support

15. Have you secured any external funding sources for this project? (Please specify sources and any conditions upon which this funding is predicated.)

16. Have you identified any areas in which you are particularly in need of help?

17. Are there any questions we should have asked you but didn't?

NOTES

A. Project Team

Projects should ideally emerge from within the Kirby Laing Centre fellows community, whether from within a Hub or a specially convened group (a “collective”), because we hope, firstly, to have existing relationships with all our scholars, and secondly we hope for KLC research projects to be characterised by community and collaboration. Rooting a project in a hub means that some level of team consensus and energy is behind it from the start. We acknowledge, however, that worthwhile projects may emerge by other routes.

Most of the questions in this section are aimed at identifying who is currently involved in the project and ensuring that members are given due credit. KLC means to work with you and your team to maximise your strengths and to supply areas of weakness, including suggesting additional collaborators who may be able to help in these areas. KLC is not about taking credit away from the project team.

Regarding the involvement of other organisations, it does not hurt your proposal to have other organisations involved; we merely need to coordinate the roles and responsibilities of each party so that we work well together and not at cross purposes.

B. Problem Statement and Approach

There are lots of good, important, Christ-honouring projects that are not *KLC* projects. We like to think of KLC projects as missional and emerging from the things that *keep our community awake at night*. We are most energised to help achieve research goals that are broadly public theological (i.e., they are concerned with applying biblical truth to the public sphere for the common good), that are bigger than we can achieve as individuals (i.e., they require a multi-gifted body to work together), and that are ambitious to make positive, common-good impacts upon the church and the world for the sake of Christ.

For these reasons, the questions in this section are aiming to locate your project in the domain(s) you have in mind, whether a social domain or an academic one, to understand the problem that you are hoping to address, and to follow how and why you’re trying to address it. It helps us to see whether it falls within the bounds of a KLC kind of project, and it gives us a sense of where development work might most be needed.

C. Production

A major service that KLC provides is in the domain of publishing. We have experience in publishing our products within major publishing houses, under our own commercial imprint, and more casually in our publications or online.

The packaging of your research begins with the project page that we create on our website to catalogue progress, to publish useful ancillary resources created along the way, to help with publicity, and so on. Depending on the kinds of products that you have in mind to produce and their suitability for certain platforms, KLC may be able to provide other publishing outlets.

KLC needs to know if you have existing publishing outlets in mind because (a) we may be able to help, and (b) this is likely to affect what we are able to make available via other media.

D. Impact

KLC's projects are missional, and therefore *explicit about the impact* that they hope to have in the public sphere. We have been inspired by groups such as the Clapham Sect, including members such as William Wilberforce, who were a group of ordinary people of varying gifts and platforms who were energised to see their faith make a difference. Their creative thinking and organisation saw them take major counter-cultural roles in the abolition of slavery and of animal cruelty (by establishing the SPCA). This is not to say that our projects must be activist. Impact goals can be educational, for example, but you should aim at an intended goal, one that is measurable in some way, for a community that needs it. If you do not yet have a clear impact in mind, KLC is happy to help develop such avenues for your work.

E. Support

KLC is a charity and we seek funding to enable us to offer our services without charge as well as to facilitate our internal research projects. We encourage our wider community to seek sources of funding for projects that require resourcing, but funding can come with strings attached. As a result, we need to factor in any such strings as we help to develop your project.

If you are applying for or seeking funding under the KLC banner we ask you to keep us in the loop; we may be able to help point you to suitable foundations. Please be sure as well to include some overhead costs in your applications. We suggest this should be 5-10% of the application. KLC is a charity and we are glad to serve but we do also need to keep KLC going in a healthy way.

In terms of the service and support that KLC offers, we are a hub that connects scholars from a range of disciplines, aiming to create a powerful multi-membered Christian body that can cooperate to achieve things that none of us could do on our own. In such a context, to be aware of one's own weaknesses is what makes one strong. Our hope is that your project will excite members of our community to join you on your mission, and that you will one day be excited to join another group on theirs.

As a result, we encourage you to think of areas in which your available expertise or capacity potentially falls short, and to be aware of other disciplines in which KLC's network of scholars and practitioners could help.