

Preamble

The Tom Sharpe Chair of Literature (CLTS) at the University of Girona has, among its objectives, the organization and curating of the Tom Sharpe Collection housed in the UdG's 'Campus Barri Vell' Library, a collection that brings together the personal legacy of one of the most popular British novelists of the 20th century, who passed away in 2013 in Llafranc, where he spent the last twenty years of his life. Additionally, the CLTS aims to promote the study, research, and dissemination of literature, especially in the English language, and to achieve this goal it organizes a range of activities (courses, lectures, awards, etc.). Within this framework, and with the aim of fostering the knowledge of the relations between Catalan and English-language literature, the CLTS announces the

‘Tom Sharpe Chair of Literature’ Grant 2027

Biennial Call for Research and Dissemination

under the following rules:

1 Aim of the Grant

- a) The ‘Tom Sharpe Chair of Literature’ Grant 2027 will be awarded to the best research or dissemination project on the relationships between Catalan-language literature and English-language literature, from any perspective: critical, historiographical, comparative, theoretical, etc. It may address any aspect that, in some way, connects authors, works, periods, movements, genres, themes, motifs, and influences of literature in Catalan and literature written in English.
- b) The length of the text will be between 50,000 and 120,000 words.
- c) Projects can develop different themes or aspects as outlined in point (1a) of the rules, provided there is a link among them that ensures the unity and coherence of the final text.
- d) The languages accepted for the writing of the work are English and Catalan.
- e) The deadline for submitting the final work is two years from the date of the verdict (see point 5 of these rules), that is, June 6, 2029, the sixteenth anniversary of Tom Sharpe’s passing, without prejudice to the possibility of submitting it before this date.

Projects submitted by a group of people will be admitted.

2 Documentation

To qualify for the Grant, candidates must submit the following documentation:

- a) A work plan of between 1,200 and 2,000 words consisting of a detailed description of the theme to be developed, the objectives, the methodology to be used, the general nature of the work and the planned index. The research project must be submitted in the same language in which the final work will be written, among those specified in point (1d).
- b) Curriculum vitae of the candidate.
- c) Signed document authorising the digital publication of the work on the CLTS website, should it win the award.
- d) Signed document agreeing to take part in any event(s) organised by the CLTS to promote the winning project, should theirs be selected.
- e) Signed declaration wherein the candidate(s) states that the final work resulting from the project, should it win the award, will be wholly original and previously unpublished, and will not be a copy or modification, be it total or partial, of any other own or third-party work.

3 Call deadline and where to submit the application

Candidates must send the required documents outlined in point 2 of the rules to the email address *catedratomsharpe@udg.edu*, following these instructions:

- a) The subject line of the email must say: “Tom Sharpe Chair of Literature Grant 2027 application”.
- b) The main body of the email will contain the name of the person submitting the project, their postal mail and the title of the project.
- c) The required documents outlined in point 2 of the rules will be attached in pdf format.

The deadline for submitting projects is 30 March 2027, the ninety-ninth anniversary of the birth of Tom Sharpe, at 12:00 pm, Girona time.

4 Winning project

The winning project will receive a prize of 3,500 euros, to be paid in two amounts: an advance of 50% of the total prize money on publication of the jury’s decision, and the other 50% when, within a maximum period of one month of delivering the winning project, the president of the jury attests to its consistency with the project application presented and that it meets the expected standards of quality and academic rigour.

Should the winner of the Grant not deliver the final work before the deadline stated in point (1e) of these rules, or should the content or quality of the work not be consistent with those stated in the project outline submitted, or should the work not meet the requirements set out in point (2e) of these rules, the candidate will be asked to return the advance made of 50% of the total amount of the prize money.

Aside from the financial award granted, the final work will be published on the CLTS website, where it can be consulted with the prior permission of the director of the CLTS. The CLTS will also promote the printed edition of the work. In any edition of the work, whether in full or in part, the indication “With the support of the Tom Sharpe Chair of Literature at the University of Girona” or its equivalent in Catalan must be included.

The Grant may be declared void if the jury considers that none of the project applications guarantees a final work of the quality standard outlined in points (1a), (1b) and (1d) of the rules.

The Grant cannot be shared among two or more candidates.

5 Decision of the jury

The jury will issue its verdict, which will be made public on the CLTS website, on 6 June 2027, the fourteenth anniversary of Tom Sharpe's passing. The verdict will not be subject to appeal.

The jury will assess the expected quality of the final work, the level of interest and originality of the project, and its alignment with point 1 of these rules.

6 Jury

The jury for the 'Tom Sharpe Chair of Literature' Grant 2027 will be composed of Dr. Eva Espasa Borràs, Lecturer in Translation Studies at the Universitat de Vic; Dr. Laura Gimeno Pahissa, Lecturer in North American Literature at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona; Dr. Jordi Julià Garriga, Lecturer in Literary Theory and Comparative Literature at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona; and Dr. Jordi Sala Lleal, the director of the CLTS, who will serve as the president of the jury. In the event of a tie in the voting, the president of the jury will have a casting vote.

The director of the CLTS can make any necessary changes to the composition of the jury should any of the members have to be substituted for causes of force majeure.

7 Other

If you have any queries or need any clarification about the 'Tom Sharpe Chair of Literature' Grant 2027, please write to the email address secretaria.catedratomsharpe@gmail.com.

In compliance with the provisions of Spain's Organic Law 3/2018, of 5 December, on the protection of personal data and the guarantee of digital rights (LOPDGD), the candidates accept that their personal data may be used exclusively for information purposes for other CLTS calls and activities. The candidates can, at any time, request in writing that their data be eliminated from the CLTS database, at the email address secretaria.catedratomsharpe@gmail.com.

The CLTS is exempt from any responsibility derived from any act of plagiarism or any other breach of current legislation on the part of the candidate(s).

The CLTS is authorized to decide on any unforeseen contingencies not provided for in these rules.

Participation in the call implies both knowledge and acceptance of these rules. In the event of a conflict in interpretation, particularly regarding what is specified in point 4 of these rules, the matter will be under the jurisdiction of the courts of Girona.

Girona, 20 July 2026

Winner of the 'Tom Sharpe Chair of Literature' Grant 2025:

Richard Mansell, "'I loved Barcelona, with all my weak heart'. The Irish poet and the Catalan city"