



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WITH RESEARCH

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Internal Events & Opportunities

Lapworth Lates – the next Lapworth Museum Lates event will take place on 13 February with a theme of ‘Relationships’. Researchers are invited to submit ideas for interactive activities, workshops, demonstrations or creative content linked to the theme. Send a short description of the proposed activity plus a catchy title to lapworth@contacts.bham.ac.uk by **19 December**.

PER Skills Training – PER Team will be running a bumper day of training on **7 January** for all your engagement skill needs. To get started join us for [The Engaged Researcher: Introduction to engagement and impact](#) 10am-12:30pm, then get creative with [DESIGN-A-DEMO: How to make your research hands-on](#), 1-3pm, or get an insight to the media in [Newsworthy: How to navigate the media for researchers](#) 3-4:30pm. Come along for one, two or all three to get all you need to ensure your engagement is effective and impactful!

Research Engagement Officer – PER Team is hiring! This is a Grade 7, fixed term role until September 2022 working on institutional culture change and supporting academics to do public engagement and particular with brokering partnerships. Deadline **12 January**, [job advert here](#), feel free to [get in touch](#) if you have any questions.

Community Engagement Coordinator – PER Team is hiring another role! This is for a Grade 7, fixed term role for 18 months, working with community groups to develop new public engagement projects that create meaningful outcomes. This post will have a focus on developing ways of working for the University’s new City Centre hub, The Exchange. Deadline **12 January**, [job advert here](#) (open to external candidates from Friday).

Creative Engagement: Digital Strategies – On **22 January** join PER Team for the next workshop in our [#CREATIVEENGAGEMENT](#) series. This time [Prof Alice Roberts](#) and special guest Chris Wakefield will explore digital engagement work by Cambridge Archaeological Unit on [Must Farm](#) followed by a hands-on session for attendees to think through their own digital engagement strategies with insight from UoB researchers. All welcome, includes lunch. [Sign up now](#).

Breakfast Brainstorm - Our next monthly drop-in session will take place on **29 January** from 9-11am. Open to all who want to learn more or get advice and support on public engagement. Find us in Muirhead Tower Starbucks, upper level seating – look out for the Breakfast Brainstorm banner! For more information visit our [website](#).

Light of Understanding Awards – If you or someone you know has been doing amazing public engagement please submit a nomination for the Light of Understanding Award for Excellence in Public Engagement. Any individual or team engaging the public with UoB research in innovative and creative ways is eligible and the winner(s) receives £2,000 to further their good practice. Find out more and make a nomination [here](#), deadline **29 February**.

PER Fund - The Public Engagement Team’s funding scheme is open year round to support great ideas with seed-corn funding of <£250. For larger amounts, <£2,000 deadlines are quarterly (28 Feb, 30 May, 31 Aug, 28 Nov). [Details, criteria and application form here](#).

PER Community Profile - If you’re a keen engager we’d love to give you a Community Profile on our newly refreshed PER Team website to inspire others and showcase our brilliant engaged researchers. To be featured just fill out some [details here](#) and submit to [the PER Team here](#).

Discovery Society Speakers - The Bewdley School and Sixth Form is launching a new venture, the Discovery Society, which will feature guest speakers giving scientific lectures to students and staff. For more information or to register your information in taking part please contact [Carl Stevenson](#) (GEES) or [Mr Hadley-Price](#) (Bewdley School).

Newsletter - Want PER Team updates in your inbox each month? Sign up to our [newsletter here](#).

External Events & Opportunities

Wellcome Photography Prize - Awarded to pictures that capture compelling imagery that encourages conversations about the health challenges of the current time. Each of the five categories has a prize worth £1,250, with the overall winner receiving a prize of £15,000. Deadline **16 December**, [more info here](#).

Adolescence, Mental Health and the Developing Mind Awards - These MRC/AHRC/ESRC engagement awards aim to build and strengthen a cross-disciplinary community in the research area of adolescence, mental health and the developing mind. The total budget is £1.6 million to support awards <£100,000 each at 80% of full economic costs over up to one year. Deadline **17 December**, [more info here](#).

Humanities Symposium – ‘Creative Minds: Exploring the Relationship between Theatre-Makers and Research’ is a symposium for researchers and theatre practitioners taking place in Oxford on 12-13 February. The symposium is now open for submissions in the form of 200 word abstracts. [Details here](#), deadline **20 December**.

Cheltenham Science Festival – Applications are now open for the next festival being held 2-7 June 2020. You can apply to deliver activities as part of their interactive zones [here](#), deadline **20 December**. The festival attracts thousands of members of the public so is a great event to get involved in.

Interdisciplinary Impact Award – Emerald Publishing are awarding a prize of £10,000 to an interdisciplinary, collaborative research project in the Social Sciences that can demonstrate real world impact and promotes action on a societal ‘grand challenge’. The award can be used for dissemination and engagement to further the impact of the work. Details [here](#), deadline **20 December**.

Canadian Studies Grants – from the Canada-UK Foundation supports those in UK higher education with specific activities-based projects designed to enhance and extend the reach of Canada-linked studies in existing UK centres and hubs. Grants are worth up to £1,000. Deadline **6 January**, [apply here](#).

SCIFEST – is University of Wolverhampton’s annual science and engineering festival taking place on 10-11 July. If you would like to get involved to deliver shows, workshops or other interactive content please [let us know](#) and we will send over the application form. Deadline **6 January**.

British Science Festival – the next British Science Festival will take place with Anglia Ruskin University in Chelmsford and Essex on 8-12 September 2020 and applications are now open for lectures and events. Festival proposals should be aimed at non-specialist adults (16+) with a broad interest in science. Award Lectures are for promising and engaging Early Career researchers in 7 different categories. Deadline **6 January**, [details here](#). For event ideas apply to the open call which is open until **17 February**. [Details and apply](#).

ERC Public Engagement Award – This new award is to recognise ERC grantees (current or holding European funds with the last 2 years) who make the effort to engage with audiences beyond the scientific community and do so in effective and original ways. The award has three categories: public outreach, press and media relations, and online and social media. [See here for full application guidance](#), deadline is **10 January** and help is available [from the PER Team](#) for potential applicants.

AI For Good Grants – from Nesta to support projects that use AI for social good in the UK (and specifically must include activity in Scotland). Grants are worth between £15,000 and £20,000 each, with a total budget of £100,000. Deadline **10 January**, [details and apply here](#).

BIG Little Event – the British Interactive Group will be holding their ‘Little Event’, a one-day training session for people who are new to STEM communication on skills and careers, at the Birmingham and Midland Institute on **12 January**, 10am-4:30pm. [Programme and tickets available here](#). Tickets cost £45 and attendees must be BIG members (membership is £30 a year).

PCST Network – the Public Communication of Science and Technology is seeking proposals for online content on science communication, for example, blogposts, videos, interviews or debate pieces. Content must have at least 5 ‘resources’ (images, links, videos, references). Contributors will be paid €200 per article to be delivered within 6 months. Register interest [by email](#) with a two sentence pitch, one sentence bio and anticipated bio by **12 January**.

Physics Scholarships – Now available for the Erice International Science Journalism School for your science communicators or journalists. The 2020 school theme will be ‘Physics for human health’ and the meeting takes place

in Sicily, in the town of Erice. Application deadline **13 January** ahead of the meeting which runs 21-26 March. Course is in English. [Details here](#), and [criteria here](#).

IOP Outreach Awards – the 2020 Institute of Physics Awards are now open for nominations and include Outreach Award to recognise outstanding contribution to community / schools engagement. [Details and nominations here](#). Deadline **13 January**. The IOP is also seeking nominations for Honorary Fellowships for leader in physics education and outreach, [see here for details](#).

David Attenborough Award – the new Royal Society prize for outstanding public engagement with science for individuals with a proven track record of excellence in PER. [Find out more](#), deadline **13 January**.

Royal Society of Chemistry Fund – the RSC Outreach Fund is now open for both small (£500<£2,000) and large grants (<£10,000) to support public and schools engagement events and activities. Open to RSC members and non-members, deadline **13 January**. [Further information and apply here](#).

Alternarratives – is a NESTA programme which offers ten £1,000 bursaries and a £15,000 grand prize for writers (no formal/published writing experience necessary) to explore innovation in short-form storytelling to encourage young people to engage with stories in new ways. Initial submission deadline **13 January** for projects to be developed from March with winner announced in June. [Details here](#).

Wellcome Diversity Inclusion Grants - This enables current Wellcome grant holders to increase the impact of their work in regards to diversity and inclusion. Grants are <£20,000 and last until the end of the main Wellcome grant. Deadline **16 January**, [more info here](#).

American Studies Award - The British Association for American Studies invites applications for its public engagement and impact award. This supports public engagement and impact projects by postgraduate and early-career members of the association in any field of American studies. The award is worth £750 to cover costs of meetings, including organising workshops or conferences designed to bring together project partners and to showcase the project. [Full details and application here](#), deadline **17 January**.

POST Fellowships – the Parliamentary Office for Science and Technology (POST) is seeking Academics and Professional Service's staff to undertake short Fellowships on a number of themes including Knowledge Exchange and Public Engagement. Projects help parliamentary teams understand current research and improve their work and processes. For [details on projects and how to apply see here](#). Deadline **19 January**.

WISE Awards – from the Qatar Foundation recognise innovative projects that address global education challenges at any level and in all environments, and which have demonstrated a transformative impact on communities and societies. . Six awards, worth USD 20,000 each, are available. Deadline **20 January**, [details and apply here](#).

Roger Needham Award – from the British Computer Society recognises outstanding research contribution in computer science. The award comprises £5,000 and an opportunity to give a public lecture on the winning work. Deadline **24 January**, [details and apply here](#).

Athena Prize – the Royal Society prize awarded to the UK team that has contributed most to the advancement of diversity in science, technology, engineering and mathematics within their communities. The prize is worth £5,000. Deadline **27 January**, [details and apply here](#).

Michael Faraday Prize – the Royal Society prize awarded to a scientist or engineer whose expertise in communicating scientific ideas in lay terms is exemplary. The prize is worth £2,500. Deadline **27 January**, [details and apply here](#).

Wilkins-Bernal-Medawar Award – the Royal Society prize awarded to recognise contributions to the history of science, philosophy of science or social function of science. The prize is worth £2,000, deadline is **27 January**, [details and apply here](#).

Youth Dialogue Grants - Support the active participation of young people in democratic life, and foster debate around topics relevant to the EU youth strategy. Grants are worth up to €50,000 over between three and 24 months. Deadline **5 February**. [Details here](#).

Noël Turner Science Festival – a 2-day celebration of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), aiming to spark curiosity in STEM for primary and secondary students on the Isle of Wight on 6-7 February is looking for contributors to run workshops for 30-100 students, lasting up to an hour. Practical elements and research related to engineering particularly welcome. More info or apply [by email](#).

European Geosciences Union Grants - To recognise excellence science communications in the Earth, planetary and space science and to support the development of outreach projects that raise awareness of geoscience outside the scientific community. Three grants worth €1,500 each are available. Deadline **15 February**. [Details here](#).

FameLab – is an international science communication competition that sees scientists and engineers attempt to engage and entertain audiences on research subjects armed only with their wits and a prop or two. There are regional training sessions and heats across the UK (the closest is in Sheffield) before the national final in June at Cheltenham Science Festival. Or you can apply by video before **28 February**. [Info and application form here](#).

ATOM Science Festival – family-friendly festival taking place in Abingdon, near Oxford 14-22 March is looking for researchers to take part in their Science Market (**14 March**) and family Science Fair (**22 March**) as well as volunteers to help with the smooth running of the main festival programme. [Details and application information here](#).

Royal Society Training - Public Engagement for Independent Researchers is a one-day workshop on **23 March** at University of Birmingham for mid-career scientists with little or no experience of engaging public audiences with their research. It's designed to give you the confidence and skills required to get started and includes the opportunity to meet professionals who can help you implement your ideas. Places cost £150+VAT, though PER Team have a small number of fully-funded tickets. [Email us](#) to register your interest in receiving a free place.

Bristol Science Film Festival – Is now accepting short science-based fact or fiction films for their annual short science film competition. Winning films receive cash prizes and all shortlisted film makers are invited to a screening on 6 June as part of the festival. Details [here](#), deadline **1 May**. For tips on making a winning film see [here](#), or check out the 2019 shortlist [here](#).

Child Development Grants – are available from the Waterloo Foundation to support the dissemination of knowledge and best practice to children and their carers, and to related professionals. Maximum award is £10,000. No deadline for submission, but end of February or mid-June 2020 preferred (to align with research funding dates). [Details here](#).

Café Scientifique Birmingham – is looking for speakers for their June to November meetings next year. Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month at Purecraft Bar in the City Centre and the organisers are open to suggestions on themes, though showcasing particular links to Birmingham in the research would be welcomed. [Get in touch](#) if you'd be interested in taking part with brief idea of what the talk would be on.

Animal Welfare Grants – the Marchig Animal Welfare Trust supports organisations and individuals with projects that encourage initiatives designed to improve animal welfare, promote alternative methods to animal experimentation and their practical implementation or promote and encourage practical work in alleviating suffering and preventing cruelty to animals. [Details here](#), or [apply here](#).

Community Engagement Online Course - A new FREE online course for community engagement practitioners in low and middle-income countries is now live on The Global Health Network. [The Practice and Ethics of Participatory Visual Methods for Community Engagement in Public Health and Health Science](#) facilitating engagement processes with groups of community residents to generate creative visual materials and foster discussion and learning about health and health research.

Maths Communication Book – World Scientific are publishing a new book on mathematical science communication and are seeking contributors to provide case studies of projects or contribute to information on general principles for communicating maths. Pitch content ideas by email to [Anna Maria Hartkopf](#).

Science in the Wild – Friends of Cotteridge Park are looking for researchers to run science sessions January - June 2020 in the park. Sessions take place on the last Sunday of each month, 2-4pm (ish), and attract dozens of local families. [Get in touch](#) if you'd like to run a session.

Heritage Grants – National Lottery Heritage Fund supports projects that connect people and communities to the national, regional and local heritage of the UK. Grants are worth £10,000 <£100,000 each for up to 5 years. Applications open **year-round**. [More details and apply here](#).

Otto Harpner Fund - Supports short visits to Austria by UK residents (or vice versa), to undertake specific cultural activities that help foster relationships between the two countries. Awards are generally in the region of £500 but may be worth up to £1,000. Apply **year-round**. [Details here](#).

Plant Pathology Promotion fund – From the British Society for Plant Pathology to support projects aiming to promote an understanding and awareness of plant pathology to a wider audience. Funding is worth up to £2,000. **No deadline**, applications considered quarterly. [Apply online here](#).

Animal Behaviour Grants – the Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour offers Public Engagement Grants of <£2,000 to members and non-members to create activities aimed at young people and/or the general public, to communicate the science of animal behaviour. **Open year-round** with outcomes in June and November, [details here](#).

British Pharmacological Society Engagement grants – Grants up to £1,500 available to support outreach activities related to innovative pharmacology. Seeding grants of £250 available **all year round**. [Details here](#).

Physiological Society Funding – Grants of <£500 available to members and non-members **year-round** to increase understanding and awareness of physiology, engaging study at higher education and beyond, and to promote The Society, its vision and its activities. Collaborative / creative applications encouraged. [Details here](#).

ESRC Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) – The Economic and Social Research Council IAA is now open for a new funding round. Details, deadlines, guidance and application forms [can be accessed here](#).

Reaction Awards - Grants up to £5,000 available to any researcher for public engagement activities provided the application includes research in an STFC-funded area of science or technology. [Full details here](#), applications **open year round**.

NC3Rs Public Engagement Grants -Up to £1,500 to support NC3Rs-funded researchers (past and present) to engage the public with approaches to replace, reduce and refine animal use in science. Deadline: quarterly, [apply here](#).

Genetics Society Public Engagement Grants - Grants of up to £500 are available to members of the Genetics Society to cover costs associated with travel and materials for public engagement activities relevant to Genetics. Deadline: rolling, [apply here](#).

Public Engagement Jobs - Career opportunities in Public Engagement and SciComm are often advertised through relevant JISC mailing lists. If you would like to hear about such vacancies please sign up to the [NCCPE JISCmail](#) and/or the [SciComm](#) list.

BBSRC Professional Internships – Available to BBSRC-funded PhD students to gain 3 months' work experience with the Council, including in Public Engagement. Applications are **open year round** and details on how to apply [can be found here](#).

For more information, to ask questions or to let us know about other opportunities, contact us via; our blog at <https://thinkpe.net> by email: engage@contacts.bham.ac.uk or Twitter [@uobengage](#)

Many thanks from the UoB PER Team