**European Researcher’s Night 2017**

**Expression of interest to participate in *Curiosity Carnival***

***Guidance notes***

**Introduction**

On 29 September 2017 the biggest-ever University event showcasing our world-leading research will be taking place in Oxford

For the first time the University’s four Academic Divisions, plus the four University museums (Ashmolean, Natural History, Pitt Rivers and History of Science), the Bodleian Libraries, the Botanic Gardens, Wytham Woods, TORCH, Oxford Sparks, Research Services and the Public Affairs Directorate, as well as Oxford Brookes University and MRC Harwell are all collaborating on an event, and this is **YOUR** chance to be involved too.

The event is called *Curiosity Carnival* and it will showcase the world-leading research taking place here at Oxford to a large and diverse audience through an exciting programme that will include everything from live experiments, research busking to pop-up talks, interactive stalls and a pub quiz. A six month digital and media engagement campaign will lead up to the event.

*Curiosity Carnival* is Oxford’s contribution to [European Researcher’s Night](http://ec.europa.eu/research/researchersnight/index_en.htm), a Europe-wide celebration of academic research for the public, organised by the European Commission (EC) as part of the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions. It takes place in selected Universities on the last Friday of September each year and includes research from **all disciplines** and **all funding sources** – not just EC-funded research.

We are now planning the programme for *Curiosity Carnival* and we are looking to hear from researchers across the University who are keen to have the opportunity to share their research with the public. You do not need to have an activity developed already; at this stage we’re looking for enthusiasm and interesting ideas.

**FAQ’s**

***Who can take part in the Curiosity Carnival?***

Contributions to *Curiosity Carnival* need to be researcher-led although activities can be co-ordinated by academic support and museums staff. Researchers can be at any stage in their career from DPhil to senior academic, and funded from any source.

***What types of activities would be suitable?***

Activities must showcase current or recent academic research undertaken by University of Oxford researchers.

We’re looking for a wide-variety of activities that could include:

* + Talks
  + Demonstrations
  + Experiments
  + Performances
  + Tours
  + Interactive stalls
  + Exhibition materials - for example photographs, paintings, videos

**This list is not exhaustive** and we’d welcome suggestions of innovative ways to engage public audiences, either in the “real-world” or digitally.

If you do not have an idea for an activity but are keen to be involved - there are curated activities that you can get involved in and support is available to help you develop your ideas.

***Who are the key audiences for Curiosity Carnival?***

* Young people, young adults, adults or family groups
* Secondary school students and their teachers
* Young people’s influencers (eg teachers, family members etc)
* Those that are currently under-represented at University events or as museum visitors

**What support is available?**

Training and support will be offered to develop activities and to develop your public engagement skills.

**How do I find out more about *Curiosity Carnival* and Public Engagement with Research at the University?**

Updates regarding *Curiosity Carnival* and other opportunities will be available by signing up to the Public Engagement with Research Digest (email [publicengagement@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:publicengagement@admin.ox.ac.uk) with START DIGEST in the subject) and from the University’s online Public Engagement with Research portal <http://www.ox.ac.uk/research/public-engagement>.

**How do I get involved?**

Initially we are asking people to complete the **Expression of Interest form**. The expression of interest form should be emailed to [publicengagement@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:publicengagement@admin.ox.ac.uk) by **12 noon Monday 5 December 2016.**

**If you have any further questions about *Curiosity Carnival* please email publicengagement@admin.ox.ac.uk**