

Public Engagement with Research Seed Fund 2018/19



This internal scheme provides grants to academics and researchers to develop, deliver and evaluate Public Engagement with Research projects.

The fund is supported by the University's Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF).

The following 20 projects have been funded with grants ranging from £2000 to £4000 and will take place from January – June 2019.

Section 1 - Humanities

Section	Principal Investigator	Project Title
1.1	Dr Erica Charters	Oxford and Empire tours
1.2	Dr Sian Gronlie	Saga Project: Tales the Vikings Told
1.3	Dr Suzan Kalayci	Refugee Children – now and then
1.4	Professor Katrin Kohl	Uncovering Language Lives
1.5	Professor Kate McLoughlin	Into Silence
1.6	Dr Toby Young	Remixing the Genre

Section 2 - Continuing Education

Section	Principal Investigator	Project Title
2.1	Dr Nihan Akyelken	Mobile Lives: Co-researching mobility-related social exclusions in Istanbul



Section 3 - Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences

Section	Principal Investigator	Project Title
3.1	Christopher Duncan	Multi-wavelength astronomy in VR
3.2	Professor Alain Goriely	Oxford Mathematics Escape Room
3.3	Dr Tonya Lander	Citizen Science for Inspiration, Education and Bee Conservation
3.4	Professor David Pyle	Volcanoes and Regrets
3.5	Dr Cedric Tan	The WildCru game (dissemination and research)

Section 4 - Medical Sciences

Section	Principal Investigator	Project Title
4.1	Dr Alexandra Hendry	BabyLab on tour
4.2	Professor Chrystalina Antoniadis	Picturing Parkinson's: building bridges between patients and neuroscientists
4.3	Dr George Busby	The Mobile Maria Project Expedition Comic Strip

Section 5 - Social Sciences

Section	Principal Investigator	Project Title
5.1	Dr Juanjo Garcia-Granero	From the Neolithic to the table
5.2	Professor Dan Hicks	LANDE: the Calais "Jungle" and Beyond
5.3	Dr Julia Viebach	Bearing Witness - Kwibuka25
5.4	Dr David Humphreys	Preventing firearm violence through improved opportunities for voluntary firearm disposal
5.5	Dr Jade Whitlam	Farming: the first 12,000 years



1. Humanities

1.1. Dr Erica Charters

Associate Professor of Global History and the
History of Medicine
Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine



Oxford and Empires

This project will train History Faculty doctoral students in public engagement, encouraging them to develop public tours that address and discuss the legacy of colonialism in Oxford. Aimed at tourists, DPhil students will give tours on monuments, buildings, and parts of Oxford that demonstrate the history of imperialism. The project will provide thoughtful historical contextualisation and discussions of the role of empire and colonialism's legacy in Oxford. It will also enable history postgraduate students to increase public understanding of Oxford's imperial past while reflecting upon their discipline's public and political context.

1.2. Dr Sian Gronlie

Associate Professor
Faculty of English / St Anne's College

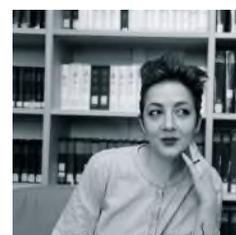
The Saga Project: Tales the Vikings Told

Oxford has a thriving research community working on the myths, legends and sagas of the Viking Age. This is a rich body of stories about gods, giants, heroes, warrior women, shape-shifters, kings and poets. Some of them are even set in England: Ivar the Boneless, Egill the Warrior-Poet and Sigurd the Dragon-Slayer respectively raided in England, visited England and were depicted in English art.

These are not just wonderful stories, they are our stories, and they were written for everyone to enjoy. The aim of this project is to take these stories into primary schools, using storytelling, interactive games and multi-sensory objects to bring them alive, immersing the children in the world of the Vikings and making the stories easier to recall and retell.

1.3. Dr Suzan Kalayci

British Academy International Newton Fellow
Faculty of History



Refugee Children – Now and Then

Today there are 25.4 million refugees worldwide, over half of whom are under the age of 18, and a quarter are refugee children from Syria. Many of these children are living in

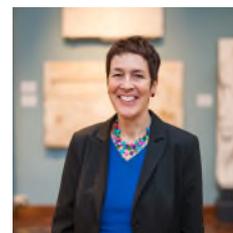


refugee camps without access to medical care, let alone schooling, and are often deprived of food and shelter. They are among the most vulnerable and affected groups of the Syrian conflict.

As part of a series of refugee-related projects organised within the University's Gardens, Libraries & Museums, this project will focus on 'refugee children - now and then.' This project will also aim encourage links between historians and humanitarian practitioners for mutual benefit. Accompanying events for school students and adults will engage these groups in current refugee crisis debates between Oxford academics and humanitarian practitioners.

1.4. Professor Katrin Kohl

Professor of German Literature
Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages



Uncovering Language Lives

Many people perceive the UK, and themselves, as monolingual. Where people have learned another language at school, they often see themselves as having failed to achieve competence. Any 'heritage' or 'community' language they may speak is frequently perceived – contrary to the evidence – as compromising the mastery of English.

This project will encourage participants to appreciate any experience of other languages as an asset and contribute to legacy resources showcasing the value of language diversity. We will recruit diverse (age, ethnicity, disability) participants and support them in discovering and expressing their hidden language biographies. They will engage in creative activities such as filming vox-pops, drawing, and scriptwriting with professional arts facilitators, exploring their lives through the prism of their language experiences – those they speak and those in their heritage, those they have been taught and those they have been discouraged or fascinated by. The participants will contribute to investigating the role of 'language lives' as a source of creative energy, in the context of our research on the nexus between linguistic diversity and creativity.

1.5. Professor Kate McLoughlin

Professor of English Literature
Faculty of English Language and Literature



Into Silence

Into Silence is an interdisciplinary, public-facing enquiry into the artistic, cultural and historical significance of silence. It brings together members of the public (including those with hearing impairments), academics from a range of disciplines and creative practitioners (musicians, sound installationists, dancers, film-makers, mime-artists, body percussionists) to share different kinds of performed silence together and to



reflect on what they have experienced. In the silences of the performances (sound-sculptures, mime, movement, soundless music), in the silences between them and in the silences that lead into and out of each event, those in attendance are encouraged to sense silence physically, to feel it emotionally and to think about it critically. The evening performances will be followed by workshops the next morning in which we discuss what has been discovered in the light of literary, cultural and philosophical commentaries on silence.

1.6. Dr Toby Young

Gianturco Junior Research Fellow
Linacre College / Faculty of Music



Remixing the Genre

Classical music audiences are dropping considerably, with many people believing that classical music 'isn't for them' or that they haven't got anything in common with the music (Pitts 2018). By elucidating the commonalities between classical and pop music through two innovative club nights in London and Oxford and Electronic Dance Music remixes of classical works by four major producers, this project seeks to ignite interest for classical music in new audiences, inspiring clubbers to invest time and energy in discovering classical music.

2. Continuing Education

2.1. Dr Nihan Akyelken

Associate Professor in Sustainable Urban Development
Department for Continuing Education



Mobile lives: Co-researching mobility-related social exclusions in Istanbul

This project will employ co-investigation methodologies of data collection in low income neighbourhoods and investigates its use in understanding the linkages between everyday mobility, social exclusion and access to urban opportunities. By doing so, the project will enable expanding the understanding of the exclusionary impacts of restricted access and mobility, which will benefit the community. The public film screening of the co-researchers' presentations will help disseminate the results effectively and increase awareness. By bringing the diversity and social (dis)advantages to the attention of the members of the public, the project seeks to shed light on possibilities for innovative ways of understanding the mobility and access needs of the socially excluded urban populations. It also aims to empower socially disadvantaged communities by providing them with a learning-and-reflecting process.



3. Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences

3.1. Christopher Duncan

Research Fellow
Department of Physics

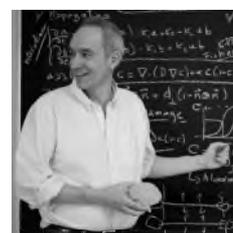


Multi-wavelength astronomy in VR

We will develop a Virtual Reality (VR) experience demonstrating the spectacular Universe in multiple wavelengths of light. Researchers will guide participants around the full celestial sphere, displayed all around them within the VR headset. Starting with the familiar visible sky we will show real astronomical observations from multiple telescopes, which require radically different locations and technologies to create. In showing the Universe in all of these different observations, we will demonstrate how different types of telescope are windows into radically different astrophysical process, from the earliest light of the Big Bang, to local nurseries where new stars are being born.

3.2. Professor Alain Goriely

Director of External Relations and Public Engagement
Statutory Professor (Chair) of Mathematical Modelling
Mathematical Institute



Oxford Mathematics Escape Room

This project will be part of the Oxford Maths Festival, giving adults who enjoy tackling puzzles and who are curious about mathematics the opportunity to learn about the department's current research in an innovative and highly engaging way, and to interact with researchers.

Escape rooms are a very popular activity, in which teams of players solve a series of puzzles to 'escape' from a locked room or to reveal a secret. We will provide an enjoyable experience based on this premise, with puzzles directly related to and drawn from current mathematical research.

The escape room will be designed and delivered by a collaboration of multiple researchers (both staff and graduate students) and the outreach team in Oxford Mathematics and Statistics, giving the opportunity for a joint effort between those experienced in public engagement and those new to working with the public. We will also produce an online version of the puzzles for schools and individuals to use, which we will promote using a short video of the event.



3.3. Dr Tonya Lander

Leverhulme Early Career Fellow
Department of Plant Sciences



Citizen Science for Inspiration, Education and Bee Conservation

There is widespread concern about global bee decline, however, there are knowledge gaps limiting our ability to respond effectively to this decline. This project focuses on two of these knowledge gaps: (1) We know approximately where individual bee species occur in the UK, but we don't know how many of each species we would expect to find. Hence we can identify when a species goes extinct, but not always when it is in decline; (2) We need specific guidance about what woodland and urban land management interventions support and enhance wild bee populations.

Oxford Plan Bee and the Wytham Woods Bumblebee Walk engage citizen scientists in collecting data about wild bees in Oxford City and Wytham Woods. We aim to collect essential data for long-term monitoring of wild bee populations, contributing to global efforts to understand and reverse pollinator decline. We will also develop evidence-based management interventions for woodland and urban environments to protect and enhance populations of wild bees. The project will also engage with the local community to promote public understanding of plants, bees, ecology and conservation, and develop public ownership of local bee conservation programs.

3.4. Professor David Pyle

Professor of Earth Sciences
Department of Earth Sciences



Volcanoes and Regrets

Volcanoes & Regrets begins with the extravagant act of throwing a book of regrets into volcanoes in Kamchatka and Sicily by artist George Finlay Ramsay. What follows is an exhibition and events programme taking place at Platform Gallery in Southwark, London in spring 2019. Using the richness of working across disciplines, the project will include an exhibition documenting and expanding on George's trip, a musical performance, contributions from volcanologist David Pyle, poet C. A. Conrad and educational and creative workshops with adults and children.

3.5. Dr Cedric Tan

Post-Doctoral Researcher
Department of Zoology



The WildCru game

The WildCRU Game: Global Carnivore Conservation was created to engage the public with our research on endangered species. The design and play-testing stage have been



completed and during this phase, we will produce copies of the game to be used at science festivals, schools and professional associations' events.

During game play, the players will make decisions for choose-your-own adventure style challenges based on real-stories in the field as well as answer questions on research on wildlife. Data collected during play will also be used to examine perceptions on challenging issues and to explore new solutions for difficult conservation problems and research questions.

Furthermore, we will quantify the effects of this game on learning using established assessment tools. The game will aim to educate and engage the participants, in the hope that it will shape perceptions and behaviour about conservation through affective learning.

4. Medical Sciences

4.1. Dr Alexandra Hendry

Post-Doctoral Research Associate
Department of Experimental Psychology



BabyLab on Tour

The BabyLab On Tour project will take our research on early development into the community, by linking up with drop-in Stay-and-Play sessions around Oxford.

This first BabyLab On Tour pilot will be based on an ongoing study into Executive Functions. Executive Functions are skills that enable us to control our attention and behaviour in order to achieve a goal. Strong Executive Functions are linked to better performance at school and higher levels of health, wealth and happiness in later life. We will run a series of play-based workshops based around low-cost materials (given to each setting to keep), featuring tips on how parents can support their child's Executive Function development. Parents will also be able to take part in a mini-study session where they will gain an insider view into the joys and challenges of infant research.

4.2. Professor Chystalina Antoniades

Associate Professor
Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences



Picturing Parkinson's: building bridges between patients and neuroscientists

This pilot project aims to bridge the gap between objective research into Parkinson's disease and subjective patient experience of the condition, through the medium of fine art.



The project will provide a supportive space for patients to tell their stories and have them interpreted by professional artists. It will enable us (and other neuroscientist colleagues) to see the object of our research transformed and expressed in an imaginative way, which will shape our thinking about the work we do. This project will challenge us to bring creative approaches to our scientific work, and build capacity for public engagement with patient and public audiences. The aim is for the outputs of the project to be used to present a holistic view of Parkinson's as it is experienced, studied, and treated.

4.3. Dr George Busby

Post-Doctoral Research Associate
The Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics



The Mobile Maria Project Expedition Comic Strip

The Phoenix comic will feature the Mobile Malaria Project, a scientific expedition to Africa, every week for a period of eight weeks. This is a real scientific adventure going on in real time, and to highlight this, The Phoenix will publish maps, photographs and up to date reactions from the scientists about their adventures. The feature will be informative and educational, but more importantly, it will be fun and engaging to read.

5. Social Sciences

5.1. Dr Juanjo Garcia-Granero

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellow
School of Archaeology



From the Neolithic to the Table

The development of farming and the processes commonly associated with it (sedentism, invention of pottery, etc.) had major impacts on how humans produced, transformed and consumed foodstuffs. This project will use food as a mean to explain aspects of the daily life of Neolithic populations around the world by recreating Neolithic 'recipes' using actual remains of food under preparation or food ready for consumption recovered from four archaeological sites in China, Turkey, Germany and Switzerland.

The recreated Neolithic recipes will be presented to the public during the course of two activities at the Alícia Foundation (Món St Benet, Barcelona, Spain): a prehistoric cooking course and an exhibition. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the past in a fun, immersive way and to savour the tastes of our ancestors.



5.2. Professor Dan Hicks

Professor of Contemporary Archaeology
School of Archaeology



LANDE: the Calais “Jungle” and Beyond

LANDE: the Calais “Jungle” and Beyond is a major temporary exhibition that documents the material, visual and digital culture of forced migration. Through partnerships with a collective of refugees and activists, this project co-produces a series of written responses to twelve objects selected from the exhibition. These texts will form the basis of a series of public talks to be delivered at the launch night of the exhibition on 29 March 2019. Through professional photography and blogs, the objects and texts will be communicated to a wide range of new audiences.

The project will represent a landmark in the development of public engagement through contemporary archaeology and the display of the most recent past in museums. It will contribute to the ongoing diversification of the Pitt Rivers’ audiences and will represent a unique documentation of the human lives bound up with material objects in the context of forced migration.

5.3. Dr Julia Viebach

Departmental Lecturer in African Studies
Faculty of Law



Bearing Witness – Kwibuka25

Bearing Witness seizes next year’s 25th anniversary of the Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda as an opportunity to provide a platform for remembering and supporting survivors and to share their stories with the wider public in the UK. Through case displays at the Pitt Rivers Museum curated by survivors and videos featuring their life stories, *Bearing Witness* offers a comprehensive account of meaning-making after genocide and mass atrocity. These activities will be complemented by the traveling exhibition *Kwibuka Rwanda 25* that tells the story of survivors working at genocide memorials in Rwanda and of how they commemorate their dead loved ones.

Bearing Witness builds on Julia’s research on memory and justice in Rwanda and her interest in diaspora commemoration as well as her collaboration with the Rwandan community in Oxfordshire and London. *Bearing Witness* raises awareness of the Genocide and in doing so fights apathy towards the distant suffering of ‘others’ in times of heightened xenophobia and rising right-wing populism.



5.4. Dr David Humphreys

Associate Professor of Evidence-Based Intervention and Policy Evaluation
Department of Social Policy and Intervention



Preventing firearm violence through improved opportunities for voluntary firearm disposal

The public stock of firearms in the U.S. is increasing by an estimated three to five million firearms per year. Despite unparalleled rates of firearm homicide and injury, opinions on strategies to prevent firearm violence are polarised and, consequently, progress in reducing firearm mortality has stalled. Without enacting unpopular (and unconstitutional) controls on the purchase of firearms, there are few options for limiting the availability of firearms and reducing rates of physical harm.

One approach, which does not infringe on constitutional rights, is voluntary disposal of firearms. This project seeks to examine whether substantially increasing opportunities for individuals to voluntarily dispose of firearms can impact the stock and flow of firearm ownership and the harm associated with firearms. In this public engagement study, we will consult and collaborate with participants from urban communities to assess: (a) the practical feasibility and (b) the public acceptability of modifying the built environment to create more opportunities to voluntarily dispose of unwanted firearms.

5.5. Dr Jade Whitlam

British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow
School of Archaeology



Farming: the first 12,000 years

'Farming: the first 12,000 years' opens up a new trail across the Pitt Rivers Museum. Taking agricultural implements as its starting point, the trail weaves a narrative about farming's past, inviting participants to explore the stories inherent in each object and reflect on how farming has shaped people's lives, from prehistory to the present. It also asks 'what is the future of farming?' and 'how can our knowledge of the past help shape this?' The trail will be available in print within the museum and as a web-based app that people can follow online. Supplementary material, including images of traditional tools in action, will help bring the past to life. A one-day event at the museum will act as a launch for the trail and be open to all ages with a series of hands-on activities, lectures and guided trail tours.

