



**Arts and
Humanities
and the
GCRF
Agenda**

9th May 2019, A39 Clive Granger, University of Nottingham



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This event at the University of Nottingham aims to critically reflect on the role Arts and Humanities approaches can play in addressing global developmental challenges. We will hear from a range current GCRF projects and discuss the opportunities and challenges of conducting arts research in a development space.

The £1.5 billion Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), established by the UK Government in 2016, represents an opportunity for the Arts and Humanities community to conduct world-changing research that alleviates problems in, and supports the development of, Development Assistance Committee (DAC) listed countries.

To date the AHRC have funded over 150 interdisciplinary GCRF projects. This diverse range of projects is clearly demonstrating that the Arts and Humanities has a vital contribution to make in tackling some of the toughest problems facing humanity.

Traditionally development strategies have been scientific and/or economically focused to address pressing practical needs (e.g. food, water, health and shelter) but it is becoming increasingly clear that many global challenges are societal, political and cultural and that the barriers to achieving effective change are historical, cultural, linguistic, social, ideological and gender-based.

As well as looking at some successful projects and highlighting future opportunities, we will also consider why some Arts and Humanities researchers may be reluctant to engage with the GCRF agenda. We hope to address a range of concerns including the perception that development has become synonymous with imperialism or neo-colonialism; that participation requires personal research to be altered to fit calls; lack of experience of development work; working with other disciplines beyond expertise; becoming a token part of wider scientific-led initiatives; and general scepticism of the UK Aid agenda.

Programme

The day will focus on discussion directed by short 20 min presentations

9.30-10.00 Coffee and registration

10.00-12.30 Arts and the GCRF

AHRC and the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)

Jamie Davies, International Stakeholder Engagement Portfolio Manager (Heritage), AHRC

Arts and Humanities research and the Sustainable Development Goals

Dr Jon Henderson, GCRF Fellow, University of Nottingham

GCRF and UK Aid: the ethical questions

Dr Annamaria La Chimia, School of Law, University of Nottingham

Can the arts and humanities contribute to decolonising and democratising international research coalitions?

Prof Emma Crewe, SOAS, University of London

Human-Animal-Environment (HumAnE) approaches to Global Challenges

Prof Naomi Sykes, Archaeology, University of Exeter

Development, academic research and the GCRF Agenda

Helen Duffy, Strategy and Development Manager – Evaluation and Impact (International Development), AHRC

12.30-2.00 Lunch

2.00-4.30 Experience from projects and AHRC GCRF networks

The Antislavery Knowledge Network

Prof Zoe Trodd, Director of the Rights Lab, University of Nottingham

Socially Engaged Arts and Global Challenges - A Case Study

Prof Pedro Rebelo, Sonic Arts Research Centre, Queen's University Belfast

Digital urbanism & diasporas: walking the cultural heritage of India's megacities

Prof Michèle Clarke, Geography, University of Nottingham

The Nahrein Network

Dr Mehiyar Kathem, History, UCL

Changing the Story Network

Prof Ananda Breed, School of Fine & Performing Arts, University of Lincoln

Global Research Network on Parliaments and People

Prof Emma Crewe, SOAS, University of London

Rising from the Depths Network

Dr Jon Henderson, GCRF Fellow, University of Nottingham

Speakers

Prof Ananda Breed



School of Fine & Performing Arts, University of Lincoln

Professor Ananda Breed is author of *Performing the Nation: Genocide, Justice, Reconciliation* (Seagull Books, 2014) in addition to several publications that address transitional systems of governance and the arts. She has worked as a consultant for IREX and UNICEF in Kyrgyzstan on issues concerning conflict prevention and conducted applied arts workshops in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Indonesia, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Palestine, Rwanda and Turkey. Breed is Professor in Theatre at University of Lincoln. Prior to this, she was the Co-director of the Centre for Performing Arts Development (CPAD) at the University of East London (2014-2017) and former research fellow at the International Research Centre Interweaving Performance Cultures at Freie University (2013-2014).

Prof Michèle Clarke



Geography, University of Nottingham

Professor of Environmental Change. Lead Principal Investigator for two UK-India awards: ESRC-Ministry of Urban Development ES/P000517/1 *SMARt ciTIES Network for Sustainable Urban Futures (SMARTIES Net)* and ESPRC-DST bioenergy project EP/J000361/1 *Rural Hybrid Energy Enterprise Systems (RHEES)*. Main research interests are in the fields of sustainable cities, climate change, energy, land degradation and food security. Current research focuses on the energy-water-food nexus (EPSRC, BBSRC), sustainable cities and rapid urbanisation (ESRC, EPSRC, British Council), the role of the North Atlantic Oscillation in determining storminess and weather variability in Europe and impacts on coastal environments (funded by the Leverhulme Trust and the British Academy); clean energy from waste and biomass (British Council, EPSRC and DST-UKIERI); fossil fuel and CCS (ESPRC); water resource variability, food security and rural poverty (NERC-ESRC-DFID; British Council); and extreme weather impacts on land degradation and soil erosion (British Council; British Academy).

Prof Emma Crewe



SOAS, University of London

In 2017 Prof Crewe established the Global Research Network for Parliaments and People at SOAS with a grant-making programme to support national scholars to study the relationship between Parliaments and People in Myanmar and Ethiopia (supported by Arts and Humanities Research Council/Global Challenges Research Fund).

Jamie Davies



International Stakeholder Engagement Portfolio Manager (Heritage), AHRC

AHRC and the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)

Helen Duffy



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Strategy and Development Manager – Evaluation and

Impact (International Development), AHRC
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Dr Jon Henderson



Archaeology, GCRF Fellow, University of Nottingham

Dr Jon Henderson is an archaeologist with specific research interests in submerged settlements, coastal societies, maritime archaeology and the development of innovative techniques for the survey and presentation of underwater sites. He is the Director of the Underwater Archaeology Research Centre and an Associate Professor at the University of Nottingham. He has directed projects in the UK, Greece, Italy, Egypt, Jamaica and China. He is currently leading a Newton Fund project in Egypt called Presence in the Past which aims to utilise Egyptian marine cultural heritage in an educational and public setting using 3D VR technologies. Recently Jon was part of the UNESCO delegation at the United Nations Ocean Conference supporting the implementation of SDG 14 'Life Below Water' where he presented on the role marine cultural heritage can play in the sustainable development of the oceans.

Dr. Jas Kaur



Communications Officer, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, SOAS

Global Research Network on Parliaments and People with experience in; conflict, coups, multi-ethnicity, ethnography, historical anthropology, political science, Fiji, media, radio and public relations.

Dr Mehiyar Kathem



History, UCL

Dr Mehiyar Kathem is Research Associate and Nahrein Network Coordinator. As part of his role, Mehiyar works on the Visiting Scholarship Scheme where he assists Iraqi academics. His role includes supporting the Nahrein Network team to develop partnerships and communication with Iraqi Government institutions, domestic NGOs and academics. His research focus at UCL includes the politics of heritage, statebuilding and the role of interventions in Iraq's cultural infrastructure.

Mehiyar completed a PhD at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) where he researched peacebuilding interventions and the formation of Iraq's domestic NGO sector after the Iraq War. During this research, he looked at the gradual evolution of Iraq from totalitarian dictatorship through the country's emerging domestic organisations. His research interests include statebuilding, civil society peacebuilding and the ways in which development, politics and money interact at a local level. In 2012 and 2013, Mehiyar conducted field research in Iraq for his PhD programme, spending a year meeting with and interviewing domestic NGO actors, political parties, government officials and international donors. School of Law, University of Nottingham

Dr Annamaria La Chimia



Dr Annamaria La Chimia is an Associate Professor at the School of Law University of Nottingham, she is Head of the Humanitarian and Development Procurement Unit of the Public Procurement Research Group (PPRG) and leader of the International Financial Institution Hub within the Learning Lab on Procurement and Human Rights. She is member of the Transatlantic Food Assistance Dialogue (TAFAD) and of the European Association on Public Private Partnership (EAPPP). She has worked as expert consultant on procurement for the German Department of Development Cooperation (GIZ), for the UK Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI), the European Commission (DG Trade and DG Development), the Commonwealth Secretariat and the NGO ActionAid.

In Nottingham she is the convenor for the LLM specialism in Law and Development, and she teaches international development at postgraduate and undergraduate level and for the pioneering Distant Learning Executive LLM Programme in Public Procurement Law and Policy.

Prof Pedro Rebelo



Sonic Arts Research Centre, Queen's University Belfast

Pedro is a composer, sound artist and performer. In 2002, he was awarded a PhD by the University of Edinburgh where he conducted research in both music and architecture.

Pedro has recently led participatory projects involving communities in Belfast, favelas in Maré, Rio de Janeiro, travelling communities in Portugal and a slum town in Mozambique. This work has resulted in sound art exhibitions at venues such as the Metropolitan Arts Centre, Belfast, Espaço Ecco in Brasilia and Parque Lage and Museu da Maré in Rio and MAC Nitéroí. His music has been presented in venues such as the Melbourne Recital Hall, National Concert Hall Dublin, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Ars Electronica, Casa da Música, and in events such as Weimarer Frühjahrstage für zeitgenössische Musik, Wien Modern Festival, Cynetart and Música Viva. His work as a pianist and improviser has been released by Creative Source Recordings and he has collaborated with musicians such as Chris Brown, Mark Applebaum, Carlos Zingaro, Evan Parker and Pauline Oliveros

Prof Naomi Sykes



Archaeology, University of Exeter

Prof Sykes researches and teaches on human-animal-environment interactions over the last 10,000 years, exploring how they inform on the structure, ideology and impact of societies, past and present. She is particularly interested in reconstructing the bio-cultural histories of introduced and locally extinct / endangered species (e.g. fallow deer, chickens, rabbits, hares, cats, dogs and wolves).

Prof Sykes' work always seeks to demonstrate the value of Arts/Humanities-led research, particularly for communicating important, and often difficult, issues in a creative, palatable format. To this end, she collaborates closely with a range of non-academic organizations worldwide.

Prof Zoe Trodd



Director of the Rights Lab, University of Nottingham

Professor Zoe Trodd is Director of the Rights Lab, a University of Nottingham Beacon of Excellence attached to the Faculty of Social Sciences and the world's largest and leading group of modern slavery scholars. Her research focus is strategies for ending global slavery by 2030.

Venue

The event will take place in A39, Clive Granger Building (building 16 on the map below), with registration in the Clive Granger Atrium.

