March 2018 pepnet newsletter

Dear pepnetters,

Well, what a busy month for many of us with the ‘Leeds Festival of Science’ and of course Be Curious 2018: We are international. I am sure we have all earned a rest over the Easter break! A huge ‘thank you’ to all those involved in delivering Be Curious, both behind the scenes and on the day. It was, again, a wonderful day, if not a little snowy and chilly. It didn’t dampen the spirits of most of us though, including the visitors, many commenting that they had stayed all day. We were even packing up around some visitors! The evaluation of the event will be released shortly, once we have pulled it altogether and we are looking at the first draft of the video as I write this.

Thank you again for everyone’s engagement efforts this month and I wish you all a happy and restful Easter.

Best wishes
Charlotte

On Campus

Be Curious 2018

Hundreds of people braved the inclement weather to join us for our annual research showcase. There were over 40 different stalls sharing their work with visitors from across our region. Some of the highlights included drilling a tooth on the School of Dentistry’s Big Mouth simulator, and a life-size, interactive model of a cow made by Engineering and Physical Sciences students. People had the opportunity to play a Steinway piano in the School of Music and to listen to a performance by Ross McInroy of Opera North. Children were encouraged to learn more about coins by following our sticker trail and visit the current exhibition in the Treasures of the Brotherton Gallery.

Pepnet Meeting

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 18 April when we will be discussing different platforms for engagement. Registration opening soon!

Latest News

For latest PE news at UoL: https://comms.leeds.ac.uk/public-engagement/latest-news/

Elsewhere
That Eureka! moment for researchers

Under the banner of British Science Week, several teams from the University have been engaging with young visitors at Eureka!, the national children’s museum in Halifax, to inspire them about the joys of scientific discovery. Exciting plans are being developed for Leeds to explore pioneering projects with a network of leading museums. Find out more about Museums and University public engagement programme (MUPEP) on our website https://comms.leeds.ac.uk/public-engagement/event-planning-resources-and-communication/

Being Human fest 2018

This year the festival is running from 15-24 November, and the theme is ‘Origins and Endings’. As ever the main aim of the festival is to take research in the humanities and share it in creative, fun and engaging ways with non-specialist audiences.

Please email LHRI@leeds.ac.uk if you are intending to apply so we can support the co-ordination of a potential programme across the whole University. The call for applications is now live and you can find out more here:
http://www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/news/article/5264/call_for_applications_for_being_human_2018

Guidance on public engagement in REF 2021

These are notes from a HEFCE workshop on PE guidance for REF, which you may find interesting.
http://www.ref.ac.uk/media/ref,2021/downloads/Public%20Engagement%20workshop%20Notes.pdf

Opening up science for all – launch of NERC funded scheme

Dr Hilary Geoghegan, from the Department of Geography and Environmental Science at the University of Reading wants you to join her in opening up research on the major environmental challenges facing our planet. Over the next 6 months, her project, OPENER is scoping out how to open up science for all. Find out more at https://research.reading.ac.uk/openupsci/

Funding opportunities

Science and Technology Facilities Council Reaction Awards

The STFC Reaction Award scheme is now open. The Reaction Awards scheme will allow the funding of public engagement programmes that are a fast response to new and/or unexpected significant developments related to STFC’s science and technology remit.

Applicants are advised to discuss their application by e-mail to STFCPublicEngagementTeam@stfc.a.uk.

Proposed engagement programmes must clearly focus around the remit of the STFC science programme (astronomy, solar and planetary science, particle physics, particle
astrophysics, cosmology, nuclear physics and accelerator science) or clearly and demonstrably align to the science and technology work of STFC's national and international laboratories and facilities.

**British Phycological Society – Small Grants Scheme**

These support projects that promote and further phycology, its applications and dissemination. Projects may include: feasibility exercises, pump-priming projects, field, laboratory and database work, publications, and outreach.

The award is worth up to £5,000

Closing date 01 May 2018

**Royal Society of Chemistry - Outreach Fund**

These provide financial support to members, individuals and organisations in order to enable them to run chemistry-based public and schools engagement activities.

The award is worth up to £10,000

Closing date 14 May 2018

**Classical Association – Grants**

These support classical projects and conferences mainly in the UK. Applications for the following will be considered: funding for summer schools, funding for conferences, school teaching and outreach, and major projects.

The award is worth up to £2,000

Closing date 01 June 2018

**Physiological Society – Grants**

These promote the discussion of physiology with public audiences and aim to inspire creative public engagement with physiology. To stimulate physiologists to share stories and expertise in innovative ways with wider audiences, particularly those that are traditionally hard to reach. To increase dialogue between researchers and the public, in particular on topics such as the relevance of research to health, medicine and performance; and to produce materials and resources which can be used for further public engagement and outreach work.

The awards are worth up to £5,000

Closing date 14 July 2018