Dear pepnetters,

We just got the data from HR regarding the use of the PE and outreach criterion in academic promotion applications. Last year’s figure was 26% of applications used it, this year this has increased to 35%! And it’s used quite evenly across all grades from 8 to 10 and also quite evenly between male and female staff. While the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures leads the use, the criterion is used in all faculties. This wide-spread and copious use is tremendously impressive and will bring us closer to achieving the vision that every research project at the University of Leeds will include an appropriate engagement activity by 2020.

For the winners of the 2018 Public Engagement with Research awards and the graduation of the Engagement Excellence Fellows class of 2017/18 please see the individual items further down.

For the latest news on public engagement at Leeds, bookmark our website.

With best wishes,
Alexa

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**Pepnet #26 Public Engagement while you sleep (Altmetrics), 28 November**

In this session, Kirsten Thompson (OD&PL) and Nick Sheppard (Library) will discuss strategies for increasing quality online engagement with research outputs. We will explore how you can use ‘alternative metrics’, more commonly known as ‘altmetrics’, to monitor such engagement. Altmetrics can help to showcase the reach of your work, supplement grant and tenure applications, identify new audiences and connect with other researchers in your discipline.

In the age of “fake news”, academics have responsibility to share their expertise beyond the Ivory Tower. We’ll show you how to ensure all these disparate outputs are properly curated in university repositories with a Digital Object Identifier (DOI). There will also be an opportunity to learn about and contribute to the Library led Data Management Engagement Award, a competition launched to elicit new and imaginative ideas for engaging researchers in the practices of good Research Data Management (RDM).

Join us on Wednesday 28 November from 12-2pm in EC Stoner SR (7.79). Please register here.
PE as part of your research proposal – drop-in surgeries

The PE team is teaming up with colleagues from OD&PL, RIS and the Library to provide advice on your research proposal.

First one is on Wednesday 12 December, 10-12, in Parkinson 1.35; for other dates, please see here. No need to book, just come along, or if the dates don’t suit drop us a line peteam@leeds.ac.uk and we’ll meet at a mutually convenient time with you.

Winners of the Public Engagement with Research Awards 2018

Our third annual awards event took place last week in University House. This was an opportunity to celebrate some fantastic public engagement projects. Lisa Roberts, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, presented the awards and commented on the wide range of innovative engagement activity taking place at the University. Congratulations to our worthy winners.

Winners of the award for outstanding Public Engagement, doing research in partnership, were Ingrid Sharpe and Corinne Painter working alongside theatre company, Brent Architect to write and produce a play telling the story of the end of World War I. Focussing on ordinary women, who actively opposed the war and supported the revolution. The aim of the project was to challenge the widely held views on the end of the war in November 1918, and broaden public understanding of German anti-militarism. The co-production generated mutual benefits: Ingrid and Corinne’s team’s approach to further research changed as the process presented new questions, challenged existing interpretations and broke down the barriers to genuine co-production. Brent Architect have permanently changed their practice as a socially engaged theatre company, having been able to produce such an ambitious, highly nuanced production as a result of access to Ingrid and Corinne’s research.

Winners of the award for outstanding Public Engagement, disseminating research results, were Elizabeth Gaston, Jane Scott and Ian Rees for their recent knit design research using botanical model of growth to inspire shape changing knitwork undertaken by Jane Scott, and the performance craft methodology developed by Elizabeth Gaston during her PhD research. In collaboration with the Crafts Council and Leeds Arts University, a series of connected activities were introduced through 4-day workshops in schools, aimed at transforming knowledge and engagement with textiles for pupils in the Yorkshire region

Winners of the Public Engagement award for Development of a Research Idea, were Elspeth Mitchell and Sarah Harvey Richardson for their doctoral research on the relation between artistic practice and girlhood. They worked with two groups of secondary school girls in Leeds on a programme to explore the power of imagines and confront the ways that social media and ‘selfie culture’ shape attitudes and
beliefs about women. Elspeth and Sarah organised sessions with a group of girls from their defined audience, exploring personal experiences; introducing inspirational artists; and equipping participants with image-making tools and techniques. Delivered in the form of workshops, after school groups and intensive summer schools, these sessions offered a more expansive approach to art than that enabled by the mainstream school curriculum. These activities culminated in a public exhibition that was visited by 200 people. The team were able to see the impact of their engagement when a participant asked if she could still be involved in the project when she leaves school.

Runners up included Aaron Koshy, Mathew Francis, Elena Simone, Lorenzo Metilli, Megan Povey and Liam Morris.

**Engagement Excellence Scheme 2017/18**

Following on from the Awards we were able to celebrate the graduation of four more Engagement Excellence Fellows. Congratulations to Sophy Barber (Dentistry), Jessica Hammett (History), Claire Brockett (Mechanical Engineering), and Clare Harley (Healthcare). This is the fourth year of the mentoring scheme and we now have 17 graduate fellows!

**Elsewhere**

**What works: Engaging the public through social media**

The NCCPE has worked with public engagement professionals and researchers from across the UK to co-develop a guide to how to use social media effectively to engage the public with research.

**Snakes and Ladders of Social Media**

Researchers at the Open University have developed a board game to spark discussions about how we use social media at work. Everything you need to play is available to download and all you need to provide are the counters – which can be borrowed from us via our resources booking form!

**Funding opportunities**

**Research Development Fund**
The call is now open for the next round of funding with a deadline of 4th January 2019. The RDF can be used to fund involvement of members of the public (e.g. public, patients, service users or other stakeholders) in shaping or developing research ideas, i.e. at the research design stage prior to submitting a research proposal. Each round has limited funds and the maximum amount per application is £500.

Download further information and guidance (DOCX 35 KB) and the RDF application form (DOCX 30 KB).

Feel free to contact us at peteam@leeds.ac.uk to discuss your proposal informally.

**Telling tales of engagement competition**

The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), under the Research Councils UK digital economy theme, invites submissions for its telling tales of engagement competition. This aims to capture and promote the impact of research council funded digital economy research is having, and enables researchers to further tell the story of research impact in an interesting and engaging way to a wider audience. Proposals should aim to: tell stories that describe how the candidate’s pathway genuinely unfolded, helping the wider research community and public understand how impact really occurs and what benefits have been delivered from the research; explain how the candidate will use the prize, to engage the public with their research, and show how benefits of the research help make a contribution to various challenges and to help address the UKRI’s equality, diversity and inclusion agenda. Entries must address a number of questions more details available on their website.

Three awards of £10,000 are available

Closing date 10 January 2019

**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 January 2019
Royal Society of Chemistry, Small Grants

These provide financial support to members, individuals and organisations in order to enable them to run chemistry-based public and schools engagement activities. The trust aims to support projects that; maximise members' outreach and engagement contribution; offer teachers a range of effective curriculum-enriching activities and opportunities to further engage their students with outreach; provide hard-to-reach student audiences with inspiring chemistry engagement opportunities, delivered or coordinated by skilled people; and increase chemistry and chemists' influence in public discourse and decision-making.

The awards are worth up to £2000

Closing date 14 January 2019