



Exeter
INNOVATION

**Public Engagement with Research
Springboard Fund Awardees
Winter 23/24**



PER Springboard Fund Winter 23/24



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Congratulations to the successful applicants for the Public Engagement Springboard Fund! Here are some details about the successful projects.



PI: Dr Samuel Merriel (CI P. Nickol)

Our project highlights the role of symptoms for prostate cancer diagnosis in men in primary care. We have identified key stakeholders for our engagement activities: talking with men through public science festivals, presentations to evidence and policy teams within national cancer charities, and targeted policy briefings for the DHSC.

PI: Dr Fay Manning (CIs A. Hancock & C. Heales)

We aim to recruit a diverse pool of PPI members who are willing to be involved in our project about larger bodies in radiography. Next, we will hold meetings to co-create research impact priorities, aims and public involvement methods for an NIHR programme grant.



PI: Kelly Hodge (CI A. Corbett)

The PROTECT study is a very successful online ageing brain health research cohort of people over 40. With this award we aim to recruit 12 PROTECT PPI Ambassadors from the study, deliver two training workshops, and conduct video interviews of participants to support future PPI.

PI: Lauren Asare

I am investigating the lived experiences of thyroid disease patients who have undergone definitive treatments such as thyroid removal surgery (thyroidectomy) or radioactive iodine therapy. The funds will be used to run online workshops and produce a 'summary of learning' document with PPI collaborators.



PI: Dr Jo Butterworth (CI S. Richards)

Our project seeks to i) ensure that the VOLITION intervention (to support tailored shared decision making for people living with multiple long-term conditions) is relevant to a diverse population of patients and the public, and ii) nurture relationships with a diverse patient and public engagement group.

PI: Dr Catherine Charlwood (CI L. Clare)

We will co-produce and disseminate a best practice digital guide for involving people with different neurodegenerative conditions in policy research. We will create a working group representing four conditions, hold three workshops, and share our learning in a webinar to gain feedback from a wider audience of health and social care professionals.



Awardees from the Department of Health & Community Sciences, Faculty of Health and Life Sciences



per@exeter.ac.uk

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PI: Dr Vike Martina Plock (CI F. Gee)

We are planning a celebration on the 18th of May of Jean Rhys's life. Rhys was a Dominican-born writer who lived in Cheriton Fitzpaine in Devon, where her most famous postcolonial novel *Wide Sargasso Sea* (1966) was written. We are working with local residents, academics from Exeter and Liverpool, a local theatre group, and the Exeter UNESCO City of Literature team for the event.

PI: Dr Laura Sangha

I am part of a digital humanities and citizen science Leverhulme Trust project in partnership with The National Archives: 'The Material Culture of Wills, England 1540-1790'. We are crowdsourcing volunteers to help transcribe 25,000 handwritten documents and our PER award will fund two in-person 'Transcribathons' to significantly enhance public engagement with the project.



PI: Rachel Griffiths (CIs S. O'Neill & J. Merrett)

Our photovoice project "What I love about being..." will involve creative collaborations with marginalised neurodivergent young people (ages 14-18) in Devon, culminating in the launch of an online art exhibition, and a physical display at Positive Light Projects. We are partnering with Devon CC Children's Services, Esteem Team and our Arts & Culture team.

PI: Dr Ernesto Schwartz-Marin (CI J. Redmond)

The award will help with training AI to ethically use artwork to develop new, novel images to be used within the 'The Dark Arts of Coproduction' project. We will run a series of AI art coproduction workshops with early career researchers co-leading the four strands of climate change challenges in the GSI coproduction agenda.



PI: Caroline Walter

This funding will help us celebrate the author William Golding and 70 years of 'Lord of The Flies'. We are planning a public display of panels showcasing archival research will be hosted in central Exeter by City of Literature partners. There will also be public events, held with partners across the city and themed around specific novels.

Awardees from the Faculty of Humanities,
Arts and Social Sciences



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PI: Dr Martino Luis (CI R. Liu)

We will be engaging publics in our project entitled 'AI Integrated Framework for Construction Design' through interviews and questionnaires, and later interactive workshops to develop a stakeholder-centric framework for interior construction designs. Technology demonstrations during the workshops will help demystify complex technologies and make them more accessible to the public.

PI: Dr Siobhan Mitchell (CI B. Chapman)

The 'CAMHS goes wild' project has explored the benefits nature-based approaches (NBAs) within Cornish mental health services. We have evaluated staff views of using NBAs within their clinical work, and now wish to engage children and their families through workshops, to co-design meaningful outcomes for assessing effectiveness of NBAs.



PI: Luana de Giorgio (CIs G. Sharp & H. Porter)

The funding will be used to commission artists, in collaboration with patients, clinicians, and researchers to develop artwork that represents the contrasting and shared perspectives when it comes to addressing women's health. This project will highlight the research focus of the '4M' Research Consortium, intersecting key aspects of menstrual and mental health.

PI: Peter Lefort

The Positive Tipping Points Community of Practice (CoP) is codesigning a resource to support the practical application the Tipping Points framework being developed by the GSI. We are planning several workshops, where the CoP can test the toolkit with other stakeholders, to gather feedback and produce a report for changemakers.



PI: Dr Lucy Hawkes (CI M. Witt)

We plan to host a public stakeholder event at the National Marine Aquarium to share the results of our 6-year "Thunnus UK" project. This project used tracking tags to build the first ever understanding of the ecology of the amazing Atlantic bluefin tuna in UK waters, which have returned after almost a 70-year absence.

**Awardees from the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences
the Faculty of Environment, Science, and Economy,
and Professional Services**



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