



#PGRROOTS

4TH MARCH 2020

12TH ANNUAL MAN MET
PGR CONFERENCE

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Research Conference

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**THE 12TH
ANNUAL
POSTGRADUATE
RESEARCH
CONFERENCE**

We're delighted to be hosting the 12th Annual Postgraduate Research Conference at the Manchester Met Students' Union.

Our multidisciplinary theme, Roots and Reach, has been designed to bring together postgraduate researchers from all backgrounds, celebrating the diversity and uniqueness of each research journey, from its original roots to its ultimate reach.

All of our research is unique, and we have all been inspired and motivated in some shape or form to pursue, grow and shape our projects. We want to hear about your journey, from its roots to where you ultimately want it to reach, which we feel encompasses all stages of a project. This can be anything from our underlying motivations, the methods underpinning our work, our personal or professional development, the challenges we have faced to our ultimate aims and goals.

This is a fantastic opportunity to share your inspirations and aspirations in a supportive and inclusive environment with a non-judgmental audience.

#PGRROOTS

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

The Graduate School provides strategic leadership on postgraduate research (PGR) activities across the University. Our focus is to promote a high quality study experience in a collegial, supportive world of research excellence.

#PGRROOTS



A stylized tree graphic with a dark blue trunk and branches, set against a lighter blue background. The tree is positioned on the left side of the page, with its branches extending towards the center. The text 'THE CONFERENCE ORGANISING COMMITTEE' is written in a white, hand-drawn, brush-stroke font across the middle of the page.

THE CONFERENCE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

ZOE BIBBON

Academic Lead

FREYA ERNSTING

Committee Chair

GEORGE HURST

Volunteer Co-Ordinator

MATTHEW HUTCHINSON

Event Manager

MAGDALENA MARCHOWSKA-RAZA

Marketing and Communications Lead

DAVE MEE

Technical Lead

SARAH WALKER

Artistic Director

PROGRAMME

- 08:30** **Registration**
- 09:30** **Welcome & Opening Remarks:**
Theresa McKinven
Head of Graduate School
Conference Suite
- 09:45** **Keynote: Rob Drummond**
You are what you speak: Researching language and identity
Conference Suite
- 10:45** **Panel Session 1**
Conference Suite: Sustainable Futures
Room 6: Early Education and Health Practice
Room 8: Exploring People and Groups
- 12:00** **Lunch**
Main Hall
- 12:45** **Lightning Talks** **Posters, Installations**
Conference Suite Main Hall

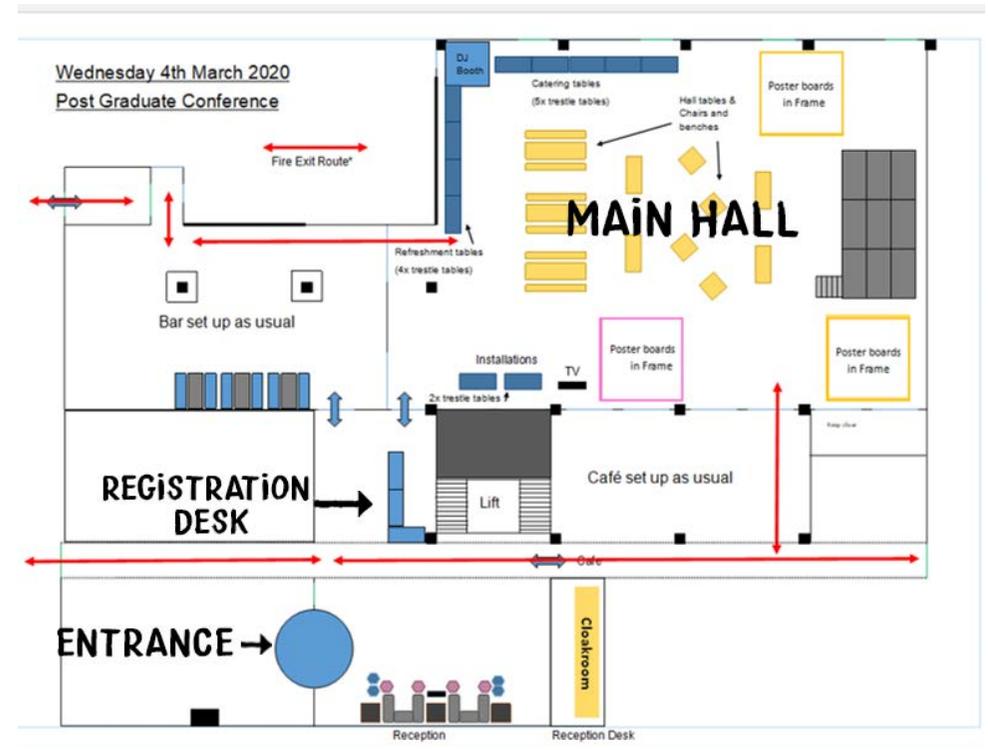
- 13:45** **Panel Session 3**
Conference Suite: Information, Communication and Technology
Room 6: Research in Higher Education
Room 8: Personal Reflections
- 15:00** **Refreshments**
- 15:15** **Panel Session 4**
Conference Suite: Creative Writing
Room 6: Rethinking Death and Crime
Room 8: Lived Experience
- 16:30** **Keynote: Paul Dobraszcyk**
Manchester: Seeing like a city
Conference Suite
- 17:30** **Closing Remarks & Awards**
Theresa McKinven
Head of Graduate School
Conference Suite
- 18:00** **Evening Reception**

MAN MET STUDENT'S UNION



The Union supports every student at Manchester Met to succeed in every aspect of life at university.

Below is The Union's ground floor plan and main hall set up for the duration of the PGR conference.





KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

#PGRROOTS

PAUL DOBRASZCZYK

Bartlett School of Architecture, London

Paul is a researcher and writer based in Manchester, and a teaching fellow at the Bartlett School of Architecture in London. Paul's writing research interests broadly cover visual culture and the built environment from the 19th century onwards, with particular interests in Manchester, urban futures, underground spaces and ruins, print culture, and industrial architecture. He has published many articles on such diverse topics as ornament and iron, the ruins of Chernobyl, neo-Victorian horror cinema, gardening catalogues, census forms, London guidebooks, sewage pumping stations and information for cab passengers. He is also a visual artist and photographer.

ROB DRUMMOND

Manchester Metropolitan University

Rob is a linguist based in Manchester (UK) involved primarily in sociolinguistic variation (especially at the level of sound), urban adolescent speech, dialects, linguistic ethnography, and identity. He is Head of Youth Language at the Manchester Centre for Youth Studies, and a Reader in the Department of Languages at Manchester Metropolitan University. In 2014 Rob was awarded a Leverhulme Trust project grant for a project entitled Expressing inner city youth identity through Multicultural Urban British English. The project is now known as the UrBEN-ID project; UrBEN stands for Urban British English, reflecting the project's aim to investigate ways in which young people in an urban environment use language in the construction, negotiation and performance of their identities.

ABSTRACTS OF PAPER PRESENTATIONS

CHARLOTTE BAGNALL

Manchester Metropolitan University
Educational Psychology

Talking about School Transition (TaST)

Primary to secondary school transition is a major life event for eleven-year-old children in the UK, marked by developmental and psychosocial discontinuity and challenge. Yet, interventions that have been developed to counter the negative outcomes children commonly experience during this transition are limited in number, sustainability and reach; very few interventions focus on supporting children's emotional resilience. The present emotional-centred intervention, Talking about School Transition (TaST), aims to narrow this gap. To inform TaST, data were collected in both the UK and USA, in mainstream and special schools, obtaining insight from multiple stakeholders, using observations, focus groups, interviews, surveys and document analysis. Findings from the preliminary research studies informed the design and delivery of the TaST intervention. In this talk, attention will be given to the design of the TaST intervention and how preliminary research, in combination with psychological theory and existing research, informed the intervention content. Evaluation of the intervention is still ongoing. It will be argued that TaST has short term implications for present participating Year 6 children's adjustment and provides professionals working in schools with the knowledge and resources to deliver TaST. The research has long-term implications in elucidating the importance of supporting children's emotional well-being over this period, and for educational policy.

MALIKA BELMISSOUM

Nottingham Trent University
Nottingham Institute of Education

Exploring MA Student Research Self-Efficacy: Challenges Facing the Teaching and Learning of Research Methodology in an Algerian University

Having been a student at an Algerian university for over five years, I have observed issues facing learning and teaching of research methodology. Thus, my research explores Algerian MA students' Research Self-Efficacy during their dissertation projects. It also explores the challenges facing both teachers and students' while teaching and learning research methodology. This research is influenced by Bandura's (1997) Self-Efficacy theory (individuals' beliefs about their abilities in performing tasks), and Kilburn et al., (2014) and Nind & Lewthwaite, (2016; 2018) who explored the teaching and learning of research methods in social sciences through a series of studies. These researchers argue that effective pedagogy of research methods should connect and engage students in active research practices. Therefore, I will begin by introducing my challenges with identifying the conceptualization of my research and the process of narrowing –which has been a main challenge- the theoretical framework that centres around Bandura's (1997) theory. I will draw on Bandura's (1989) reciprocal causations model and explain in-depth to how I approach research, in the formation of the research objectives and the design of the study. I will, then, reflect on my philosophical position and discuss the process of the Research Self-Efficacy Scale and interview development.

KHADIDJA BENOUDAH SENOUCI

Manchester Metropolitan University
Languages, Information and Communication

Assessing the relationship between emotional intelligence and PhD supervision

Emotional Intelligence is an important factor that institutions around the world consider for improving job performance. In higher education, which is not an exception, and where PhD is a journey of professional and emotional development and a shift from being a mere student to a researcher, it is highly crucial that the supervisors in charge of PhD students hold skills that help students reach that state. The purpose of the study is to explore how supervisors manage PhD students' needs in relation to their emotional intelligence skills practices, and how their supervisees perceive these practices in terms of their academic and emotional needs. This is through conducting a comparison between supervisees' reflection and interviewing on the one hand, and the supervisors' Emotional Intelligence scores and interviews on the other. The study will specifically explore four known EI skills (the ability to perceive emotions, to use emotions to facilitate thinking, to understand feelings in oneself and others and to manage emotions in oneself and others). Data will be collected through three sources: reflective journals, interviews and the Mayer Salovey Caruso Emotional Intelligence Test.

CATHERINE BEST

University of Bradford
School of Nursing and Healthcare Leadership

Collective action: A force for good

The seminal work of Paulo Freire, Brazilian activist and pedagogue, which focused on praxis, 'the action and reflection of men and women upon their world in order to transform it' has galvanised my enduring interest in the burgeoning literature that asserts nursing is an oppressed profession, and to inspire nurses to take collective action against the forces that impose indoctrinated, patriarchal views leaving nurses without a voice. As a registered nurse and nurse academic, my continued research has created opportunities to capture my learning through the full spectrum of publishing, including both National and International conference presentations, conference proceedings, peer reviewed journals and academic blogging; the main focus and strength of my work being to inform nurses that only through collaboration can we make a difference to our professional lives and those of the patients we serve. Ultimately, there remains a sense of hope that the situation can be different. Throughout 2020, declared by the World Health Organisation as 'The Year of the Nurse and Midwife', and beyond, I will continue to challenge the continued existence of these oppressive forces and invigorate nurses to become the voice that leads on nursing reform, on both the national and global nursing stage.

Nottingham Trent University
Sociology

Moving towards a vegan methodology

For the last 13 years I have been and continue to be a passionate student of sociology, a queer feminist, and vegan. I fell in love with sociology, feminism, and veganism at near enough the same time and since then I love exploring, understanding, and working with methodological approaches that give voice to members of marginalised, oppressed, and exploited groups in the social world. To do this kind of exploration and research, we may adopt a theoretical framework that is relevant to our epistemological position to ensure we have alignment between our research stages of knowledge production. Feminist standpoint epistemology (Harding, 1987; 1993) is one example of how a shift in methodological approach provided new and unheard insight from the experiences of half of the world's population. Now that I am exploring veganism and, more specifically, human/animal relations in my PhD research, my question is what methodology is most suitable? Is there a methodological approach that gives voice to non-human animals the same way that feminist standpoint theory did for women? This paper will explore and critically discuss the limited options of theoretical and analytical frameworks for human/animal discourses and will pose the notion of moving towards a vegan methodology.

RUTH CHURCHILL DOWER

Manchester Metropolitan University

Bio-social Science

Spaces of Difference - using dance in early education to explore the embodied communications of children who don't speak

When Daniel's dog died, he showed no outward signs of emotional response to the death of his best friend. Not speaking was *de rigueur* for this four-year-old. In fact, he tried hard to avoid drawing any attention to his movements or expressions. Until the day a dance artist worked in his nursery using curious embodied provocations, tactile materials and carefully chosen, wordless music. Daniel became engrossed in the music and, donning his favourite ballerina dress, delineated long, graceful lines with his body, responding to forces beyond our understanding. He didn't appear to see or hear anyone else and, whilst dancing, sang a simple song about his dog having died. None of his educators or parents had witnessed this depth and intensity of his bodily and verbal expression before. This, and many similar examples from silent children I have worked with, have motivated me to explore the forces that enable children with disabilities to break free of limitations and express themselves beyond words. As a storyteller-musician the opportunity to validate such complex relationalities and simultaneously influence practice is paramount. Emerging posthuman theories will provide ground-breaking perspectives into the ways children are and know, with significant implications for education and health practices.

DEREK COLLEY

Staffordshire University

School of Computing and Digital Technologies

Revisiting the principles of relational database query execution

Relational Database Management Systems (RDBMSs) have been in operation for over 50 years, based on the relational model of data storage and retrieval initiated by Edgar Codd in 1969. Since then, there have been many changes, augmentations and improvements to RDBMSs, culminating in today's cutting-edge systems which incorporate AI, non-structured data stores and application integration. However, the fundamentals of query deconstruction, analysis, optimisation and execution have barely changed. For my PhD research, I am revisiting these operations and examining whether improvements can be made both through challenging the existing methods of internal query representation and through the use of novel methods for query comparison and dynamic on-the-fly schema generation. My presentation will illustrate the roots of my PhD journey in 2016; how (and why) my initial research idea evolved over time; the things I have learned about effective research and writing my PhD; current challenges and industry developments that have a bearing on my research; and how I hope my research will influence the direction of future enterprise-grade RDBMSs.

FREYA ERNSTING

Manchester Metropolitan University
Languages, Information and Communication

Reconsidering Cyborg Theory Beyond Haraway: Does the cyborg have a future?

When we think of the cyborg, we often only think of Donna Haraway (1985), and perhaps The Terminator. However, the cyborg did not begin there. The speculative concept of the cyborg was a strong figure in the 1950s with the physical cyborg approach, actively participating in the international space race. In the 1980s, we saw the metaphorical approach, not only informing human-technology relations, but also promoting a gendered and political ideology in the industrial post-cold war climate. For the next two decades, cyborg anthropology stood in Haraway's (1985) shadow, and that is where the concept ends. Although these three approaches share a commonality in destabilising binaries and the promotion of duality within human embodiment, they differ in agendas and focus upon technological artefacts, as you may imagine in times of technological development. This paper considers how the theoretical cyborg has evolved, where it stands in the current field, and whether there is further reach for the figure. Peculiarly, despite the rapid increase in technological development, the theoretical field remains undeveloped. During the rise of cyborg anthropology, we saw a shift in the use of language to talk about technology. We moved away from 'cyber' to the 'digital'. Have we moved away from the cyborg because we can no longer speculate on our interactions with technology as it has become a reality?

MATTHEW HUTCHINSON

Manchester Metropolitan University
Economics, Policy and International Business

Football Fans: What do we need to know about them?

My original PhD topic grew from my master's research, which looked at whether a football club replicates a city's brand personality, motivated largely by how Manchester City FC made efforts to link closely to the City of Manchester following the Manchester Arena bombing. Since then however, my research has evolved into looking into the process people go through to become fans of teams, using a grounded theory approach. Fans spoken to for this research so far include fans of teams that were brand new, those who supported teams from a long distance, female fans and those who only recently became fans. The aim is to create a theory and framework which can be used by football clubs to track and understand the process of becoming a fan; therefore, working out the 'so what' of my research is important. One of the challenges but also benefits of this research so far, is engaging with fans through different mediums, whether that be through traditional forms such as interviews, or using Reddit allow for the co-creation of data through relevant threads. The latter, however, also brings with it, its own ethical challenges and issues, due to the public nature of this data.

NAZNEEN ISMAIL

Manchester Metropolitan University
Sociology

Levelling the Playing Field

Despite an increase in widening participation in the UK, there is still a gap in academic attainment (Richardson 2015, HESA 2019), specifically between students from a working class background or BAME groups, and students from higher socioeconomic class and/or White backgrounds. This can further affect salary levels post-graduation (Belfield et al. 2018). This quantitative research uses administrative data collected by an urban British university. The aim is to explore the extent to which external factors (SEC, ethnicity, and parental influence) and self-regulation (attendance and engagement) play a role in a student's confidence, decision-making and overall outcomes. This is of particular interest to the author being a mature female student from a working class background and a BAME group. The presentation will share the underlying influences, the importance of representation and levelling the playing field, as well as the personal journey of the author from completing an Access to HE course, overcoming physical and mental health challenges, to nearing completion of a PhD and supporting a diverse range of students in a teaching role. It will also discuss the 'reach' - to be a part of the growing literature around incentives to increase confidence and role models for BAME groups, with the overall aim to inform education policy.

SARAH JASMON

Manchester Metropolitan University
English

Manchester, canals and creative non-fiction: how to find balance with creative/critical projects

I'm a novelist, so my day job is focussed on story-telling with a commercial reach. My research – an investigation of the canals of Manchester, and their place in the life and culture of the city – will result in an integrated creative/critical thesis, hopefully with a commercial reach. I know I can write enough words, but I'm still feeling imposter syndrome on the critical side. I need an underlying scholarly basis running through the fabric of my creative work, in the way of Robert Macfarlane and Rebecca Solnit. As a result of my drive to make sure that the scholarly content was apparent, my RD2 viva comments suggest that I have forgotten to present my creative content with sufficient clarity. There are fewer roadmaps available for integrated creative theses than those taking a purely critical approach. Just as my feedback constantly shifts between an encouragement to showcase either the creative content or critical responses, so my writing process weaves between the critical and creative sides of my brain. I would like to present on the challenges of balancing a creative/critical approach, with readings from my work in progress.

AFSANÉ KRUSZELNICKI

Staffordshire University
Criminal Justice & Forensic Science

Developing a Standardised Method to Analyse the Persistence of Trace Evidence in Challenging Environments for the Purposes of Crime Scene Reconstruction and Examination in Court

Forensic evidence from a crime scene is collected for reconstruction; to see how the crime occurred, and association; to identify and provide intelligence about a suspect or suspects (Roux et al, 2013; Hong et al, 2014). The common types of evidence found are those that are microscopic and easily deposited through contact, collectively known as trace evidence (Akulova et al, 2002; De Forest, 2002). In order for trace evidence to provide intelligence in criminal cases, numerous studies have been conducted to understand how they transfer and persist and the factors that affect this. However, only a small number of these studies have exposed trace evidence to more realistic and challenging environments, like underwater conditions. This presentation will focus on the journey of this research. It will detail the initial persistence study of fibres in underwater environments, how that evolved to include a second trace evidence type; pollen and the challenges faced when working with a material rarely studied in forensic literature. The presentation will close detailing further studies aiming to bridge the gap between specialities by utilising a variety of equipment, such as mesocosms, to ultimately create a standardised approach to analyse the persistence of trace evidence in challenging environments.

LAURA MAFIZZOLI

University of Manchester
Social Anthropology

I didn't know how to react, and I made coffee

My ethnographic research looked at the practices and discourses of Gulag memorialisation in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia. Part of my fieldwork consisted of working for a Ngo of historians who put me in contact with an 82-years old man whose father was murdered by the soviet militsia in 1937. I thought that my position as a member of the Ngo would protect me from ambiguous moments with my male informants. However, after several meetings with this man, I found myself in an uncomfortable situation wherein his masculinist image enmeshed me as a researcher and as a woman, putting me in a vulnerable and awkward position. In recent years, many women anthropologists have been actively writing about sexual harassment, vulnerability and the risks that women often encounter while conducting participant observation in the field. The safe space of the academic environment can turn dangerous when you depend also on serendipitous moments that doing ethnographic fieldwork so often entails. In this paper, I will reflect upon my positionality within this encounter and dive into the gender disparities within which women "lone researchers" have constantly to get by.

MAGDALENA MARCHOWSKA-RAZA

Manchester Metropolitan University
Marketing, Retail and Tourism

Netnography – an insight into virtual communities

The growth of social media required the identification and development of new research methods that would allow the efficient exploration of consumer behaviour in the new medium. Netnography emerged as a response to the demand for tools that grant deeper insight into processes taking place within virtual communities more generally, and social media, specifically. Netnography evolved from ethnography, the study of people and cultures. The conception of netnography was an answer to the need for new research methodology in an online environment that would give the ability to generalize research findings. There are four different types of netnography, including auto-netnography, symbolic netnography, digital netnography and humanist netnography. This presentation will offer insights into these different types and will use a number of examples to demonstrate how netnographic observation enables exploration of the connections within the social media environment. It will also showcase how netnography uncovers people's opinions, experiences and behaviours, which helps to understand their motivation. The presentation will conclude with a critical summary of the value and appropriateness of netnography for exploring online cultures and communities, as well as the different relationships and connections formed by people though online social spaces.

AYSHA MAZHAR

Keele University
School of Law

“Feels like I am decanting the contents of my skull on here”:
personal reflections of a legal education researcher

Using references from my own PhD diary and photographs prior and during my PhD project so far, I offer my own narrative of what it is like to be a researcher of legal education. From this, I give a personal account of why I decided to research compassion in the legal academy in the UK, the growth and obstacles that I faced, whilst undertaking my project. I also explore examples of the reach that my research project has had, so far. In addition to this, I stress upon the importance for the researcher to maintain a diary or something similar, such as the use of photographs throughout their research project. Though as my paper shows, this can be a very difficult and vulnerable process.

REBECCA O'HANLON

Manchester Metropolitan University
Sport and Exercise Science

Conducting ethnographic research with military veterans; the complexities, challenges and reflections of a(n) (emotional) female researcher

The complexities of conducting ethnographic research has been widely documented within academic literature. These complexities include navigating unforeseen events (Green, Swailes & Handley, 2017), the fragmented front and back stage identities of the participant observer (Murray, 2003) and the varied roles researchers can adopt within the field (Adler & Adler, 1987). A key area of this literature has focused around the experiences of female ethnographers in male-dominated environments (Pandeli, 2019; Cox, 2019). This research seeks to add to this field, focusing on the masculine domain of the military. The aim of this research is to provide early reflections on the challenges and complexities faced when conducting observations with military veterans from the perspective of a young female, civilian researcher. This is drawn from the early phases of PhD research consisting of eight interviews and over 50 hours observing veterans at sport and physical activity-based sessions, which overall aim to support veterans in the military to civilian transition. Reflecting upon this research process, the challenges faced and how these complexities can be overcome, can be useful to researchers across all domains. Specifically, providing guidance to future ethnographers as to how to navigate their acceptance and position within the participant group.

CHAKAD OJANI

University of Manchester
Social Anthropology

The reach to/of fog as conceptual and empirical problems

My research centres around human-fog relations and fog capture practices along the Peruvian coast. For this I have conducted 12 months of ethnographic fieldwork among conservationists, civil society associations, and NGOs, all perceiving fog as an alternative water source, which they attempt to capture and enfold into their various projects. These were practices that aimed to reach fog. My guiding question has been what happens when people begin engaging fog as a material possibility. That is, how does fog come to matter in these various contexts, and how does fog participate in the making of altogether new contexts? In this presentation, I intend to talk about how my conceptual problem coincided with my interlocutors' questions; namely, what can fog do and what is its reach? While I was asking about the way fog reached into relations between people, my interlocutors were trying to figure out to what extent fog became enrolled in ecosystems. Hence, the analytical problem I will discuss consists of figuring out how empirical articulations of this question relate to my own ways of asking the same question conceptually, and to theorise the relation between these two registers in ethnographic fieldwork more broadly.

Manchester Metropolitan University
English

Affect-as-Methodology in Feminist Creative Writing

This paper seeks to understand how embodied knowledge and experience can be used in prose fiction with intersectional feminist aims. Embodied knowledge is difficult to express, partly because it is often unexpressed/ undermined in representative mediums. Reclaiming the significance of our embodied realities is inherent to feminism, and to building contexts of empowerment for those bodies made vulnerable to violence or dehumanised by cisheteropatriarchy. In 'Affect as Methodology', Åhäll (2018) unpacks the ways affective knowledge – once noticed and valued - can be used. Åhäll builds on Pedwell and Whitehead's (2012) assertion that, 'feminist theory might [...] explore affects less for how they dominate, regulate and constrain individual subjects and more for the possibilities they offer for thinking (and feeling) beyond what is already known and assumed' (p.11). She suggests that applying 'feminist curiosity' towards affect could render it a research method (not just a research site) through which we can notice 'the less obvious, hidden, emotion value about gender norms' (Åhäll, 2018:45). This paper argues that, as practice-researchers, Åhäll's affect-as-method allows 'feelings of structure' to become feminist tools in our creative writing processes. It argues affect is a method through which our feelings of fear or discomfort become useful, as we imagine the affective responses of different readers and use feminist curiosity to shape characters' affective responses away from cisheteropatriarchal norms.

Manchester Metropolitan University
Natural Sciences

Sodium-ion batteries as next generation energy storage devices

The overuse of fossil fuels heavily contributes to climate change, whereas wind, wave and solar power have proven to be viable alternative methods of green energy production. However, their supply is often intermittent and therefore requires a sustainable energy storage solution to consolidate the supply during peak usage times. Lithium-ion batteries are currently the market leaders for energy storage. Although, lithium supplies are not globally accessible and are increasing in price as demands soar, especially from the emerging electric vehicle industry. Sodium however, has similar energy storage capabilities to lithium but offers substantial economic and environmental benefits. Therefore, sodium-ion batteries could provide an effective accompanying technology in the form of large-scale energy storage. Most existing literature focusses on lithium-dependent technology, ultimately overlooking sodium's potential for energy storage. This project aims to contribute to the understanding of sodium ion batteries by studying both the electrode and non-electrode battery components by using a range of techniques. This includes using the advanced X-ray photoelectron spectrometer here at Manchester Metropolitan University. This is one of the few instruments in the world that has advanced features that are capable of providing a unique and detailed insight into the characteristics that result in a superior battery.

RICHARD REMELIE

Manchester Metropolitan University
Education, Childhood, and Youth

‘Knowing the modern University: What does education mean to today’s students?’

My PhD research seeks to understand ‘what education means’ to today’s university students and why. I am interested in how students define the value of education in relation to their own lives and society. My project emerged in response to my experiences of the English education system and my observations as an undergraduate student. Put simply, I believe that for many of today’s students (including myself during school and college) ‘education’ is more about extrinsic values such as ‘obtaining certificates’ and ‘employment’ than intrinsic values such as ‘curiosity’ or ‘learning’. To me, this is problematic because it constrains the way students engage with education and, as I know from my own experiences, can make education feel more ‘burdening’ than ‘liberating’. In this presentation, I will talk about the roots of my research, i.e. the experiences and reflections that inspired it. I will also talk about the methodological plans. Other than the findings of my undergraduate and master’s dissertations (which my PhD will build upon), I do not have any results to present. Nonetheless, this will be an opportunity for me to share my ideas and invite the audience to share their responses.

Manchester Metropolitan University
Psychology

Exploring the concept of izzat and the influence it has on the lived experiences of south Asian women and their mental wellbeing.

This research project centres around the concept of izzat (honour) and its influence on south Asian women’s lived experience, including their mental well-being. Any small violation from the expected code of conduct can have serious consequences for both sexes, however women are usually the ones held responsible (Sen, 2005). Having completed phase 1, the research so far has shown, there is a lack of discussion and a refusal to accept the role of izzat in the community. Izzat is never acknowledged directly and participants constantly distanced themselves from the oppressive aspects of the concept. The research also discovered that south Asian women are active in defining and teaching izzat however they are also being silenced due to the position of women in general, in south Asian Islamic culture, being subordinate to men. This PhD is therefore crucial in giving women a voice. Being a south Asian woman izzat is a fact of life for me and I can relate to my participants’ experience. However, my insider position also makes it difficult to disentangle, self, data and theory in my writing. I am aware that this is a classic feminist conundrum. Eventually, I would like to develop targeted ways to disseminate my findings successfully to the South Asian community.

DANIEL SKENTELBERY

Keele University
Media, Communications and Culture

Raiders of the Lost Methodology

I am a second year NWCDTP funded PhD student at Keele University, studying gender and queer identities in cosplay communities. Over the course of my first year, I developed a methodology incorporating theoretical analysis and textual reading, alongside ethnographic interviews and auto-ethnographic self-reflection. This talk will be a personal look on my changing methodological approaches and subsequent write-up. Despite the variety of mixed methods, certain tensions occurred which set me on a journey to find approaches that best suited, not just the demands of my research, but me as a person. Subsequently I have adopted a 'wild' stylistic approach to my writing which has proved to be a more accurate and compelling reflection of my findings; but, I have also found a need to make certain adjustments to my auto-ethnographic approaches to benefit my personal mental well-being and the importance of a healthy work/life balance. The aim of this talk is to reflect on the qualities of these changes, to fit the movements in my research, and to encourage others who may be experiencing tension between their objectives and their methodologies to be open to change, and perhaps more unconventional approaches, to get the best from their research.

NIGAR SULTANA

Manchester Metropolitan University
Marketing, Retail and Tourism

Methodological traits in dark tourism: Content, debate and standpoint of qualitative research leading to dark tourism

This study will assess the present theoretical issues in academic literature referred as 'dark tourism. Although there are so many written on the subject matter, but little on types and relevance of research methods and analytical framework in existing academic researches. This paper will be addressed in the context of philosophical aspects, fruitful research methodology for tourist's perception on dark tourism, contemporary critical arguments and controversies if any. Dark tourism needs to be specific and precise and this study or paper will be able to reveal this concept in more interesting way. Not only that but also the interpretation of visitors on dark tourism might be going to be considered in this paper. Another academic debate has been arisen that most of the dark tourism research had been used through qualitative research methodology and this paper will try to justify the reasons behind of choosing qualitative rather than quantitative on dark tourism research. The findings of this paper might be going to reveal the aspect of qualitative research on dark tourism, benefits of applying qualitative research on dark tourism and critical analysis and deliberation if any of qualitative research on dark tourism.

HANNAH TODMAN

Manchester Metropolitan University
Social Work

Understanding the needs of children living with parental
substance misuse: Perspectives of children and professionals

Recent research has drawn welcome attention to the needs of children affected by parental substance misuse (PSM). Despite this attention there are no standardised models of assessment or intervention to respond to their needs. This PhD research aims to inform the development of a new model of practice. The research provides an understanding of both children's lived experience of PSM and the experiences of professionals supporting families where PSM is a safeguarding concern. This presentation will highlight how the presenter's social work practice in supporting children and their families affected by a loved one's substance misuse has informed and shaped the research methods and design. It will provide examples and reflections on the use of art-based creative methods. The use of the resilience tree will be discussed to understand what children need to reach their full potential and lessen the impact of PSM. The presentation will also explore the ethical challenges in responding to the needs of vulnerable children aged between 5 and 16 in the research project. To conclude the presentation will outline the key findings from three focus groups, eight creative interviews with children and the next stage of the research project.

ANNA TURNER

Manchester Metropolitan University
English

Rooting story in the Woods

For my practice-based creative writing PhD I am investigating how walking in woodland can inspire fiction. My methodology includes woodland walking - recording the experiences through writing, sound recording and photographs. In parallel I am conducting a study of nature writing, ecological criticism and the representation of forests in art and literature. I am interested in the idea of a forest as an organism, connected in many ways, including by underground mycelium, and how this might be used as a metaphor for human relationships, as well for the Earth. Unseen roots and invisible connections result in a huge variety of expressions of life, and severing those connections can cause unforeseen damage. My output will be a novel, as well as a critical appraisal of the process from which the novel has emerged. At this relatively early stage I am trying to find balance between the critical and creative elements. This presentation will discuss the connections rooting my fiction into current ecological thinking and nature writing, and will include a reading from my work in progress.

EMILY WHITE

Keele University
School of Law

Community Notification to Teenage Sex Offenders: The
Developments of a Controversial Research Area

I am a first-year PhD law student at Keele University and the focus of my research is the laws that place teenagers on the UK Sex Offenders Register. I will be analysing the existing laws, primarily the 1997 and 2003 Sexual Offences Act, which place children on the register after the caution or conviction of designated sexual offences. I will then be assessing if these laws are still relevant today due to the changing societal views of childhood, the availability of new material through technological advancements and the studies undertaken to assess sexual re-offending rates in youths. Based on my findings I will be proposing amendments to the law that will be more appropriate to teens who have sexually offended. At the Roots & Reach conference I would like to give a presentation on how my area of research has developed and been influenced by academic commentary, case law and supervisory direction. Since beginning my research in September 2018, my area of research has developed from a study of a proposed system of community notification for sex offenders in the UK to a critical analysis of the laws relating to children who sexual offend and their placement on the register.

Facing Losses in Combat-Related Limb-Loss: A Classic
Grounded Theory Study

Approximately 1900 British and American veterans have sustained an amputation as a result of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. There is a dearth of qualitative studies on combat-related limb-loss from the post-2001 conflicts, specifically in relation to the physical and mental wellbeing of veterans after amputation. This research seeks to contribute empirical knowledge that health professionals can use to increase their awareness of the unique health care needs of veteran amputees. A classic grounded theory approach was adopted in this study. In line with the methodology, multiple data sources were utilised such as face to face and online interviews, autobiographies, documentaries, YouTube videos, online blogs, newspaper articles, symposia and armed forces', charity websites and theatrical plays. The study generated a theory of 'facing losses' that demonstrates how veterans deal with their physical, mental and professional losses when they lose their limbs. Veterans go through a process of 'dealing with uncertainty', 'acceptance' and 'finding meaning'. The theory details the behaviours of veterans, from the frontline through to their rehabilitation and medical discharge. This research contributes a unique conceptual understanding of the physical and psychosocial factors that impact on veterans' experience of limb-loss, which has not been noted in the wider literature.

CARLA M. CORDNER

Manchester Metropolitan University
Sociology

Care Leavers - The Misguided Path to Independence

Although the poor well-being of care leavers is well documented (see Biehal et al., 1995; Carey, 1986; Dixon and Stein, 2005; Stein, 1990; Stein 2012), less is known about factors that aids care leavers in their resilience after experiencing adverse childhood events. This PhD study aims to identify factors associated with resilience amongst care leavers and to understand, 'why, when care leavers are exposed to the same experiences which cause some to become ill, do some remain healthy?' Unlike qualitative research, there is no quantitative research on the resilience of care leavers in the UK. Therefore, there is a need for a more comprehensive understanding of resilience amongst care leavers. To attain that understanding, there must first be an identification of the factors that associate with care leavers' resilience. As such, using an asset-based approach, this study will use quantitative research methods to make that identification, whilst additionally using a qualitative approach to build an understanding of that resilience. As a care leaver with first-hand experience of the care system, the roots of this research stem from my own lived experience and are based around a desire to develop the growing research using an asset-based approach, whilst offering a voice for a disadvantaged vulnerable group. This paper explores the rationale for the planned study and to furthermore, discuss the motivations and influences behind this research.

ABSTRACTS OF LIGHTNING TALKS

Staffordshire University
Education

Relationship between emotional intelligence levels and CPD of healthcare support workers in University Hospitals of North Midlands

For the professional doctorate, I envision to study the relationship between Nursing Assistants' level of emotional intelligence (N/As) at University Hospitals of North Midlands (UHNM) and their decision to train, develop and progress in their careers. Is this relationship acknowledged scientifically? If yes, could a balance between the two variables be considered? Are there any other variables? Do N/As presenting higher levels of emotional intelligence pursue their development and education further? The understanding of these questions along with vocational training and adult learning, will greatly impact in the recruitment of this particular group of professionals and the delivery of educational choices (Robin and Shona, 2015), hence contributing to minimise the present issues with workforce planning, linked to shortage of staff, difficulty recruiting and evidencing competency-based skills (Skills for Health, 2017). While a number of policies have been considered pivotal and put in place to support the continuous personal development of these professionals, particularly related to apprenticeships (Faithful-Burn et al, 2017), the career and doctorate choices of an educational pathway within a healthcare setting was motivated by the identification of gaps in the lack of equality between N/As and nurses when accessing education opportunities (Sarre et al, 2018).

Manchester Metropolitan University
Mechanical Engineering

Efficacy of density in predicting the protective properties of padded clothing in rugby

World Rugby™ permits players to wear padded clothing meeting the requirements of Regulation-12, which limits density, thickness and impact performance. The procedures for measuring impact performance and padding thickness are described in Regulation-12. Regulation-12 does not, however, describe how to measure the density of padding. Due to non-uniform geometry, measuring density of padding can be challenging and provides limited information on mechanical properties. This study investigated how well density could predict the impact performance of rugby padding, while reviewing rigidity parameters as alternatives. Eleven samples of rugby padding, plus one control material, were tested for rigidity as per ISO:2439, then impacted at energies of 4.9, 9.8 and 14.7 J using a setup as defined in Regulation-12, and finally cut to calculate density as per ISO:845. The density and rigidity parameters were correlated against peak impact accelerations at each impact energy level using a Spearman's rank test. Density was not significantly correlated with peak acceleration at any energy level, with rigidity methods significantly correlated with impact acceleration at only 4.9 J. Results at 9.8 and 14.7 J indicate the padding materials bottomed out due to the rigid impactor and anvil. Rigidity indicated potential to replace the density criterion in Regulation-12.

Manchester Metropolitan University
Occupation Safety, Health and Environment

ALLIE JOHNS

Manchester Metropolitan University
Marketing, Retail and Tourism

Holding a mirror up to myself: Why interactive TV drama invites introspection

Roots: Interactive TV narratives are staking a claim for viewer attention, with 2018 seeing the launch of Charlie Brooker's, multi-million dollar 'Bandersnatch' on Netflix: a fully branching, viewer interactive narrative, the first of its kind on a global, streaming TV platform. As a media psychologist, my PhD seeks to demonstrate the extent to which interactive narrative drama can have a positive effect on viewers' self-esteem and self-confidence. My PhD seeks to develop a previous, published study I conducted with the BBC in 2015. **Reach:** In a recent conversation with a managing director of a leading User Experience (UX) design agency, it emerged there is a trend in UX for ethical, socially responsible human-centred digital experiences – i.e. creating experiences that have a positive effect on the user/viewer. The proposed study aims to contribute to this debate. This study also reflects the university's strategic aim to become a centre of excellence for digital media and culture.

Safety Climate, Safety Behaviour, and Safety Outcomes in the small and medium-sized manufacturing enterprises in China

A positive safety climate has great potential in enhancing an organisation's health and safety performance and reducing occupational injuries. However, It is still largely unexplored about the safety climate issues, the reason of the high occurrence of work-related injuries in China and its policy implications, especially among the small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The aim of this study is to determine the association between safety climate, safety behaviour and safety outcomes in Chinese SMEs in manufacturing sectors in selected provinces, and to explore whether the government regulators and work safety policy have an effective influence on the management of occupational safety in manufacturing SMEs. The primary research method for this study will include an in-depth literature review study, a self-administered structured questionnaire survey and an semi-structured interview survey. This research will determine whether safety climate can predict safety behaviour, and whether safety behaviour can effectively mediate the relationship between safety climate and safety outcomes in manufacturing SMEs in China. By exploring the effectiveness of Chinese government regulators and policies in workplace safety, this research is proposed to provide useful suggestions to help employers in line with the regulations and practices.

Staffordshire University
School of Health and Social Care

To evaluate the effectiveness and predictive accuracy of the National Early Warning Score and the Custody Early Warning Score in predicting deterioration of patients in police custody.

An abridged health scoring system called Custody Early Warning Scores (CEWS) has been recently introduced into some Police and Boarder Force custodies to reduce death and mortality. Our research shows that this is an inaccurate and insensitive tool, despite previous claims of accuracy. It misses the unwell whilst providing false reassurances, especially when used by untrained detention staff, as it currently is. We analyzed data over a 3-month period in a police custody. Vital signs were recorded on 1'163 detainees upon arrival and a National Early Warning Score (NEWS) or CEWS was later calculated. Then we assigned scores to those referred to the station clinician and also those referred to hospital. Clinicians were blinded to the scores and outcomes. We then calculated the accuracy of these two scoring systems and matched this against clinical judgment looking at clinical outcomes. 1.The established National Early Warning Score (NEWS) is not suitable for use within police custody suites as it lacks the sensitivities necessary to identify these uniquely unwell patients 2.The more recently developed Custody Early Warning Score (CEWS) lacks sensitivity and specificity when used as a screening tool in police custody 3.Police custody detainees have unique health problems with altered clinical responses to illness; professional clinical judgment is favoured over current track and trigger type assessment tool.

Manchester Metropolitan University
Education

A study into the structures and processes leading to underrepresentation of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) students in Russell Group universities.

Exploring the underrepresentation of BAME students across Russell Group universities to understand the structures and processes by which this occurs. The selection process into Russell Group universities must be questioned. Research suggests that Russell group admissions teams might be consciously rejecting more qualified BAME applicants than their white counterparts to bring the rates of BAME students at application state down to the perceived proportion of the wider population. The controlling of BAME students to match the wider population could be seen as representative but lacking fairness; representativeness does not equate to diversity. It is still possible to have a diverse student body without having a perfectly representative number of students, especially if it means treating all applicants equally at the point of admission. Furthermore, according to the Equality Act, not only would rejecting BAME students fit the rates of the wider population be unfair, it would also be unlawful. A gap in knowledge that the study seeks to address is how can the Russell Group universities admissions processing operate to avoid potential institutional and colonial bias? It is inspired by human rights legislations and published research documenting the need to address unconscious bias that lies amongst universities' structures and processes.

IAN PLATT

University of Bolton
Psychology

The Hummingbird Project: A Positive Psychology Intervention for Secondary School Students

Positive Psychology Interventions (PPIs) in secondary schools have been shown to improve mental health outcomes for students. Previous PPIs have tended to be delivered by trained Psychology specialists or have tended to focus on a single aspect of Positive Psychology. The current study investigated whether a PPI, delivered by current university students in Psychology, which educates secondary school students in a variety of Positive Psychology concepts, might lead to similar outcomes. This intervention, the Hummingbird Project, educated secondary school students (N = 1,054) on the concepts of happiness, hope, resilience, mindfulness, character strengths, growth mindsets, and gratitude. The Hummingbird Project led to improvements in student well-being, as measured by the World Health Organisation Well-Being Index. The intervention also led to improvements in student resilience, as measured by the Uni-Stride Scale, and hope, as measured by the Children's Hope Scale. No significant differences were found in student mindsets, as measured by the Mindset Assessment Profile but improvements were found in students' confidence in their own use of the concepts covered in the intervention, as measured by the Hummingbird Life Satisfaction Scale. Results are discussed in the context of their implications for the future of psychological intervention in secondary school settings.

CHINYERE SAM-OKERENTA

University of Huddersfield
School of Nursing and Midwifery

The exploration of cancer survivorship experiences of support and care continuity among UK Black African and Caribbean (BAC) population.

Cancer diagnosis and treatment may affect individuals and their relatives emotionally and physically mostly at the end of initial treatment when some survivors express fear of abandonment as they may no longer have regular contacts with health professionals. Evidence shows poor health care experiences and low uptake of cancer support services among UK BAC population. Hence, the need to examine how they transit from professional care to self-management; and the challenges faced by their family caregivers. These qualitative studies received University ethics approval. Study 1 involved UK BAC cancer survivors and their family caregivers; and collected data through audio-recorded face-to-face semi-structured interviews involving visual aid (Pictor technique); transcribed and analysed using the Template Analysis approach. Study 2 explored the policy and practice implications of study 1 findings through a focus group discussion with UK cancer care stakeholders. Findings included lack of cultural awareness and limited Black representation among care providers; inadequate information and support for both survivors and caregivers; and lack of insight into the challenges faced by UK Black cancer caregivers. These studies could provide insight into the cultural dimensions of UK cancer care and could inform NHS strategies to improve health inequalities.

ABSTRACTS OF POSTER PRESENTATIONS

AMNA AHMED ALGOLFAT

Manchester Metropolitan University
Faculty of Science and Engineering

Dynamic Analysis of Bending- Axial Wind Turbine Blade
Subjected to Combined Loading

Blade damage is a major contribution to failure in wind turbines, in particular off-shore wind farms. The different environment conditions and ultimate load operations have significant effects on the wind turbine blade. They must be considered in both, the structural design and the reliability assessment as the fatigue causes have a great concern. In this study, the sample blade is assumed to be exhibiting Blade damage is a major contribution to failure in wind turbines, in particular, offshore wind farms. The different environmental conditions and ultimate load operations have significant effects on the wind turbine blade. They must be considered in both, the structural design and the reliability assessment as the fatigue causes have a great concern. In this study, the sample blade is assumed to be exhibiting coupled flexural and axial displacement. The excitation forces as the operational load condition have been investigated to detect their influence on the blade. The methodology has been adopted the uncoupled governing equations as the basis functions of approximation methods, and interpolation functions have been developed by conjunction with the weighted residual approach. The dynamic response behaviour has been introduced, emphasising the influence of axial tension force, and its effects on mitigating the transverse and lateral response.

FATIMA ZOHRA AMOURI

Manchester Metropolitan University
Education and Social Research

An investigation of English as a Foreign Language university teachers' and learners' attitudes towards the use of models of blended learning

The motivation after this research is to help improve the learning and teaching process in Algeria and shift the educational system into being modern with the use of technology. The research participants are teachers and learners from the faculty of EFL, in University Tahri Mohamed, Bechar, Algeria. The main purpose of the study is to show the impact of using models of BL on the EFL learners' and teachers' attitudes. There is a need for studies to determine the future of BL in Algerian EFL university contexts because Algeria is considered 'left behind' with modern technology especially in the educational field. The data collection phase helped shape my research. I came out with innovative ideas from the participants' comments that will impact my results at the end, and hopefully, the outcome of this study would be used as a guide for universities and teachers from developing countries on the use of BL. My research journey was full of challenges including the political crisis in Algeria and ongoing strikes at the level of higher education. However, these events had also informed my research, as part of it was related to education and English language specifically.

Manchester Metropolitan University
Information, Communication and Languages

The impact of research data management (RDM) on
Academic Library and Librarians identity

Research data management (RDM) is important for a long list of stakeholders, including academics, students, researchers, librarians, professionals and in a broad sense society in general. Research is benefit from RDM in many ways, including the non-replicable work in the laboratory or field, the co-analysis of data from different sources, the comparisons between past research data with new. Academic libraries, and more widely the library and information science (LIS) profession, have been heavily involved in the management and delivery of RDM services and by participating in policy and funding initiatives in respect of RDM. It is an era where higher education has been significantly affected by the dominance of technology and the consumerisation of education. Additionally, data seems as the most valuable asset of an organisation. Consequently, libraries are under pressure to avoid becoming obsolete, following the trends, in order to remain an equal partner within the institution. The investigation of the impact of RDM on academic libraries identity, and the librarians themselves, might provide insights on the library's role within the institution, the relationships between librarians and researchers and, the dynamics in their communication. Also, such discourse will contribute to the understanding of the phenomenon and will increase the confidence in how the LIS profession addresses novel and complex trends such as RDM.

FFION BROWN

Manchester Metropolitan University
English and Linguistics

Why explore the language of mental health amongst men?

My research is concerned with the topic of mental health and how its representations are linguistically constructed in media and public discourse. Arguing that there is an underrepresentation of men in mental health discourse, the project will address the issue that mental health discourse amongst men continues to draw upon stigmatised imagery to the point that it is taboo. The motivation from the project comes from the current increase in media discourse on the topic of mental health and the identification of gaps in the existing research which demonstrate a lack of discussion on the male experience of mental illness. With national figures stating that working-age men are most at risk of suicide but are least likely to suffer from anxiety and depression, the project is further concerned with how workplace identities reflect societal gendered roles that both men and women are expected to fulfil and how these expectations could also contribute to the continued stigma felt by men.

The reach of social identity in transport choice

Rooted in my own personal interest in cycling, my research considers the form of transport a person currently uses, and how to move them towards more sustainable forms of transport. According to the Department of Transport there were 37,957 trips in 2018 that could be completed using Active Travel instead of by car. Research into modal shift is often inter-disciplinary, but from a psychological perspective has focused on Azjen's (1991) theory of planned behaviour. While the social identity approach has informed studies around bicycle use (Hoekstra, 2018), few studies have explicitly sought to understand how social identity contributes to bicycle use as a transport choice and the discourses around it. In the first of three complementary studies, I adopt a critical approach to discourse analysis, considering media representations of bicycle users in shaping intergroup attitudes. The second study explores discourses around transport choices within Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU), using focus groups to explore issues of social identification and self-categorization. Finally, I adopt a phenomenological approach to explore participants' experience of cycling in Manchester. This research therefore aims to REACH beyond a single explanation of modal shift, filling a gap in the extant literature and informing public policy on transport choice.

DOMINIC EDWARDS

Manchester Metropolitan University
Economics, Policy and International Business

Understanding the Transition of Premier League Footballers
from Youth to International

Each year hundreds of young people vie to become professional footballers and earn their professional contract at a Premier League club. However, this can come with its pitfalls as opportunities to progress can be limited, with the transition into elite sport described as highly problematic. In addition, these young footballers, many with hopes of representing their Country, are having to adapt to a specific culture that is affected by numerous organisations with different core priorities. Through understanding transitions into International representative sport, the research will impact policy within National Governing Bodies to develop clearer pathways and support networks for young footballers to become youth internationals. It is hoped that this will then lead to a greater number of young footballers becoming senior Internationals. Having worked in football for 13 years I have a keen interest in youth development and therefore my ambition is for this research to be used by The Premier League and The Football Association as a model for helping youth footballers to achieve their potential when entering an International football environment.

SOPHIA FEDOROWICZ

Staffordshire University
Centre for Health and Development

Public involvement in Student Research

The expert by experience (EE) voice is more prominent than ever in health research. It is supported by resources and training available to researchers and the public who want to be involved in research. However, there is a lack of such resources to support public involvement (PI) at student level. In addition, there is conflict as to what level of PI equates to empowerment; established as one of the core concepts of PI in research by grassroots movements striving for patients to be seen as people rather than symptoms. An EE team was recruited to work on a MSc research project focusing on interviewing people about their experiences of mental health services in Stoke-on-Trent. The team worked on producing materials, the proposal for ethical approval, training materials for the analysis stage including PowerPoint presentations and a booklet to support the analysis, the analysis itself and the interpretation of the results. This presentation, co-produced with the EE team, details the methodology and aims to critically evaluate the PI strategy undertaken as part of MSc student research. Also discussed is how universities can support their students in involving EE in their research and in keeping the core concept of empowerment dominant.

AMEN GOKAH

Nottingham Trent University
Politics and International Relations

The Social-Political Perspective of Immigration Management
within Europe- An Analysis of Finland's Immigration
Institutional System.

Immigration is quite a recent phenomenon in most of Europe and particularly Finland. A range of factors influences it. Modern governance of immigration is such a complex phenomenon in such a measure that it makes sense to study it empirically to understand the true nature of how institutions engage with other institutions and systems to govern it. The goal of this research is to develop a framework that facilitates the governance of immigration from an interactive perspective and tackling issues from a holistic approach rather than the disjointed and top-down approach. Governance involves a governing system, a system to be governed and the interaction between and among them. However, most immigration governance are executed from the hierarchical or the top-down approach of government. This research examines the manner in which immigration is being managed in the EU with Finland as a case country. It will engage with institutions governing immigration in Finland. It also evaluates border management within the EU and into the EU of Third Country Nationals.

Manchester Metropolitan University
Speech and Language Therapy

Meeting the challenge of transcribing simultaneous multi-modal interactions: a synthesis of research with positivist and relativist roots.

The first author's PhD is a qualitative investigation into how non-speaking children who rely on AAC convey their perspective in a group of familiar adults and peers. The primary data source is video-recordings of group interactions. Aim – To identify a method of transcription and analysis which addressed the pragmatic question of how the child conveyed their perspective, whilst capturing the multi-modal nature of AAC interactions and acknowledging the child as a competent communicator of their experience. Methods – A framework for assessing children's pragmatic abilities (Roth and Spekman, 1984) shaped the approach to analysis, alongside existing methods of transcription (Von Tetzchner and Basil, 2011) and microanalysis of AAC interactions (Higginbotham and Engelke, 2013). Despite having roots in the positivist tradition, the framework allowed the researcher to view the children as competent reporters of their own experience (James and Prout, 1990). Outcome and Discussion – A novel approach to the transcription and analysis of simultaneous interactions involving AAC will be discussed. The method may be of interest to researchers analysing multi-modal interactions and/or where more than one conversation occurs in the same group interaction.

Corporate Security Responsibility of Businesses in Nigeria:
Potential Impact and Challenges

Developing countries like Nigeria, have recently been affected by conflicts characterised by violence, high levels of risk and insecurity, resulting in loss of lives, livelihoods, displacement of communities, degradation of health, educational and social infrastructure as well as economic underdevelopment. The Nigerian government's response to most of these conflicts have mainly been reactionary in the form of military deployments, as against precautionary to prevent or address the root causes of the conflicts. Several studies have shown that at various points of a conflict, conflict regions can benefit from the resources and expertise available outside the government, mainly from the private sector through mechanisms such as corporate social responsibility (CSR) by businesses. This study aims to highlight the challenges and potential impact of the research into the corporate social responsibility of businesses in Nigeria. The significance of this research stems from the gap observed in the existing literature of using CSR by businesses as a vehicle for conflict prevention in the northern conflict region of Nigeria. Thus, we examine contributions of local businesses and multinational companies (MNCs) through their CSR in the prevention of conflict and promotion of peace in the region. The contributions from this study include the expected impact of the research to stakeholders such as the government, businesses and affected communities as well as the challenges faced in conducting the research.

In Silico Identification of Pathway drivers in Pan Cancer

During my work in Histopathology field, I witnessed the suffering of cancer patients to get precise diagnosis and to start of their long treatment journey which mostly had tragic end due to the complexity and multi- drug resistance associated with cancer. Therefore, I decided to join cancer research field. My MSc research introduce emerging Bioinformatics tools to me, I begin to realise how these technologies hold a great promise to reshape the future of cancer research. Now I am pursuing my PhD using one of these approaches with an aim to contribute in helping cancer patients to get precise therapy in near future. Cancer occur basically as a result of sequential acquisition of genetic alterations within the cells in the lifetime. To understand causative roots behind cancer, researches are now shifting toward System biology approaches which provide valuable way for modelling and integration of genomic data to view the full picture of who genes and pathways are interact in cancer. Computational and mathematical algorithms forming the base of system biology to model cancer heterogeneity. In this project, Artificial Neural Network (ANN) algorithm is used to identify the drivers and pathways which implicate in cancer. Furthermore, Network inference will be used to evaluate the influence of different genes within targeted pathways. This type of analysis will have great impact in identification of new features that could help in diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

LINDA O. N. NWABUNIKE

Manchester Metropolitan University
Strategy Enterprise Sustainability

Change of theoretical framework to address contextual issues and make contribution to academic literature

The change of PhD research title could occur as research progresses. This has been the case in the search for making a significant contribution to the research field of strategy and innovation. Initial preconceptions of how the research should progress were shattered with the identification of multiple texts in other contexts addressing the similar research focus in other contexts. Usually, repeating a similar study in another context, does not satisfy the required PhD standard for contributing to literature. Therefore, another theoretical perspective was sought, to address the contextual problem initially expressed. This led to the extensive search of literature in the field of Innovation and strategy management. Within this field, ambidexterity was selected after extensive literature search. With the help of Web of science and NVIVO, the ambidexterity literature was summarized and mapped out. The visual mapping aided in expressing sparse literature density with some related key terms. This led to the systematic literature review of texts related to ambidexterity, social capital and public, and then the identification of gaps in the ambidexterity literature. Eventually, the research title became the 'Management of exploration and exploitation across modes: Leveraging social ties and equity ties for exploration and exploitation'.

JAKE CHARLES SHEPPARD

Manchester Metropolitan University
History

Roots and (Cultural) Reach: the C.S.S. Alabama and the 'Anglo-American Divorce'

Many people living the transatlantic 21st century will instinctively accept that Great Britain, or more specifically England, and the United States share somewhat of a "special" cultural heritage and relationship. What others will not appreciate are the complex struggles that define a history of two nations, founded along identical linguistic, cultural and political lines, that slowly divorce one another in the 19th century only again to dovetail over the fin-de-siècle. My doctoral project charts the memory and later cultural iterations of the C.S.S. Alabama, a wooden warship constructed in Birkenhead, Merseyside in 1862 which serviced the Confederacy during the American Civil War. This poster presentation will extend the remit of my study, showing direct causation between the often-untold Alabama's place in 19th century Anglo-American culture and our conceptualisation, as international citizens as well as students and researchers, of the 'Special Relationship' today. My poster will take the audience on a vivid visual journey, using incisive analysis, illustrations and snap-shots of the most interesting 19th century cultural artefacts, tracing a timeline which demonstrates the link between my research, its ultimate reach and the powerful cultural assumptions we hold.

HINA TARIQ

Bournemouth University
Health and Social Sciences

Development and Validation of Contracture Assessment
Screening Tool

Contractures are a debilitating consequence of prolonged immobility potentially leading to physical impairments, limited functional mobility, decreased independence with everyday activities, and reduced social participation. There is no standard assessment tool available to assess the risk of contracture development or progression. The Contracture Assessment Screening Tool (CAST) was developed by Dorset Health Care University NHS Foundation Trust to address this gap. This project aims to 1) modify the tool in light of the evidence and expertise and 2) establish the psychometric properties and evaluate the acceptability of the tool prior to widespread use and implementation. Timely identification of those at risk of contracture development or progression may help facilitate contracture prevention and the associated negative sequelae. To evaluate CAST, a mixed methods approach is being utilized including realist review and evaluation. Merging different methodologies and a realist approach will provide a unique perspective on CAST validation and use. This project is ongoing and the poster will present the overall methodology and significance of the project.

KATE WHITTENBURY

Manchester Metropolitan University
Psychology

Listening to Trauma Stories

Roots and influences behind our research: Individuals who are exposed vicariously to trauma can develop PTSD-like symptoms such as intrusions and persistent emotional difficulties. People who work with trauma-survivors (e.g. therapists) are particularly at risk of developing intrusions related to their client's traumatic experiences. Secondary traumatic stress (STS), describes the development of PTSD-like symptoms in those working closely with people primarily exposed to trauma. Previous studies have found variations in the severity of symptoms in clinicians and it is unclear whether development is due to the nature of trauma-work or linked to other variables. We aim to contribute to the understanding of key factors that affect vulnerability and resilience to the development of Secondary Traumatic Stress (STS) following exposure to trauma stories. We intend to understand whether performing cognitive tasks while viewing a trauma story can result in a reduction of the frequency of intrusive thoughts during a follow-up period after the exposure to the trauma story; assess the roles of empathy and attachment style in the development of intrusions and assess individuals' physiological activation in response to the exposure to a traumatic stimulus (the trauma story).

CHUIN HONG YAP

Manchester Metropolitan University
Department of Computing and Mathematics

Deep Facial Micro-expression: An Overview

With the technological advancement in computer vision, extracting information from images has become increasingly accurate. In the case of facial recognition, not only we are able to detect faces out of any images, we are also able to detect facial expression exhibited by the face. However, humans are known to suppress emotions, the facial expression exhibited by an individual does not always represents the true emotion. The facial expression that we usually read from a face is known as macro-expression, which occurs in a time span of a few seconds. On the other hand, a more accurate way of detecting true emotion is by detecting facial micro-expression. Facial micro-expressions are involuntary movements of facial muscles which occurs in less than half a second. This means that even though an individual is voluntarily suppressing his or her emotions, facial micro-expression will reveal the true emotions regardless. My research involves creating deep learning models to generate and recognise facial micro-expression as a more accurate approach to predict the true emotions of an individual. The potential applications for this research are tools to aid in police interrogation and psychology counselling.

LEE YARWOOD-ROSS

Manchester Metropolitan University
Department of Nursing

Using Extant Literature in a Grounded Theory Study

Novice researchers considering grounded theory methodology will become aware of the contentious issue of how and when extant literature should be incorporated into a study. The three main grounded theory approaches are classic, Straussian and constructivist, and the seminal texts provide conflicting beliefs surrounding the use of literature. A classic approach avoids a pre-study literature review to minimise preconceptions and emphasises the constant comparison method, while the Straussian and constructivist approaches focus more on the beneficial aspects of an initial literature review and researcher reflexivity. The debate also extends into the wider academic community, where no consensus exists. In the author's experience, researchers can best understand the use of literature in grounded theory through immersion in the seminal texts, engaging with wider academic literature, and examining their preconceptions of the substantive area. The author will demonstrate how classic grounded theory principles were appropriate in the context of their doctoral study. Ultimately, novice researchers will have their own sets of circumstances when preparing their studies and should become aware of the different perspectives to make decisions that they can ultimately justify.

ABSTRACTS OF INSTALLATIONS

ANN CARRAGHER

Manchester Metropolitan University

Art

Landscape, Liminality, Lament - Am:bush

My current visual research explores the overlapping and interwoven histories of the landscape in and around the 'South Armagh/ Louth Border' (an area of border territory between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, also known as the 'Gap of the North'). My practice-based research engages with and attempts to deconstruct the historical, social and cultural elements that have shaped 'The Gap of the North'. Steeped in history and trauma, the political, physical landscape of the area, active, bloody and turbulent, is well documented and memorialized. Strangeness and fear exudes' from the political human horror and mythological endeavours that are entwined in the fabric of the area; in the layers of colonial history and in the evidence of a once highly militarised panoptical zone by a dominant discourse of occupation, control and surveillance. The term "liminal" is applicable temporally as well as spatially, psychologically as well as physically - it is often discussed in terms of space, place, memory and identity, regarding transitional spaces, frontiers, border zones and contested territories; a glen, a gap, a fold - such places are dialectical and contain an inward and outward tension and ambiguity; betwixt and between, a liminal third space, a heterotopia.

IVANA MANČIĆ

Nottingham Trent University
Art and Design

Chasing Ghosts

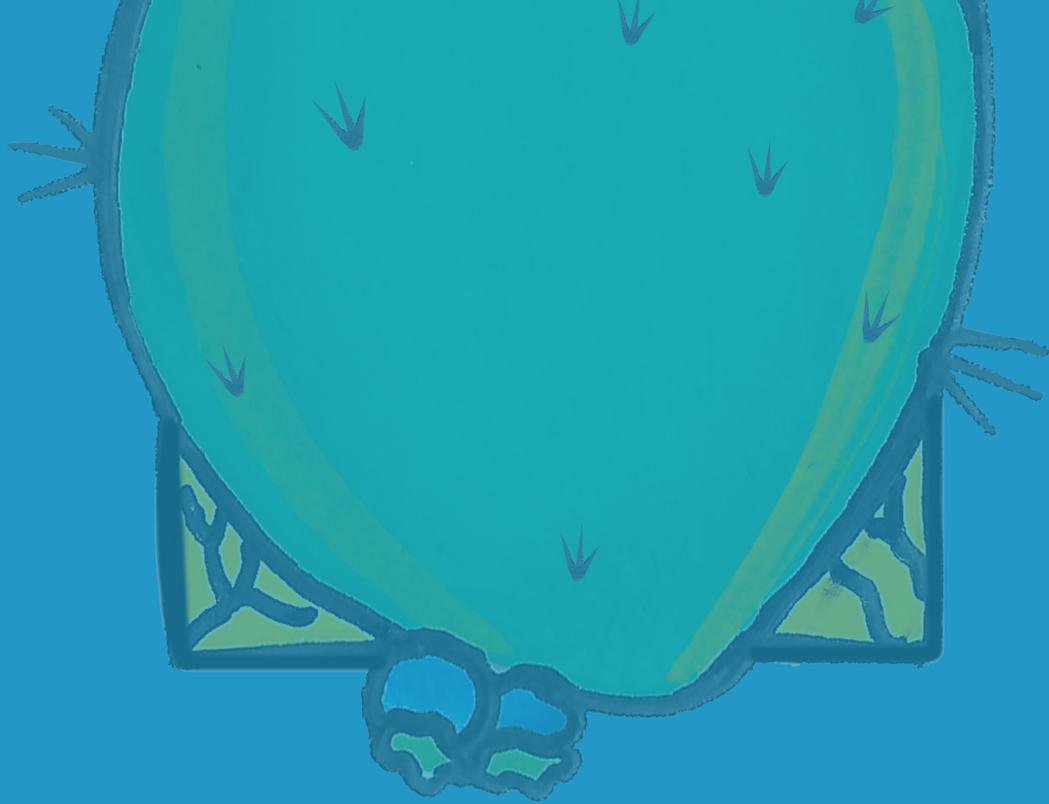
The main aim of my research is to provide a personal testimony by creating artworks which will narrate a story to preserve a memory of the experience of Yugoslavia and offer representations of it in the field of contemporary art through the creation of multidisciplinary artefacts, installations, events, exhibitions and critical written reflections in order to contribute to the developing pacifist female voice. Thus, the research will be practice-based and will require autoethnography as a method and the technique of site writing. Yugoslav communist era offered an illusion of huge promises of social and gender equality which eventually led to destruction, dissolution and disbelief arising from the Civil war. As a female artist born and raised in these circumstances, I aim to contribute to contemporary art practices and dialogues by presenting a personal narrative which will address the issues of loss, memory and belonging that marked this unique historical chapter. The personal narrative will focus on my inner ghosts of the old times, people, ways of life, buildings and human artifacts belonging to the historical period of communist Yugoslavia. As a witness, I turn to art as a method to open up, create artefacts and communicate to others.

DAVIDE SCIACCA

Royal Northern College of Music
Music

Contemporary Recital - Sicilian Landscape

This project concerns contemporary music for solo guitar and live electronics written by Sicilian composers such as Andrea Amici, Joe Schittino and Rosario Tomarchio. Many of them have especially composed these works for me. My research explores the relationship between the guitar scores and their subsequent modification with live electronics. A primary aspect of my research is into the performance of such works, focussing on repertoire that is not performed these days. My investigation thus far demonstrates that there is little research into these works. Particular performance issues mostly related to guitar writing by non-guitarist composers and the centrality of the performer's contribution to the nature of the original works is explored. My research will demonstrate that such works are worthy of wider dissemination and can contribute to new knowledge. This will be supported by live concert performances and studio recordings. My aims are to promote this repertoire in order to stimulate the interest in it by other guitarists, and also the wider musical public. As an international recitalist I have had the opportunity to present this repertoire in a large number of concerts, including performances as part of a duo called Contemporary Recital.



PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

AMNA AHMED ALGOLFAT

Amna Ahmed Algolfat is a first-year PhD student in the Mechanical Engineering Department at Manchester Metropolitan University. My doctoral research investigates the prediction of wind turbine blade life-span. I hold a master's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Tripoli, Libya, that investigated the flexural vibrations of beams.

FATIMA ZOHRA AMOURI

Fatima Amouri is an Algerian PhD student, in receipt of a scholarship. She completed her masters degree with honours in Algeria. She is interested in English language teaching and learning, and would like to pursue a career in this area. Her dream is leadership of the Algerian educational system and educational reforms.

ANGELIKI ANDRIKOPOULOU

Angeliki is a second-year PhD student at Manchester Metropolitan University and holds undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in librarianship. She has worked as a professional librarian in academic and public libraries in Greece. Her doctoral research aims to explore how Research Data Management (RDM) can affect the identity of the academic library and the position of the academic librarian.

CHARLOTTE BAGNALL

Charlotte transferred from Keele University to Manchester Metropolitan University in 2019 for the final year of her PhD, to join her supervisor, Dr Claire Fox. She has a keen interest in educational psychology research, particularly in primary-secondary school transition and how best to support children's emotional well-being during this exciting, but often stressful time.

MALIKA BELMISSOUM

Malika Belmissoum is a second-year PhD student at Nottingham Trent University. She has a BA in Anglo-Saxon and English studies and an MA in Applied Linguistics and ICT. Malika is interested in educational Psychology, research pedagogy and teaching and learning in higher education.

KHADIDJA BENOUDAH SENOUCI

Khadidja Benouadah Senouci is a 2nd year PhD student from Manchester Metropolitan University. Her current research is a multidisciplinary study on investigating psychological aspects in education. The research is entitled "Assessing the relationship between Emotional Intelligence and PhD supervision".

CATHERINE BEST

Catherine is an Honorary Visiting Nursing Lecturer at the University of Bradford, a Queen's Nurse and a nominated member of Sigma, a nursing society that recognises academic achievement and quality nursing leadership. She has published in a number of high profile nursing journals and is passionate about promoting nursing scholarship.

FFION BROWN

Ffion Brown recently graduated from Manchester Metropolitan University with a Masters in Applied Linguistics and is now fulfilling her long-term goal of doing a PhD. With an interest in Discourse Analysis, her current research is exploring how mental illness in men is represented in media and public discourse.

SARAH BURTON

Sarah Burton is a PhD Candidate in Sociology at Nottingham Trent University; her PhD project entitled: 'Becoming-vegan: a sociological exploration into vegan identities'. Her research interests centre around identity theory and the sociology of the everyday. Sarah is also Marketing Editor for the Postgraduate Journal of Languages, Texts, and Society.

ANN CARRAGHER

Ann Carragher is currently a PhD practice-based candidate at Manchester Met. Her visual art practice addresses states of 'in-betweenness' and 'liminality', relative to the natural & built environment. Border's, hinterlands and thresholds are a recurring theme, where the past, present and future are conflated, mediating on paradoxes between materiality and evanescence.

RUTH CHURCHILL DOWER

As well as a PhD student, Ruth is the Director of Earlyarts, supporting research and training in early childhood and the arts. Passionate about creative environments, pedagogy and leadership, Ruth's new book, Creativity and the Arts in Early Years, builds on her PhD. Ruth loves running, mountain biking and paragliding.

DEREK COLLEY

Derek Colley is a final-year PhD student at Staffordshire University. He has been an industry database consultant since 2005 and has implemented, maintained and advised companies on a variety of database platforms. His academic interests concern the theory of information representation. Derek also teaches three postgraduate modules on database systems

IAN COOKSON

I undertook my undergraduate degree through the Open University as a mature student before completing a Masters in Sport and Exercise Psychology. Married with two children, and a dog, I was born in Preston before migrating to Manchester, so naturally support the mighty Preston North End.

CARLA M. CORDNER

I am a 2nd year PhD student in the Department of Sociology - Q-Step Centre at Manchester Metropolitan University. For my PhD I am identifying the mediating processes that are associated with resilience in care leavers, while providing an understanding of resilience in this vulnerable group.

DOMINIC EDWARDS

Dominic has 13 years of experience working in football for numerous professional football clubs as well as The Football Association and The Premier League. Through this experience he has developed his understanding of youth development as well as the policies and procedures which govern youth sport in the UK.

FREYA ERNSTING

Freya is a Research Associate, Associate Lecturer and current doctoral student at Manchester Metropolitan University. Utilising a Grounded Theory approach, Freya's current research examines cyborgian identities, and the use of smartphones amongst young adults. Freya's other research interests include sociological approaches to technology, alongside death and the digital.

SOPHIA FEDOROWICZ

Sophia Fedorowicz is a PhD student with the Centre of Health and Development at Staffordshire University. She is currently researching experiences of suicide risk assessments and continues to work with experts by experience. She is enthusiastic about public involvement and takes every opportunity to engage in knowledge communication projects.

ANA FOUTO

BSc Nursing, MD Palliative Care, PGC in Education, PGC in Continuing Healthcare, Specialist Practice in Community Nursing. Studied at Lisbon, Evora and Beja Universities in Portugal. Current doctoral student at Staffordshire University. Lead Nurse for Education at UHNM. Educational interests include apprenticeships, competency training and educational policy.

AMEN GOKAH

Amen Gokah is a Public Policy postgraduate researcher at the School of Social Sciences of the Nottingham Trent University. He holds a BSc in Development Planning and MSc Administrative Sciences. His research interests are in Politics and International relations, particularly European Union integration and migration politics.

LAURA HRASTEJ

Laura Hrastelj is a PhD candidate in the department of Health, Psychology and Social Care at MMU. Her project 'Aided voices in action. Action research with school-aged children who use Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)' worked collaboratively with participants to explore what facilitated non-speaking children to convey their perspective.

MATTHEW HUTCHINSON

Matthew is a second year PhD researcher in the Business School, whilst also working as an associate lecturer teaching Sports Management and Marketing subjects. Matt is also a Student Representative for students in the Business School and a student representative for the Leisure Studies Association, whose conference is also in Manchester in July.

SYED ADIL IMAM

Adil is a Sports Engineering PhD researcher at Man Met looking at properties of padded clothing in rugby. He holds an undergraduate Degree in Mechatronics Engineering from SRM University and an MSc in Sports Engineering from Sheffield Hallam University. He has worked as a design engineer and a sports engineer researching into hockey, tennis and now rugby.

NAZNEEN ISMAIL

Nazneen Ismail is currently a PhD candidate at Manchester Metropolitan University. This research centres on social justice and explores the extent to which external factors (measured by SEC, ethnicity and parental influence) and self-regulation (measured by attendance and engagement) play a role in a student's confidence, decision-making and overall outcomes.

SARAH JASMON

Sarah Jasmon lives on the canal in Lancashire, also the setting for her two novels. She is an Associate Lecturer in Creative Writing at MMU and is currently studying for a PhD in Creative Geography, tracking the waterways of Manchester and their place in the cultural history of the city.

ALLIE JOHNS

Allie joined Man Met as senior lecturer in digital marketing, having spent the previous 25 years as a digital marketer in the UK, EU and USA. In 2015, she achieved a MSc Media Psychology (Distinction) from the University of Salford. She is now excited to deepen her knowledge of digital media as a PhD student.

AFSANÉ KRUSZELNICKI

Afsané Kruszelnicki has recently started her PhD investigating the persistence of varying types of trace evidence in challenging environments, specifically underwater conditions. She began this research for her final year dissertation, which is currently in the process of being published, and continued it for her Msci thesis.

YIXUAN LU

Yixuan Lu is a first-year PhD student in Occupational Health and Safety Studies at Manchester Metropolitan University. Her main research interest centres on the relationships among safety climate, safety behaviour and safety outcomes. She holds two MS in Food Science and Nutrition and Occupational Safety, Health and Environment.

LAURA MAFIZZOLI

Laura Mafizzoli is a third-year Ph.D. student in Social Anthropology. Her research is about the narratives and practices of Gulag memorialisation in Tbilisi, Georgia. She carried out her ethnographic fieldwork looking at the Gulag memory-work in state and non-state institutions as well as with families of former repressed people.

JAMILA M. MAKARFI

Jamila is a second year Ph.D. researcher in the Department of Economics, Policy and International Business at Man Met. Her thesis examines the roles of businesses in promoting peace and preventing conflict in Nigeria, through corporate social responsibility. Jamila is a lawyer and holds an M.Sc. from Salford University

IVANA MANČIĆ

A PhD student in Fine Art, School of Art and Design at Nottingham Trent University, UK. Possesses an MA and a BA in Fine Art and a BA in English language and literature, University of Novi Sad, Serbia. Her current practice based research addresses war, trauma, loss, identity and belonging.

MAGDALENA MARCHOWSKA-RAZA

Magda Marchowska-Raza is a second-year PhD student in the Department of Marketing, Retail and Tourism. Her doctoral research investigates consumer engagement processes within cosmetics' social media brand communities through the community of practice lens. Prior to starting her doctorate, Magda worked within social media as a freelancer.

AYSHA MAZHAR

Aysha is a second-year PhD candidate at Keele University. Her doctoral project focuses on narratives, signifying the various manifestations of compassion in the UK legal academy, with particular reference to the roles of the legal academic, such as teaching, research and the overlooked aspects of the academy.

DALIA MEHAISI

Dalia is a Biomedical Specialist holding MSc in Biomedical Science from University of Bradford. She started her PhD at Nottingham Trent University this year.

TIM MILES

Tim Miles is a current PhD student at Staffordshire University, studying the unique health risks of detainees in police custody and how these risks might be mitigated. As an Emergency Care Practitioner, he is employed with Mountain Healthcare Ltd as a Forensic Practitioner and also the company Research Lead.

SABINA MOYO

My name is Sabina Moyo. I am currently doing a PhD in Education, focusing on BAME studies. I have an undergraduate degree in Psychology, a Master's degree in Research by Psychology and a PGCE. My main motivation is ensuring schools and universities are representative and celebrate diversity.

LINDA O. N. NWABUNIKE

Linda Nwabunike is a PhD student researcher in her second year at Manchester Metropolitan University. She received her MBA and MPharm awards from Cardiff university. She is interested in Innovation and strategy management. She is still a pharmacist, with experience in community and industry pharmacy.

REBECCA O'HANLON

Rebecca is a second year PhD student at Manchester Metropolitan University researching the role of sport and physical activity in the transition of veterans from military to civilian life, with specific interests in psychosocial factors, sport for development and sociological theory.

CHAKAD OJANI

Chakad is a PhD student in Social Anthropology at the University of Manchester. His research is on human-fog relations and fog capture in Peru.

SARAH K PERRY

Sarah K. Perry is a fiction writer (Let Me Be Like Water, Melville House), poet, and the winner of the 2019 Berlin Writing Prize. Her AHRC-funded PhD research at Manchester Metropolitan University explores writing sex in literary fiction, and how this interacts with an intersectional feminist agenda. She tweets @_sarah_perry.

JESSICA PIMLOTT

As a first year chemistry PhD researcher at Manchester Metropolitan University, Jessica collaborates with an industrial partner to advance the understanding of sodium-ion batteries. She is passionate about green energy storage and encouraging women to pursue STEM careers. Find out more about her research and extracurricular activities through twitter @pimlottjessica.

IAN PLATT

Ian Platt is Project Co-ordinator of the Hummingbird Project for the children's charity Medequip4Kids and a PhD candidate at the University of Bolton. He delivers Psycho-Educational workshops on a wide variety of Positive Psychology topics in secondary schools across the North West.

RICHARD REMELIE

Richard Remelie is a first-year PhD student in MMU's Faculty of Education. During his undergraduate degree in Sociology, Richard became concerned about student engagement and, in response, designed an undergraduate dissertation to explore why students come to university. This project has now become the theme of his PhD.

RABEYA RIAZ

Rabeya Riaz is studying for PhD degree at MMU, her research focuses on the concept of izzat (honour) and its influence on south Asian women's lived experiences and psychological well-being. For her MSc degree, she compared the perceptions of Muslim psychiatrists and Imams on mental health.

CHINYERE SAM-OKERENTA

Mrs. Chinyere Sam-Okerenta, a nurse with the Sheffield Teaching Hospital, is a PhD researcher at the University of Huddersfield where she won the 2019 3minutes thesis; voluntarily lectures MPH students and MSc. Adult and Mental Health Nursing students; and a PGR representative at both the Graduate Council and Graduate Board.

DAVIDE SCIACCA

Davide won numerous prizes in competitions. Composers have dedicated compositions to him. He performed in the presence of the British Royal Family. In 2018 he debuted in the USA. He released two studio recordings. His media appearances include Sky and BBC Radio. Davide currently attends a PhD at RNCM and teaches in Sicilian conservatoires.

JAKE CHARLES SHEPPARD

Jake Charles Sheppard is a PhD student at Manchester Metropolitan University. He has previously completed his Bachelors and Masters degrees at the University of Manchester in Politics and Modern History, and his current project is: the C.S.S. Alabama and Anglo-American Memory in the Nineteenth Century.

DANIEL SKENTELBERY

Daniel Skentelbery is a NWCDTP funded PhD student at Keele University. His thesis title is: 'Transformations in Cosplay: Traversing the personal and social implications of how fans use costume play to navigate gendered and queer identities'. Daniel's research interests include: Fan Studies, Gender and Queer Studies, Parody, Children's Programming.

NIGAR SULTANA

Nigar Sultana is a PhD Student from Manchester Metropolitan University, Business School. My research interest is tourism, consumer perception and service marketing. I am a public University faculty back in my home country; Bangladesh.

HINA TARIQ

Hina joined Bournemouth University in March 2019 as a PhD student in the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences. She is a physiotherapist by background who completed her Bachelors from Pakistan and MSc from Manchester Metropolitan University. Her main areas of interest are neurological rehabilitation and contracture assessment and prevention.

HANNAH TODMAN

Hannah qualified as a social worker in 2007, working initially in adult drug services before moving to a specialist team, supporting children and families affected by a loved one's substance misuse. It is this practice experience of 12 years which is Hannah's bond to this research project.

ANNA TURNER (AKA CHILVERS)

Anna Chilvers is the author of two novels, Falling Through Clouds (Bluemoose 2010) and Tainted Love (Bluemoose 2016) and a collection of short stories, Legging It (Pennine Prospects, 2012). Her third novel will be published in 2020. She is currently working on a PhD on fiction, walking and woodland.

EMILY WHITE

Emily is a full-time PhD law student at Keele University in her first year. The focus of her research is the UK laws that place teenagers on the 'Register' for committing physical or online sexual offences. She will be giving a presentation on how her area of research has developed.

KATE WHITTENBURY

Kate has worked alongside professionals in the NHS, Manchester Metropolitan University and the University of Manchester in developing and testing new interventions. Kate has now embarked on a Ph.D. looking at variables that may influence the onset of Secondary Traumatic Stress in clinicians who work with trauma survivors.

CHUIN HONG YAP

Chuin Hong Yap is a PhD student in the Department of Computing and Mathematics of Manchester Metropolitan University who is currently researching on facial micro-expression by using deep learning and generative adversarial network. He is keen and passionate on utilising artificial intelligence in his research for the well-being of our society.

LEE YARWOOD-ROSS

Lee Yarwood-Ross RN PhD, is a Registered General Nurse and educator with a special interest in qualitative methodology and its use in theory development. He has a passion for teaching around long-term conditions, end of life care and tissue viability.



#PGRROOTS

