Welcome to the RIS Team!

Research and Innovation Services are delighted to welcome the following new additions to the team:

**Emily Collins**  
External Relations & Events Coordinator  
Emily brings a lot of commercial experience to this role and is experienced in all aspects of promotion and comms support. In her spare time she enjoys painting, trail running and baking.

**Sean Elias**  
Accounts Manager  
Sean comes to us with a vast amount of financial and managerial experience. In 2012, Sean worked as an auditor for the government of Canada, and has considerable experience in finance and Market Research.

**Catherine Tate**
Knowledge Exchange & Engagement Officer
Cat comes with experience in project administration, data and communication. Previously, Cat worked in Economics as the Degree Apprenticeships Programme Manager, and then as a Student Conduct & Complaints Officer in Student Services.

ACTIVE KENT PROJECTS

The Impacts of Digital and Social Media

CHANGE/Hera have put out a recent funding call: “Transformations: Social and Cultural Dynamics in the Digital Age”, to support new and innovative research into the workings, meaning and consequences of transformations and innovations in the present digital age, viewed through the lens of social and cultural dynamics. The objective of the call is to help understand how digital innovations give rise to social and cultural changes and are influenced by society and culture. The deadline for outlined proposals is Friday 7 May 2021.

Get in touch with Beth Flowers, Funding and Partnerships Development Officer, if you would like to join the conversation; or visit the webpage for more information.
Biotechnology internship

Paige Policelli, a PhD student from the University of Kent, took on an EIRA internship with AbBaltis, who offer innovative, reliable and quality biologically based products for their clients. Read more.

Researchfish submission deadline

If one of the research councils supports your research grant, fellowship or studentship, it is essential to record the outcome and outputs data in researchfish. The next submission period is 1 February 2021 to 11 March 2021. Read more.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Eastern Arc

Eastern Arc are hosting a range of free online debates, discussions and information events to help colleagues across the consortium to understand and engage with the issues that will affect them, their research and their innovation. The next debate is on the 15th of April. More details below:

Challenging Inequalities: Decolonising the Curriculum across Eastern Arc
This discussion will look at the push to challenge inequalities across the EARC universities of UEA, Essex and Kent. This debate will explore how this works in practice. Read more here. Register for this event on the Eventbrite page.

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**RESEARCH AND INNOVATION UPDATES**

**Public Engagement with Research Report**

The pandemic has stalled many live public engagement with research activities over the last twelve months, however, engaging a world outside of academia with research has remained a key strategy for the University of Kent and is arguably more important than ever. Despite the challenges of Covid-19 the Research Excellence Team has adapted well, successfully using online delivery platforms and visual media to maintain a public engagement with research profile. Learn more on the SharePoint document.
EIRA Annual Report 2020

EIRA has published its annual report for 2020, a complete overview of activity and impact related to Research and Innovation projects, including those in Kent. If you would like to read more, please visit the EIRA website.

Published Research from Division of Natural Sciences

*Natural Communications* Journal recently published an article featuring collaborative research from Evelyne Deery and Martin J. Warren. Within this article, they developed a metalation-calculator in order to understand the function and mechanism of the GTPase CobW, a predicted metal chaperone for vitamin B12.

Community, Connection and Cohesion during Covid
In collaboration with the School of Psychology and the Nuffield Foundation, Belong has launched our latest research: ‘Community, Connection and Cohesion under Covid-19: Beyond Us and Them Report.’ This report provides an in-depth, longitudinal insight into social connections of people across the UK during the pandemic. Interestingly, this report found that people in areas investing in social cohesion are twice as likely to have been volunteering to help others and have higher levels of trust in local government's response to the pandemic.

Join the conversation on twitter (@BelongNetwork) and Linkedin with the hashtag #BeyondUsAndThem.

EPrints Institutional Repository

Accessibility and inclusion news shares information about creating accessibility statements for repositories and open journal systems from the University's Library and IT Services. Read more for updates on this development.

Books on the Move: F Classmark
F classmark books and journals are moving from Block D, Floor 2 to Block A, Floor 2 in the Templeman Library. Work will start during the week beginning 8 February. Library and IT services are moving books to make them easier to find, and to give you easier access to the shelves. Read more.

Coffee and Chat

Starting Thurs 11 March: weekly Coffee and Chat sessions on alternating Tuesday mornings/Thursday afternoons for RIS Staff. No agenda, nothing to prepare, not work related. Please drop in as and when you feel like it via Microsoft Teams.

Working from Home Update
The work from home message will remain in place until **21 June 2021** (including RIS), at the earliest. With the return of students that require access to specialist equipment or facilities from **8 March**, an increased number of staff may be required to work on campus.

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**LATEST FROM GCRF**

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**Global Challenges Doctoral Centre**

The [Global Challenges Doctoral Centre (GCDC)](https://www.globalchallengesdoctoralcentre.org/) is dedicated to identifying solutions to global challenges through research.
For more information on the changes and updates facing the Global Challenges Research Fund, including Impact and Partnership opportunities and more, read more on our news blog.

**Website Development**

You will be able to keep up with Research at Kent and cross-disciplinary projects from our newly designed RIS Landing Page. Keep an eye on our newly designed (WIP) GCDC page for news funding, impacts and challenges regarding our research.

**We want to hear from you!**

The RIS team is continually working on adapting the service to improve support. If you would like to:

- Share or recommend a success story.
- Provide feedback on the content of the newsletter.

Please contact us on risactive@kent.ac.uk.

**Social Media**

Research Services
Joke of the Month

Q. How do you organise a space party?
A. You planet!