

SEED Bulletin December 2017

Welcome to the December 2017 edition of the SEED Bulletin

Head of School Message

Dear colleagues,

Only a couple of weeks of the semester left and the Christmas season coming up fast...what happened to Semester 1! Clearly we have all been extremely busy because as ever this bulletin is packed with the many and varied things that staff in SEED have been up to and reflects a fantastic record of personal and communal achievement. I'd like to flag just a couple of things which I think exemplify much of what is great about the school. On Tuesday night I attended a University awards ceremony for students that had won awards from the 'Undergraduate Awards' competition which is a global essay competition. Three of our students were honoured and Farhana Choudhry (who has just finished her undergraduate work in Education, and who is now a masters student with us) was the global winner in the Education category for her essay 'A discussion of literacy as a vehicle which enables women from urban Afghanistan and rural Nepal to overcome societal challenges and participate in society'.

At the same time as Farhana was receiving her award in Manchester, in London one of our colleagues was receiving the inaugural Jo Cox Prize for Public Service and Active Citizenship from the Political Studies Association. Sarah-Marie Hall received the prize (presented at a glamorous awards dinner in London hosted by Jon Snow) for her work on everyday austerity and for the exhibition which helped to share this work.

Many congratulations to both for these achievements. What I think they have in common is that they highlight the fact that in SEED social responsibility is in our DNA. It is not an add-on to our research and teaching, but is a thread that runs through so much of what we do. Seeing so many people delivering outstanding teaching and research, and making a difference in so many fields in the real world makes me proud to be associated with the school; I hope you feel the same.

I'd like to thank you all for your efforts this semester, the winter term always feels like a long one. I hope you all manage to take some well-earned time off over Christmas and I'd like to wish you all a peaceful and relaxing holiday season.

Best wishes,

Martin



Staff Visits, Activities and News

Staff	Date	Activity
Albena Yaneva	September and November 2017	Delivered a keynote lecture at Yale School of Architecture, USA, conference “Environment, Reconsidered”, The 50th Anniversary of the Master of Environmental Design Program at the Yale School of Architecture, 9-11 November 2017, keynote lecture, “How is Architecture Political?” Delivered an invited plenary lecture at Princeton School of Architecture, USA, conference REVOLUTIONIZING REVOLUTION: A Tender Guerrilla On Cis-Architecture, 22 September 2017. Delivered a keynote lecture at Swedish Centre for Architecture and Design/ArkDes, Stockholm County Museum/Dieselveckstaden, and KTH School of Architecture, conference “Making Effect”, 13-16 September 2017.
Nicola Banks	November 2017	Nicola Banks co-hosted and presented at a workshop on ‘Public Attitudes to International Development in the UK and funding for UK-Based NGOs: Trends, Patterns and New Data’ at the University of Sheffield, 13th November 2017. Nicola and her co-PI, Professor Dan Brockington, also did a GDI podcast of findings from their research project ‘Mapping the UK’s Development NGO sector’ which can be heard here.
Nuno Pinto	November 2017	Nuno Pinto has participated in a policy lab organised by the Ministry of Regional Development of the Czech Republic about Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans and Mobility as a Service that took place in Prague on 14 November. Nuno discussed the role and challenges of SUMP as effective tools for integrating mobility and urban planning in the context of the current regulatory framework in EU. This participation is part of Nuno’s collaboration with the European Urban Agenda in the Partnership for Urban Mobility, which is defining a new set of actions in urban mobility to be considered by the Commission for the next planning/budget cycle. Nuno Pinto was awarded a small grant in the UoM-FAPESP Sprint call. This is a bilateral agreement with FAPESP, the research council of the state of São Paulo, Brazil, which has been mainly awarded to colleagues from FSE in the recent past; this was the first time a grant was awarded to FoH. Nuno will be working with Prof António Nelson Rodrigues from the Department of Transport of the University of São Paulo at São Carlos, the leading research centre in transport planning and engineering in Brazil, on developing resilience indicators for urban mobility using Greater Manchester and São Carlos as case studies.
Stephanie Barrientos	December 2017	Stephanie Barrientos will be in Singapore as a panellist and presenting a paper at the Conference on Global Production to be held at National University of Singapore 4-8 December.
Linda Evans	November 2017	In early November Professor Linda Evans, from MIE, spent a week in the Netherlands as a guest of the Hogeschool van Amsterdam. On the first day she led a masterclass on research leadership and researcher development - both key areas of her research interests and expertise. The next day she advised academics and university senior managers from across the Netherlands on revising the content of their universities' taught master's programmes for practising professionals, in order to incorporate a focus on research. On the final day her visit

		culminated in a keynote delivered at a one-day conference on research-led teaching in programmes for professionals-as-learners. An engaged audience of around 80 Dutch academics and institutional senior leaders were given food for thought by Linda's original conceptual models of professionalism and professional development.
Stefan Bouzarovski	November 2017	Stefan Bouzarovski has been elected Chair of a new European Co-operation in Science and Technology Action network project titled 'European Energy Poverty: Agenda Co-Creation and Knowledge Innovation'. The total anticipated value of the grant, all of which will be disbursed to the University of Manchester, is 816,000 Euro over four years. Stefan Bouzarovski spoke at a roundtable on energy poverty, organised by the International Federation for the Safety of Electricity Users in Brussels on the 22nd of November Stefan Bouzarovski delivered a keynote talk at the Université Europe seminar organised by the French Federation of Social Housing Enterprises in Strasbourg on the 24th of November. Publications: S Bouzarovski, H Thomson. 2017 Energy Vulnerability in the Grain of the City: Toward Neighborhood Typologies of Material Deprivation. Annals of the American Association of Geographers. C Robinson, S Bouzarovski, S Lindley. 2017 'Getting the measure of fuel poverty': The geography of fuel poverty indicators in England. Energy Research & Social Science.
Richard Kingston	November 2017	Richard Kingston spent 4 days in Mexico City (21st – 24th Nov) at the behest of the ESRC and CONACYT, the Mexican National Council of Science and Technology, to discuss and formulate a new research programme on Smart Cities. The trip also included a visit to the British Embassy, relocated after the recent Earthquake, to discuss the future of cities.
Deljana Iossifova	November and December 2017	Deljana Iossifova gave an invited talk on "Urban Inequality, Sanitation and the Potential of ICT" at the Urban Transformations workshop on Research and Metropolitan Health in Unequal Cities in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (22-24 November 2017) Exhibition "[61] Harmonica Alley" about Iossifova's ESRC IAA-funded project "Harmonica Alley, Yokohama: Tracing Urban Change between the Tokyo Olympics" opened with an event on 25 November 2017. The exhibition runs until 17 December at Site-A Gallery in Yokohama, Japan Master class with students of Global Interdisciplinary Studies at Hosei University, Japan (28 November 2017)
Joe Ravetz	November 2017	Dissemination & collaboration: - Qatar International Energy & Carbon Transitions Conference: presentation on '<i>Low carbon pathways and the deeper ecological mind</i>' Doha, Nov 2017. - Qatar Green Building Council, seminar on Low Carbon Transitions, Nov 2017 - University of Paris-Saclay, Examiner for Phd by B. Tran, '<i>Folksonomies as representations of sustainable development</i>'. - University of Naples Federico II Institute for Research on Innovation and Services for Development, expert advisor on workshop

for new H2020 project, '*Circular models Leveraging Investments in Cultural heritage adaptive reuse*', Dec 2017

New bids, projects & programs:

- '*Foresight for Housing 2040*' subcontract for Moscow National Research University Higher School of Economics
- '*Natural Course*' EU LIFE project, subcontract for study on environmental governance for GMCA.
- EU-India collaboration in humanities & social science (EQUIP), lead partner in proposal for '*Management & Governance of smart sustainable cities*' (MANGO), coordinated Zürich University of Applied Sciences

Jamie Doucette	October and November 2017	Keynote Speech: <i>Democratization after Postdemocratization? Korean politics after the impeachment of Park Geun-hye</i> . East Asian Regional Conference on Alternative Geographies: Geopolitical Economy of East Asian Developmentalism Workshop 2017, Nov 29-Dec 1, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan
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Jamie Doucette was invited to give a talk in late Oct. at a high level international symposium in Korea on institutionalizing Korea's Candlelight Revolution following the impeachment former President Park Geun-hye. The event (Emergence of Candlelight Democracy and a New Governance Paradigm) was put on by the National Planning and Advisory Council (the transition team for current President Moon Jae-in), Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Global Agenda Center, and the Global Peace and Innovation Forum of Kyunghee University. Participants included bureaucratic personnel, scholars, members of civil society organizations, and high level officials.

Jamie Doucette and Susan Kang. (2017) "Legal geographies of labour and postdemocracy: Reinforcing non-standard work in South Korea." *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*. Doi: 10.1111/tran.12216

Jamie Doucette and Bae-Gyoon Park. (2017) Urban Developmentalism in East Asia: Geopolitical Economies, Spaces of Exception, and Networks of Expertise. *Critical Sociology*. Doi: 10.1177/0896920517719488

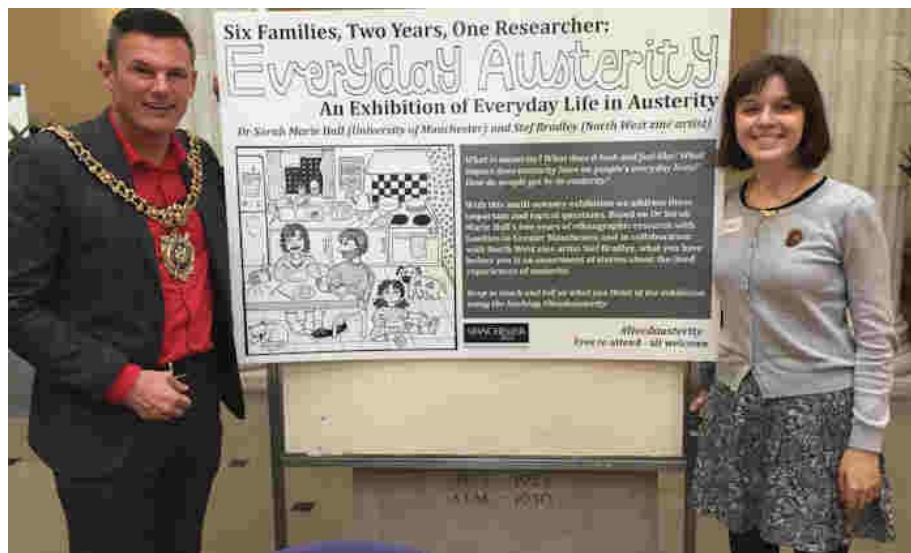
Jamie Doucette. 2017. The Occult of Personality: Korea's Candlelight Protests and the Impeachment of Park Geun-hye. *Journal of Asian Studies*. Doi:10.1017/S0021911817000821

Erik Swyngedouw	November and December 2017	Interlocutor session with Erik Swyngedouw, "Il (liberal) Urbanism"? Organized by Julian Brash. 116th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Society, Chicago, 29 November – 3 December. Invited Keynote, "Struggling for Water Commons: A Political Ecology Approach", International Seminar, Economic Diversity and Socio-Environmental Commons: Emerging Futures, Universidad de Concepción, 20 November 2017 Invited Keynote, "Insurgent Citizens and the Spectral Return of the Political in the Post-Democratic City", Seminario "Resistencia Territorial", Universidad Academia de Humanismo Cristiano, Santiago de Chile, 19 November.
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Invited Keynote address, “Interrupting the Anthro-Ob(s)cene: The De-politicized Politics of the Anthropocene as Immuno-Biopolitical Fantasy”, 4th Knowledge/Cultures International Conference on ‘Knowledge/Cultures/Ecologies, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago de Chile, 15-18 November.

Dr Sarah Marie Hall wins inaugural Jo Cox Prize

Dr Sarah Marie Hall honoured in tribute to campaigning MP while three colleagues receive special award



Human Geography lecturer Dr Sarah Marie Hall has won the inaugural Jo Cox Prize for Public Service and Active Citizenship, to recognise the positive impacts of her research.

The Political Studies Association’s Jo Cox Prize recognises early career academics who work closely with policymakers and/or wider society for the ‘public good’.

The judges at the awards ceremony commended Sarah for her “research into socio-economic issues, including the unique ‘Everyday Austerity’ project which moved beyond academia and the media to engage directly with the public and ultimately reflecting the values and ethos espoused by the late Jo Cox.”

Jo Cox was murdered in June 2016 in her constituency of Batley and Spen, doing the work she loved, as an MP committed to helping the public. A campaigner and an active member of her community, her maiden speech in the Houses of Parliament concluded: “We are far more united and have far more in common with each other than things that divide us.”

Sarah’s research seeks to understand how socio-economic processes are shaped by gender relations, lived experience and social differences. Her Everyday Austerity research project gathered first-hand, personal accounts of everyday life in austerity, with public sector cuts as the backdrop. This provided content for the Everyday Austerity Exhibition, which aimed to ‘lift the lid’ on austerity and took a year-long ten borough tour of Greater Manchester, visited by thousands of people across the region and beyond. This year she and North-West illustrator Claire Stringer turned her findings into a zine distributed across the country.

The key aim of both the exhibition and zine was to engage the public in the research in novel ways, beyond hefty reports, florid academic language, closed-door conferences and steep pay walls.

Sarah is also a member of the Management Committee of the Women's Budget Group and co-

author of the *Intersecting Inequalities* research report (also with Runnymede and RECLAIM), the first study to evidence the disproportionate and devastating impact of austerity policies on BME women in the UK. Using these research expertise and findings, Sarah has worked with local and national organisations, including Citizens Advice, Shelter, LGBT Foundation and Manchester City Council, to advise, train and empower groups to tackle the injustices produced and perpetuated by the current economic system.

"I am absolutely over the moon to have been awarded the inaugural Jo Cox Prize, and I'm so grateful to those who nominated me," she said.

"Jo was well-known for her activities both in her community and Parliament for fostering solidarity and togetherness, and questioning prevailing injustices in society. To be given an award bearing her name for my research on the impacts of austerity in the UK gives me confidence in the value of this work, and the need to challenge such damaging and discriminatory ideology and policy from the ground up."

Primary PGCE Research Conference

The Primary PGCE Team believes that trainee teachers should be educated, not only individually, but also in teams, tackling real-life workplace challenges through projects based on research, development and practice. As such we enhanced a PGCE module to enable teams of trainees and school based colleagues to develop collaborative, empowering and supportive relationships, as well as the knowledge and skills required for them to tackle the genuine challenges of teaching.



We worked with 10 schools to provide a genuine context for an enquiry project, whilst allowing for school-based staff to be involved in research training, and therefore building research capacity within their settings.



To conclude the project, we recently held a conference, which was the culmination of the hard work that has been undertaken in schools. This was a fantastic celebration of the innovative practice that schools were involved in, and an opportunity for us all to learn from each other.

A number of themes were presented including:

What are pupil and teacher perceptions of peer and self-assessment?

Is positive feedback distributed fairly?

What strategies do newly arrived EAL pupils and their teachers feel are effective in helping them settle into school life?

What are the attitudes of our stakeholders towards learning at home?

What are the most effective ways to engage all pupils to write creatively?

What are KS2 children's attitudes towards reading opportunities at school?

School News and Notices

Athena SWAN: Bronze Award submitted for SEED

SEED's 21 member Self-Assessment Team (SAT) has been meeting since October 2016 to evaluate progress towards establishing more gender equal practices and processes in every department, as well as across SEED as a whole. The SAT is co-chaired by Susie Miles and Rosie Williams.

The Athena SWAN (Scientific Women's Academic Network) application for a Bronze award was submitted on 30 November 2017 and we will know on April 30th 2018 whether we have been successful. The application has been a collaborative effort, with SAT members in each department playing very active roles. We are particularly grateful to Maria Pampaka for having played a key role in managing and analysing the data. Professor Claire Alexander, the Athena SWAN lead in SoSS provided invaluable advice along the way. Tim Allott played a key role throughout the process and helped edit the application in the final few weeks. We are delighted to have Martin Evans' endorsement of our plan, just as he took over as Head of SEED.

In preparing this application, we have collated evidence from 2013-2016 on student and staff gender profiles, student admissions, offers and acceptances statistics, and PSS and academic staff recruitment and promotion processes at every level. We also conducted a Staff Audit to capture views and experiences of SEED's policies, processes and cultures. Our aim is to circulate the findings of the Audit before the end of the year. We also aim to conduct this Audit annually.

Now that we have submitted our Bronze application with a clear, ambitious and measurable four year Action Plan, the work really starts! The Action Plan is based on evidence collected from UoM stats, the Staff Audits (Academic and PSS) and consultations with staff over the last 6 months.

The Athena SWAN charter has ten guiding principles, including:

1. We acknowledge that academia cannot reach its full potential unless it can benefit from the talents of all.
2. We commit to advancing gender equality in academia, in particular, addressing the loss of women across the career pipeline and the absence of women from senior academic, professional and support roles.

It is the second of these principles which we aim to address with particular urgency in our Action Plan. We have identified a shortage of female staff in leadership positions as a particular issue and so aim to make changes to mentoring, performance and development reviews, and promotion procedures in order to maximise the progression and promotion of our outstanding junior female colleagues to senior positions. We will also increase the proportion of female members of recruitment panels to 40% (with at least one per panel), with an aspiration to achieve 50% representation by 2021 in senior roles. Most importantly, gender equality is not only about women – we aim to engage all staff and students in the creation of more inclusive Departmental and School cultures.

Most members of the SAT team will continue to serve on the Equality and Diversity Committee whose responsibility it is to address E&D issues in SEED and report to the Faculty E&D committee. A key responsibility is also to implement the Athena SWAN plan of action. The plan will enable us to

apply for a Silver award in 2020/21 – as Silver requires evidence that actions have been taken in order to achieve gender equality.

More information is available about the [Athena SWAN](#).

Susie Miles

Co-chair of Equality and Diversity Committee and Athena SWAN lead

Supporting Staff with Disabilities

If you manage a member of staff with a disability or would like to know more about supporting staff with disabilities why not come along to a two and a half hour session run by Disability Advisory and Support Services. For more information and to book a place please go to the [My Manchester Training](#) pages.

Academic P&DR Reviewer Training (TRS04) - Tuesday 30/01/2018 9.30am – 11.30am

As part of the university's on-going support of the P&DR process, Staff Learning & Development are running a session aimed at inexperienced academics acting as P&DR reviewers of academic staff and researchers for the first time. (It does not cover progress reviews for PhD students). Academics already experienced at delivering P&DR can attend as a refresher if required but should note this course does not address revised processes or documentation recently rolled out to Professional Support Staff (PSS) staff. This session will cover the same principles as TPDR01 P&DR Reviewer Training but also cover academic responsibilities to be discussed in P&DR, and make use of examples aimed at an Academic audience. Places can be booked through My Manchester [training pages](#).

Christmas Vacation 2017 - Guidelines for Out of Normal Working Hours Building Access

As the Christmas vacation approaches, to ensure your safety in our School buildings (Arthur Lewis, Ellen Wilkinson and Humanities Bridgeford Street) during all periods of 'out of hours' access, we ask you to observe the following if you are working in the building before 8am or after 6pm on weekdays, or during weekends and public holidays/University closure periods. It is in your own personal interest to follow these guidelines. If it is necessary to access your normal work place, please adhere to these measures for your own safety:

- Ensure the building entrance is locked, i.e. door closes, after you have gained access. In particular ensure that no one follows you into the building without presenting their University ID card to you. If this happens politely request that they present their ID and if this is not done then please inform security at the earliest opportunity by telephoning 69966;
- If you do follow someone into the building, as a courtesy and to avoid security being contacted please present your ID card without this being requested;
- Sign in (and out when exiting) using the out of hours register - registers are located at the ground floor reception desk of the School Buildings;
- Inform someone else of your location and expected time of return (this is in case you are injured e.g. slipping on the stairs);
- If possible keep a mobile phone with you at all times;
- The use of the laboratories during 'out of hours' periods is not permitted except by permission of the Senior Research Technician for specified 'low risk' approved procedures.

- Please note the University Security/Emergency number of 69966. Emergency services (Fire, Ambulance, and Police) can be obtained by dialling 9-999.

Please note the heating is off during weekends and vacation closure so rooms will be cold.

Teaching, Learning and Students

The Undergraduate Awards

Farhana Choudhry has been named the Global Winner (Education 2017). A huge success!



The following undergraduate students from SEED have been Awarded Highly Commended in the [Undergraduate Awards](#) - the world's leading undergraduate awards programme, which recognises top undergraduate work, shares this work with a global audience and connects students across cultures and disciplines.

- Zahra Mohmed Khan (lecturer Dr Zeynep Onat-Stelma MIE)
- Oliver Lloyd (lecturer Chris Perkins Geography)

University Distinguished Achievement Awards

PGT Students Magdalena Roderkirchen and Mohammad Bashir Mia Khadem were nominated by SEED for consideration for the PGT Student of the Year Category in the University's Distinguished Achievement Awards. Unfortunately, they were not selected as the Faculty's nomination, but will each receive an award of £100 and Keith Brown will be sending letters of congratulations. Well done to both students!

The SEED Tree Musketeers Win an Award!

Wednesday 1st November marked something a bit different for the Tree Musketeers. It was time to take off our walking boots, hang up our loppers and don our shirts and smart shoes; for on this day we headed to the RHS's North West Britain in Bloom: It's your Neighbourhood awards day.

At the start of semester 2 last year the Tree Musketeers were offered the opportunity with Manchester City Council and the RHS to create our very own small site down in Didsbury; receiving funding and help from both. Our work, which focused on using native plant species such as wild garlic, bluebells and primroses (and lots of creative art work), was to be judged by the RHS. We were very excited to have the opportunity to create something of our own and show off our skills in designing a space for both nature and people in the local area. The phase 1



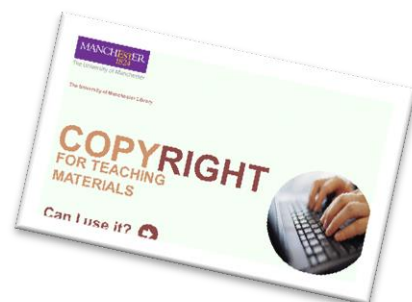
work on the project took place over a number of months and included a variety of activities; from site clearance, to planting and even to willow weaving— you can read all about it over on our [blog](#)! Finally on Friday 30th June, we opened our very own Tiger Wood, a small plot in the middle of Fog Lane Park in Didsbury.

We had such a fantastic time working on the project, working with so many amazing people and showing off our skills; some well-established and some newly acquired! The project was so rewarding and a great experience and our efforts certainly paid off, as we were proud receivers of the RHS Level 4 Thriving Certificate!

Library Update

New University Copyright Policy: Copyright for Teaching/Research

The University has now developed a Copyright Policy to ensure that academics and researchers can adequately protect the work they produce, whilst also adhering to copyright laws and practices when using material belonging to others. The policy builds upon the existing principles of the University's [Intellectual Property Policy](#), and underpins the work of the Library's Copyright Guidance Service. Following feedback from teaching staff, the guidance service has developed a Copyright and teaching materials – can I use it? 'decision tree' to help staff understand more about using third party materials in their teaching.



- [University Copyright Policy](#)
- [Library Copyright Guidance Service](#)
- [Copyright and Teaching Materials: Can I use it?](#)

Copyright for Students

In order to help students navigate copyright and remain compliant, the Library has developed copyright guidance for students providing a basic introduction to copyright and how it affects them. It also clarifies what can and can't be used, how to find free material online and how to protect the work that they create.

- [Copyright Guidance for Students](#)
- [Finding Free Stuff](#)
- [Copyright for Students: Who owns What \(Online Resource\)](#)

Easy Access to Library E-resources off-campus!

Get easy access to Library e-resources directly from your browser! **Library Access** is a browser extension for Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox that makes it easier to access our electronic resources when you are off-campus without having to visit the library website first. For further details see:

- [Library Access](#)



Manchester Digital Collections

The Library has a wonderful collection of digitised objects held in [LUNA](#) – they can be accessed through the recently updated Digital Collections website. Check out our collections, get support and

advice from the Heritage Imaging team, and find out about the Library's digitisation services. For further information, see:

- [Manchester Digital Collections](#)

eLearning Update

New Associate Director for Distance and eLearning for SEED

Mark Shepherd (PEM) has been appointed as the new Associate Director for Distance and E-Learning. Mark replaces Gary Motteram and will work with the T&L Director and the eLearning Team for all elearning developments. Mark is due to start the 3 year post from January 2018.

eLearning Project Call

The eLearning Team is open for project suggestions from each discipline – these will then be put forward for inclusion in the eLearning Action Plan. The Action Plan maps out work areas and projects to focus on for the year ahead within the School.

Projects may revolve around working with an individual academic and could be based on:

- Content and resource development
- Innovative teaching practices and approaches
- Using multimedia in T&L: audio, video
- Social media for T&L

For any ideas, thoughts and suggestions, please contact Jonny or Helen at seed-elearning@manchester.ac.uk

Events

AHRC Institutional visit

Professor Andrew Thompson, CEO of the Arts and Humanities Research Council ([AHRC](#)) will be visiting the University on Wednesday 31st January.

As well as meeting with senior management, Professor Thompson will deliver a presentation open to all staff and researchers (venue TBC) outlining the AHRC's future research strategy, this will be followed by a Q&A session.

During the day Professor Thompson will also hold meetings with Manchester members of the AHRC peer review college, current AHRC funded post-graduates and research project award holders.

For further details please contact Charlotte Jackson, Research Support Manager in SEED (charlotte.jackson@manchester.ac.uk)

On Monday 11 December the Manchester Institute of Innovation Research will be holding its last external seminar of 2017. It will be given by [Rachel Ortega-Argilés](#) from Birmingham Business School.

The seminar will take place at [CityLabs1.0](#) at 4pm, with coffee available from 3.30pm.

[The Continental Divide? Economic Exposure to Brexit in Regions and Countries on Both Sides of the Channel](#)

In this paper we employ the EU interregional extensions to the World Input-Output Database WIOD in order to assess the Brexit trade-related risks exposure of EU regions and member states. We develop an index of Brexit trade-related risks which reflects all of the complex global value chain patterns evident in UK-EU trade. Our findings demonstrate that UK regions are far more exposed than regions in other countries. Only the Republic of Ireland faces exposure levels similar to UK regions while the next most affected regions are in Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium and France, in descending order. There is a significant imbalance in Brexit trade-related risks between the UK and the rest of Europe, and this imbalance may influence the outcomes of the negotiations between the UK and the EU.

Raquel Ortega-Argilés holds the Chair in Regional Economic Development at the department of Strategy and International Business and the City-REDI research institute at Birmingham Business School, The University of Birmingham, UK. Her current research work focuses Productivity, Innovation, Regional Development, SMEs, entrepreneurship and industrial dynamics and on regional and European Policy.