

Celebrating and Recognising the Achievements of Research Staff in the Faculty of Humanities

To celebrate and recognise the achievement of the University's research staff, the Research Staff Strategy Group introduced Research Staff Excellence Awards. We are delighted to announce the inaugural winners and highly commended within the Faculty of Humanities.

Following an open call for nominations, colleagues nominated research staff for their achievements, impact and successes in their research. The winners and highly commended were selected by a panel comprised of academics leads for research staff and researcher development and chaired by the Associate Vice President for Research. Full details of the awards and criteria are available [here](#).

Dr Danielle Alderson in the Department of Geography has had an exceptional year. After completing her PhD in 2018, Danielle has had two lead author papers in internationally leading journals in two different fields. International interest in her work is growing as evidenced by a standing room only presentation at the 2019 European Geoscience Union General Assembly. Danielle has also secured UKRI funding for her work on radiocarbon dating of floodplain greenhouse gas emissions. It is the breadth and quality of her work that has earned her the Faculty award of **Research Staff of the Year 2020**.

Additionally, Dr Sarada Gadepalli and Dr Margarita Panayiotou were highly commended in the same category. Sarada's significant contribution to the EU-funded Globalino project is leading to excellent publications and Margarita is making a significant contribution to our understanding of children and young people's social-emotional learning and mental health.

Dr Frances Houghton's publication of *The Veterans' Tale* (Cambridge University Press) is the Faculty winner for **Best Outstanding Output by Research Staff**. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, the monograph makes a significant contribution to the field of the cultural history of war, military history and gender. The book won the Army History Society's Templar Prize for a first book in 2019 and has been shortlisted for the highly prestigious Royal Historical Society Whitfield Prize in 2020.

Dr Nick Jepson's *2020 In China's Wake: How the Commodity Boom Transformed Development Strategies in the Global South* and Danielle Alderson's *Earth Surface Processes and Landforms* were highly commended in this category.

Dr Ajmal Hussain is the Faculty winner for **Best Outstanding Contribution to Research Impact by Research Staff** for his work on the EU-funded DARE project and his engagement with Muslim and White young men in contributing to bringing cutting edge research in the field of counter extremism into academic, policy and practice circles.

Dr Carl Emery's impactful work on schools and poverty and Ceri Hughes's work on policy and engagement with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority were highly commended.

Dr Dianne Harris and Dr Leah Gilman were also highly commended in the University-wide **Best Outstanding Contribution to the Research Staff Environment** category. Diane brings her knowledge, skills, expertise and networking experience to local research environments by sharing information, guiding colleagues and replicating networks. Leah's collegiate approach and contribution to teaching, conferences and other activities has helped make the Morgan Centre an exciting, vibrant and collegial place to work.

Many congratulations to all of the winners and highly commended research staff, your significant contribution to the research excellence of the Faculty is appreciated.