

## **Distinguished Achievement Awards 2024 – Postgraduate Student of the Year**

### **1. PG Student of the Year – Dr Elliott Sutton – Faculty of Science and Engineering**

Elliott's journey as a postgraduate research student has been nothing short of remarkable, marked by ground-breaking research, external recognition, impactful research translation and outstanding contributions as a Graduate Teaching Assistant.

Elliott's PhD journey is a successful example of multidisciplinary and reflects The University of Manchester's commitment to fostering excellence in research, education and societal impact. Combining engineering with the science of fluid dynamics and soft matter physics, Elliott developed a novel and robust methodology to describe the flow of complex fluids in the distribution lines of the fast-moving consumer goods industry. This allowed him to address significant technological manufacturing challenges and contribute to accelerating the introduction of superior, lower cost and more sustainable products by providing novel tools for the design of robust manufacturing systems with efficient use of energy and less material waste. His research has received national recognition, winning the 2023 ERCOFTAC Osborne Reynolds Day PhD competition.

### **2. PG Student of the Year – Dr Henriette Pleiger – Faculty of Humanities**

Dr Henriette Pleiger has been an outstanding Postgraduate Researcher. She completed an exceptional PhD while continuing to hold down a demanding and highly pressurised curatorial role in an institution recognised globally for its innovative practice. Henriette has also played a critical role in supporting the PGR community, particularly during the pandemic, by organising and sustaining a programme of online support and writing sessions that have been instrumental in ensuring a sense of well-being and belonging for the department's PGR community. This support also extended to several PGT students who were offered professional mentorship through work placements, giving students unprecedented skills and expertise that enabled them to secure employment in a highly competitive museum job market.

### **3. PG Student of the Year – Dr Hannah Cross – Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health**

Hannah Cross was an exemplary PhD student who excelled in many different areas: Hannah has a strong record of outstanding achievements in terms of her research outputs, Public and Participant involvement and Engagement activities, academic service and leadership.

Hannah is passionate for carrying out research that will improve the lives of people living with dementia. This passion combined with her strong work ethic and her resilience enabled her to rise to the challenge of completing an exceptional PhD based on care home research during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hannah's external PhD examiner summed up Hannah's achievements in her post-viva comments "it was a true pleasure! She did an outstanding job of everything"