

ISSUE 12

GRADUATE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

The newsletter for the research student community



Creating Connections

PhD students share their research at conferences



PLUS ROYAL SOCIETY RECOGNITION | RESEARCHER CAREER PATHWAYS EVENT |
GROUNDBREAKING NEW STUDY

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Graduate College Newsletter, the newsletter of the research student community at Oxford Brookes University.

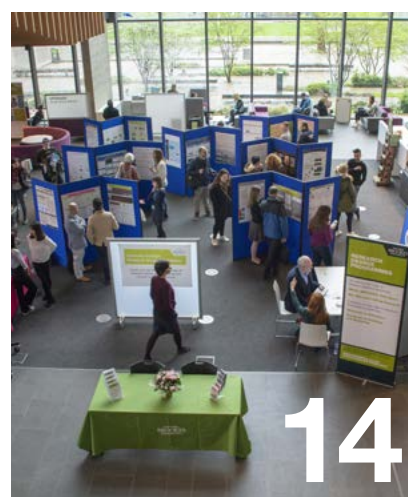
Thank you to all students and staff who have contributed to this edition of the Newsletter.

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We reserve the right to edit contributions before we publish and to refuse editorial items.

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Contributions are welcome from all sections of the University and should be sent to:
asa-gcnewsletter@brookes.ac.uk

News

Nursing and Midwifery students attend RCN conference

Six PhD students from the Oxford School of Nursing and Midwifery showcased their research at the prestigious Royal College of Nursing (RCN) International Nursing Research Conference.

The annual conference – widely recognised as a world-leading nursing research event – gave researchers the chance to present their work on an international platform and debate the challenges at the heart of nursing practice.

The theme of this year's conference was the impact of nursing research. The three-day event comprised a mix of keynote speakers, concurrent sessions, posters and symposia, and participants were encouraged to attend some of the many fringe and networking events on offer.

Catherine Lowenhoff was the first Brookes' student to take part in the proceedings. Speaking on the theme of 'Methods', Catherine reflected on using the Medical Research Council's guidance for developing and evaluating complex interventions as a guiding framework for her research. Sally Bassett and Helen Ayers were also involved on the first day of the conference, presenting their group's research in the form of a poster. Titled 'WhatsApp Doc?', the poster explored the impact of using WhatsApp on personal effectiveness, supporting role adaptation, and developing doctoral student identity.

Mamdooh Alzyood represented Brookes on the second day of the conference with his paper on patients' role in promoting hand hygiene compliance among nurses in the hospital setting. Mamdooh was involved again on the final day when he took part in a panel titled 'Developing methods used in your research' alongside three other Brookes' students. Chaired by Brookes' own Dr Helen Aveyard, the panel covered a wide range of themes, including ethical issues of involving people with dementia in research (Alicia Diaz-Gil), the use of memory in qualitative research (Emma Blakey), the recruitment of people who have experienced a bereavement into research studies (Katie McCallum), and the translation and analysis of group data from different countries and languages (Mamdooh).

Further details about the conference can be found on the RCN website: rcn.org.uk



Mamdooh Alzyood: "It was a thrilling experience to present my method paper at the RCN conference in Sheffield. I exchanged contact details with many researchers from different countries and was pleased to hear that my presentation was excellent. One academic on Twitter said that she was impressed by "the rigour of [my] processes" and the way I had been "so clear about the development of logic and thinking."



Alicia Diaz-Gil: "I was very happy with the response I got from the public; they asked me very interesting questions and it opened an ethical debate. I had the opportunity to talk more about it with other researchers who had similar issues and we gave each other feedback on new ideas. That is what I enjoyed the most, being able to share my experience and challenges with other people in a similar situation. Talking about my project and listening to other experiences gave me perspective and encouraged me to keep going."

Sally Bassett: "This was the first research conference that Helen Ayers and I had presented at, and it would be fair to say that we felt a sense of trepidation. However, our anxieties were not warranted as the conference had a welcoming and collaborative atmosphere. We received encouragement, valuable feedback, and learnt a great deal from fellow students and researchers. We would encourage other research students to attend a conference of this kind; it is a great way to build your confidence and it offers a good networking opportunity."



New study could help to understand human sleep

The first-ever sleep study on a nocturnal primate performed in the wild has provided fascinating insights which might tell us more about our own sleep patterns.

Published in *Scientific Reports*, the study was led and co-written by Kathleen Reinhardt, PhD student in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and member of the Nocturnal Primate Research Group, and published under the remit of Professor Anna Nekaris' Little Fireface Project in West Java, Indonesia.

The research suggests that being able to sleep in one continuous block has been shaped by environmental pressures observed in wild Javan slow lorises. The team of researchers fitted slow lorises with devices that recorded movement to assess their waking and sleeping patterns, alongside recording ambient temperature and light phases. The results unequivocally suggest that sleep patterns are particularly sensitive to light levels and ambient temperature, shaping the overall pattern of activity and rest across a twenty-four hour period.

The study fills an important gap in our knowledge of sleep in primates, including in humans. For Kathleen Reinhardt, the research suggests that "sleep evolved not only as a process that dealt with immediate biological responses, but also as a response to environmental conditions. Thus the well-known flexibility in sleep patterns that we can visually see between species, reflects the fact that it

evolved together with species adapting to their habitats."

Kathleen believes that studying sleep in the wild is "essential" if we wish to further our understanding of sleep ecology, physiology and evolution.

"Our results challenge the assumption that monophasic sleep of a shorter duration evolved in the monkeys and apes and suggest that human sleep patterns have a longer evolutionary history than previously believed."

Professor Anna Nekaris, Director of the Little Fireface Project, added: "The Javan slow loris is Critically Endangered, and the studied population occurs in an area with extensive noisy human activity. The ability for lorises to maintain such a fixed sleep pattern under these conditions points to their incredible adaptability. Furthermore, the use of logging devices that hang from their collars a bit like a dog tag shows that we can get important data from non-invasive methods."

Brookes' student recognised by prestigious Royal Society

The work of Clare Halliday, research student in the Department of Biological and Medical Sciences, has been highlighted by the UK's national science academy, the Royal Society.

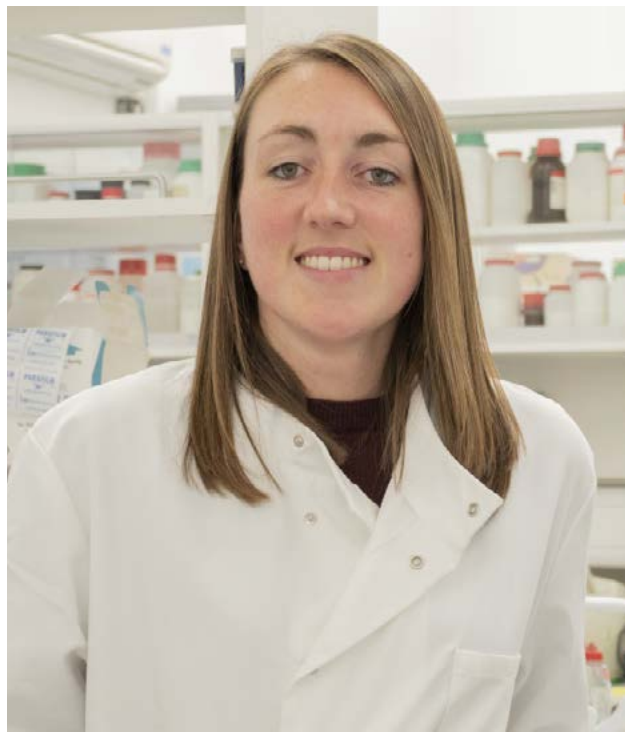
To mark the 2019 International Day of People with Disabilities, the Society's website drew attention to the work of eight scientists with disabilities, including the Nobel Prize winners Dorothy Hodgkin and Nicolaas Tinbergen.

Clare was born profoundly deaf but gained some hearing aged one through a cochlear implant in her right ear. She was 15 when she decided to pursue a career in biology.

"Science was my strongest subject, and from that age onwards I knew I wanted to work in health and disease. I thought being a researcher was too complex for me, and then I got hooked on documentaries about tropical diseases, so I thought that diagnostic scientist would be my career choice."

Despite her concerns about coping at university, Clare completed a science foundation year followed by a BSc in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Southampton. After completing an MSc in Medical Diagnostics at Cranfield University, she worked as a diagnostic technician and a healthcare scientist before taking a job as a research technician in parasitology at the University of Oxford. It was at Oxford that she felt that she was being taken seriously for the first time.

Clare's research team, which included Brookes' Dr Jack Sunter, took deaf awareness training and made a number of adjustments to enable Clare to fully participate and communicate with her colleagues. These experiences boosted her confidence and convinced her to embark on a PhD at Brookes in 2018.



Clare's research investigates the assembly and structure of a key part of the Leishmania parasite that contributes to its pathogenicity. Leishmania is a eukaryotic parasite that causes the devastating disease leishmaniasis that affects millions of people worldwide.

Speaking to the Royal Society, Clare said, "Completing work to localise my candidate proteins for investigation has been a real highlight so far. I'm hoping to publish my literature review early in 2020, which I never thought I'd be doing. Of course, there are challenges like any PhD student has, as well as the challenges that come with being deaf, but I'm really enjoying it – more than I thought I would!"

Clare is also involved with deaf STEM, which keeps her up to date with new assistive technology and new signs for technical words. Now in her second year of study, she has some advice for young people with hearing impairment:

"Hold on to your willpower to power through the hurdles, and most importantly don't be afraid to speak up about what you can or can't hear or do. There are ways to make it easier."



Researcher Career Pathways Event

Research students and contract research staff from all four faculties came together to discuss the theme of identity at the fourth Biennial Researcher Career Pathways Event.

After a welcome speech by Professor Linda King, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Global Partnerships, participants were treated to a talk by Dr Sarah Robins-Hobden, the event's keynote speaker. Dr Robins-Hobden talked about how our beliefs create our identities and encouraged those in attendance to be more aware of the labels that we create for ourselves in order to remove self-limiting beliefs and widen our horizons. She also referred to 'Imposter Syndrome', defined as an inability to accept the labels that we have created for ourselves, and the 'Inside Out' approach to goal setting, which starts with one's identity, beliefs and values and focuses on the process of what one wants to do rather than the outcome.

The keynote speech was followed by two question-and-answer panels. The 'Managing your Career' panel, chaired by Professor Susan Brooks, included panellists from an eclectic range of institutions such as the Medical Research Council, New England Biolabs, Oxford Brookes University and the University of Oxford. Speakers on the 'Managing your Life' panel were from a similarly diverse range of academic and professional backgrounds.

Panellists talked about their personal experiences and diverse career stories. They encouraged researchers to think about the skills that they had acquired in both their personal and professional lives and how they might use them both within and beyond academia.

In the afternoon, researchers were asked to reframe the idea of networking. Rather than thinking of it as something that is unnatural and uncomfortable, one should approach networking with the mind-set of 'what I can give to the situation' rather than 'what I can get out of it'.

Dr Sarah Robins-Hobden ended the day by urging researchers to act as hunters (hunt down opportunities), gatherers (experiment with opportunities) and creators (which opportunities do you know you want, but do not see?).



Take-home messages from the event included:

- Harness existing opportunities or create new ones
- Say yes more
- Try everything
- Think about what you enjoy doing and do more of it
- Think about what you are good at and find more of it
- Do not be afraid to make sideways steps
- Focus on what you can control and let go of what you cannot
- There are no failures, only disappointments – learn from them and move on
- Find your passions
- Look after yourself
- Follow your natural interests – they might become your next career move
- Ask yourself, what do I want to be remembered for?

Speaking after the event, researchers commented on how inspiring and motivating they had found the speakers and panellists. The event provided them with new ways to think about themselves and gave them the confidence to reconsider how they could apply their skills to their future careers. In particular, researchers said that the event had stimulated them to consider broadening their career options to include roles outside of academia; make time to reflect on self-limiting beliefs; re-evaluate current goals; take more opportunities; talk to the Careers Centre; approach professionals in interesting roles to find out more about what they do; increase productivity in finishing a thesis chapter; submit a job application; and take bold steps in trying out new things and staying positive and optimistic about the future.

Success at Nutrition and Dietetics Conference



Georgios Saltaouras, research student in the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, travelled to Athens, Greece to attend the biennial Hellenic Nutrition and Dietetics Congress.

The Congress was organised by the Hellenic Dietetics Association, the official professional representation body of university dietitians in Greece.

The event brought together a diverse range of individuals – including academics, dietitians, nutritionists, healthcare professionals, food industry experts and policy makers – to discuss the latest scientific breakthroughs regarding dietetics and nutrition. Prominent scientists from the USA, the UK, Italy and Germany served as keynote speakers and shared their experiences and expertise with a record-breaking audience of over 2,000.

For the first time in its history, the Congress also organised a competition for student presentations. Georgios was selected as one

of the winners in the doctoral category and was duly invited to deliver a three-minute, TED talk-style presentation on his PhD project.

Georgios' presentation explored dietary changes and nutritional support following a pelvic cancer diagnosis. The presentation was well received and prompted numerous follow-up questions. Speaking after the event, Georgios said that he "had a great experience presenting my work to an audience of students and academics."

"What was unique – in comparison to other presentations that I have delivered in the past – was that I presented my work in my native language, which proved more challenging than expected," Georgios said.

A variety of topics were discussed over the course of the three-day conference, from nutritional management of diseases to food policies. The parallel sessions, round tables and debates all attracted a high level of interest, and Georgios found much of value in the sessions dealing with clinical nutrition and the nutritional management of metabolic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and cancer.

Overall, Georgios thoroughly enjoyed the event and hopes to be invited back in 2021:

"I had a great time networking, meeting new colleagues and, of course, seeing some old classmates and friends."

Borders and Transformations Conference

Academics and research students in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences came together to discuss the theme of 'Borders and Transformations' at the faculty's annual Research Conference.

As in previous years, participants discussed a wide variety of topics relating to the conference theme including 'Gendered Boundaries', 'Refugees and Vulnerability', 'Disaster' and 'Staging Transformations'. One of the most popular elements of the conference was the 3 Minute Thesis event, which challenged research students to summarise their PhD topics in three minutes with only one PowerPoint slide. Craig Allen (Law), Eliane Ulett (Education) and Carl Mohr (Social Science) all took part, and the event was chaired by a fellow student, Jasmin Dall'Agnola (Social Science).

It was a full and successful day with some great contributions. The faculty plans to do it all again in late 2020, with the next Research Conference scheduled for Tuesday 8 September 2020 – we hope to see you there!

Research Student Profiles

Here, along with our regular research student profiles, we speak to one of our Masters by Research students.



Polly Bell

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

The title of my PhD is ‘Exploring creativity in teaching and learning in innovative science and arts primary practitioners’ lessons’.

“A PhD takes you on an intellectual journey to places that you never expected to go.”

Before I started my PhD, I was working part-time as a primary school teacher in Oxford following maternity leave with my third child. In the preceding year, I had undertaken a part-time postgraduate research module with the Open University to refresh my academic research skills. I also have a PGCE and an MA in Education, both obtained from Durham University.

When considering my options for further postgraduate study, someone mentioned the School of Education at Oxford Brookes. I visited the campus, explored the University’s website, and spoke to other graduates about their experiences. During these discussions, I was told that Oxford Brookes has a large and vibrant School of Education with a reputation for producing excellent teachers. Living close to the Harcourt Hill campus was also a massive draw for me as I have three young children.

I was immediately made aware of the support available to me after starting at Oxford Brookes. The Upgrade service and workshops, the networking events, and the free-to-attend training sessions, all made me feel part of an academic community. This in turn smoothed my transition into a research role from my previous position as a teacher.

It was a big step for me to change career direction and to increase to full-time hours. My everyday life and routines changed dramatically, which has been a huge challenge for both me and my family. However, knowing that there is support available is of paramount importance when life gets complicated, and I would urge new research students to attend social and networking sessions to share your experiences and build friendships with other students.

My doctoral study focuses on exploring and exemplifying creative practices within the context of science and arts education. This involves thinking about the many and varied ways that teachers and learners express their creativity in the classroom. In addition, my project reviews how teachers support the development of pupil creativity in the classroom in the subjects of science and the arts.

To make sense of my data, I am drawing on a range of theoretical models related to paradigms of creativity, dialogue, features of inventiveness, curiosity, agency, and habits of mind. I am using a mixed-method design with several means of data collection to answer my research questions and look for further insights into creative teacher practices. My research findings will contribute to a research base that will inform future guidance for teacher training and continuing professional development for primary and lower secondary school practitioners.

Being a research student means that I have the perfect excuse to immerse myself in a topic that really interests me. A PhD takes you on an intellectual journey to places that you never expected to go. While it is always important to plan, I have found that I also had to become more adaptable. I am now more resilient when encountering unanticipated issues, and more open to receiving constructive criticism and considering alternative ways of approaching theories, methods or interpretations.

I have not yet decided what direction to go in after completing my studies. Luckily, I have lots of options, and events such as the Life Design training sessions offered by Oxford Brookes are excellent for encouraging me to focus on what is important to me in any future career.



Parvati Perman-Howe Faculty of Health and Life Sciences

The title of my PhD is ‘**The effect of alcohol strength on alcohol consumption**’.

Between completing my Master’s degree and commencing my PhD, I took a year away from study to work for Public Health England’s National Screening Programmes Team. I had previously worked as a research assistant on a randomised controlled trial led by the University of Oxford, which assessed the efficacy of GP referral to commercial weight management services. I have also worked for NHS smoking cessation services and the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme.

While undertaking a Master’s degree in Public Health at Oxford Brookes, I was inspired to continue my studies by members of the Public Health teaching team, who were also heavily involved in research. This, combined with the advertised studentships, persuaded me to pursue a doctoral degree at Brookes.

I found it very easy to settle into the research environment. Academics are a friendly bunch and I was quickly made aware of the support and resources available. The research training is also very comprehensive, and I have even had the opportunity to co-design a workshop that teaches researchers how to perform sample-size calculations for quantitative studies.

My research project is a randomised controlled cross-over pilot trial that assesses the effect of alcohol strength

on alcohol consumption. There are three elements to my project: a taste experiment to match regular strength lager to reduced strength lager; a randomised controlled cross-over pilot trial to assess the efficacy of reducing the strength of lager to reduce lager consumption within licensed premises; and semi-structured qualitative telephone interviews to ascertain the acceptability of the intervention.

My project is informed by theories of unconscious behaviour and draws on elements of ‘nudge’, a concept that suggests that one can alter behaviour in a favourable direction by making subtle changes to the environment.

I enjoy the multifaceted nature of the PhD role. Not only am I undertaking a research project, but I am also undertaking a teaching course, contributing to teaching students and marking their assignments, serving on University committees, attending and presenting at conferences, and writing for external publications. The greatest challenge is being able to switch off and give myself enough time to relax and unwind, but I make sure that I fill my ‘down time’ with the things that I love to do the most (aside from studying!).

Depending on the results of my PhD study, I may seek funding to convert the pilot study to a definitive randomised controlled trial and undertake this as a research project at post-doctorate level. Above all, I intend to forge a career in academia.

My research project is a randomised controlled cross-over pilot trial that assesses the effect of alcohol strength on alcohol consumption.



Robert Williamson
Faculty of Technology, Design and Environment

My thesis title is ‘**The Ministry of Information and the British Film Hero during World War 2**’.

Prior to my retirement in 2010, I worked for over thirty years as a Software Engineer for several international companies such as IBM and Nortel. I then attended several courses at the Oxford Adult Learning Centre, where staff members suggested that I approach Oxford Brookes about further study. On an exploratory visit, I found the Brookes staff to be very friendly and welcoming, and I decided to study for an MA degree in Film Studies.

I found my MA dissertation so interesting that I decided to continue my exploration of the subject. Due to my experience of working with academics in the Film Studies field, I found the transition to PhD relatively straightforward. The support staff and the training courses have been very useful as I move forward with my research.

My project intends to offer new understandings of the complex relationship between the government and the British Film Studios in feature film content and production during the Second World War. It will explore both government policy and institutional organisations and consider the impact of these processes on the representation of the hero figure in feature films. In particular,

it will focus on the feature films produced by the Films Division of the Ministry of Information, a government department established in 1939 to disseminate propaganda at home and overseas.

This interdisciplinary project will be ground breaking in exploring the overall framework of government influence on feature film making during the war, and in considering the Film Studios’ interactions with government departments. Through a combination of primary and secondary sources, the study will provide a new contribution to film history and provide information for further studies.

As my research continues, I have found great value in the feedback provided by my three supervisors. They are always available for a formal or informal chat and I greatly appreciate their input. I also enjoy interacting with PhD students from other areas of research as we often find ways of helping each other. Since I am studying on a part-time basis, I always aim to complete tasks on a weekly basis to keep myself on track.

In terms of future plans, I want to continue to enjoy the whole experience and maybe publish my finished work as a book. I would also like other younger researchers to be influenced by my work and carry it forward.

My project intends to offer new understandings of the complex relationship between the government and the British Film Studios in feature film content and production during the Second World War.



Jackie Parsonage
Faculty of Health and Life Sciences

The title of my PhD thesis is ‘**A mixed method study to develop an Occupational Therapy Theory based intervention for young people with mental health difficulties**’.

I am an Occupational Therapist who has seventeen years post-qualification experience, including sixteen years in clinical practice. While working in this role, I actively sought to maintain my clinical professional development and consequently made use of the numerous development opportunities available to me. This included working with academics and service users at Brunel University on co-designed research projects, an experience that convinced me to undertake a funded Master’s degree in Research in Clinical Practice.

Having completed this, I began to look for PhD options. I came into contact with Oxford Brookes after seeing a studentship opportunity funded by the Elizabeth Casson Trust. Elizabeth Casson is credited with setting up one of the first occupational therapy schools, and the studentship is part of a move to develop the occupational science strand of Brookes’ MORes research centre.

The transition from clinical practice to research can feel like a big step. It has, however, been a positive transition. I really enjoy doing research, and everyone in the department has

been very supportive. I have also valued the opportunity to learn about research-related computer packages such as NVivo and SPSS.

My research seeks to explore adolescent perceptions and experiences of current engagement and participation in meaningful occupation. My project will generate new insights that can be used in conjunction with existing knowledge to develop a new occupational therapy theory-based manual for intervention with young people experiencing early stages of mental health issues. The final aim is to test the feasibility of the manual and identify practical issues related to its use.

I love being a researcher; I had wanted to undertake a PhD for some time! Preparation is important and can really help. In terms of advice for new research students, I would recommend reading some of the self-help guides that are available before commencing your studies. Talking to other people in your field who have similar research interests to you is also recommended, as is talking to PhD students in their second and third years.

I would like to be a clinical academic researcher. This will allow me to conduct research that is relevant to occupational therapy while also working as an Occupational Therapist in the mental health field.

My research seeks to explore adolescent perceptions and experiences of current engagement and participation in meaningful occupation.

For more current research student profiles please visit:
www.brookes.ac.uk/graduate-college/student-profiles

Congratulations!

Congratulations to all our research students on the successful outcome of their vivas and conferment of their degrees and awards between 1 August 2018 and 29 February 2020.



Oxford Brookes Business School

Doctor of Philosophy

Ugwuezi Pearl Akomas

An evaluation of relational control in international franchise networks in emerging markets

Lamya Hamdan A

AlNassar

Achieving Business and IT Alignment in Digital Service Re-design: A Study of UK e-Government

Gaurav Chawla

Pro-environmental behaviours of hospitality employees: a practice theory approach

Mansoor Javed

Brand Defence: Consumers' Word-of-Mouth Behaviour Towards a Loved Brand

Niramol Promnil

The role of human resource management in fostering knowledge sharing behaviour: Thai Boutique Hotels

Fang Wang

Evaluation of graduate management programmes in international hotel organisations

Georgina Whyatt

Implementing a marketing strategy based on societal contribution: A critical investigation in the co-operative context

Heba Younis

The Internationalisation Decision of the Endowed SME

Doctor of Coaching and Mentoring

Iain Lightfoot

Exploring the events that lead to insight in coaching sessions: Identifying structures through experiences

Colin Norris

Mimetic effect in mentoring Baptist Ministers

Helene Seiler

Client behavioural feedback for the executive coach

Shirley Thompson

Coaching for Soft-Skill Development: An Action Research Study with Project Managers

PhD by Published Work

Iain Lightfoot

Exploring the events that lead to insight in coaching sessions: Identifying structures through experiences

Faculty of Health and Life Sciences

Doctor of Philosophy

Abdullah Rumaan Ahmed

Determining S6K1 localisation and interactions with mTORC1 in live cells using fluorescence lifetime imaging microscopy

Ameerah Mohammedkhairi M Almaski

Can polyphenol-rich millets affect glycaemic response, insulinaemic response and gastric emptying in prediabetes?

Carina Bannach

Regulation of late and very late gene expression in both lytic and persistent baculovirus infections

Raquel Baptista Arinto Garcia

Maintaining the balance: persistent baculovirus infection in insect cells

Christian Louis Bonatto Paese

Investigating the roles of HES and Sox genes during embryogenesis of the spider *Parasteatoda tepidariorum*

Anne Leonora Braak

How does a butterfly embryo cope with environmental stress?

Carolina Casanas i Comabella

Distance caregiving in palliative care: a mixed methods study exploring the role of ehealth

Nicole Collaco

The Experiences and Needs of Younger Couples Affected by Prostate Cancer; a Qualitative Study

Georgia Cook

Parents, their children, and sleep: Parental help-seeking-behaviour and influences on child sleep

Vanessa de Sousa Vieira

The role of Atg9b-84A at the plant ER-Golgi interface

Gwenaelle Detourne

Characterisation of nuclear envelope-associated proteins (NEAP) in *Arabidopsis Thaliana*

Hannah Fox

The utility of immune function profiling in Rheumatoid Arthritis therapeutic efficacy monitoring

Joanna Hagen

The genetic and developmental bases of male genital organ size evolution

Kimberley Harcourt

How do social relationships influence men's weight?

Michaela Holzem

Investigating the evolution and function of Wnt ligands

Majd Mohammed Younis Y Jan

Association of dietary and supplement phosphatidylcholine intake with cardio-metabolic biomarkers among normo- and hyper-lipidaemic individuals

Maria Kapanidou

A multidisciplinary approach for the identification of new small molecule inhibitors of the Anaphase Promoting Complex/Cyclosome (APC/C) regulator Cdc20

Sarah Mansbridge

Perception of range in pioneer drivers of the MINI E

Paschalia Pantazi

Investigations into the dynamic uptake of extracellular vesicles and their role in breast cancer metastasis after chemotherapy

Bianca Paris

The role of exercise-induced circulating extracellular vesicles in adult myogenesis and neurogenesis

Rita Helena Phillips

Understanding and Explaining the Perceptions of Veterans in UK Society

Sunny Vijen

The role and function of ANKH and ULK4

Catherine Wheatley

Explaining young adolescents' physical activity decision-making using the prototype willingness model of health behaviour

Master of Philosophy**Jonathan Hyslop**

How do peer networks enable service users and informal carers to obtain and manage a personal budget?

Barbara Zweifel

Agricultural small bodies: carbon sources or carbon sinks?

MA by Research**Christopher Cutter**

Impact of Being on attainment and physical activity levels in Key Stage 1 and 2 students

MSc by Research**Benjamin Franks**

Turning up the (variable) noise: The Quiet Eye, functional variability and advancements in perceptual cognitive expertise

Kieran Hanspal

The effect of short high intensity intermittent training on pain tolerance and self-paced cycling performance

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Doctor of Philosophy**Mona Al Zahrani**

The Making of a Good Woman: Analysing Children's Narratives on Female Gender Identity and Role in pre-School Saudi Arabia

Ahmed Almuqham

Freedom of Parties in International Commercial Arbitration: An Analytical and Comparative Study of Shariah, The Saudi Arbitration Law 2012 and the English Arbitration Act 1996

Ioli Ayiomamitou

Capitalising on linguistic diversity via a bidialectal intervention programme to improve linguistic performance and sociolinguistic awareness in two proximal varieties

Cheryl Birdseye

The rise of female testimony on the early modern stage

Louiza Borg Haviaras

Free Movement of Scientists within the European Research Area (ERA): An Analysis of the Cypriot Research Market

Hamish William Chalmers

"Leveraging the L1: The Role of EAL Learners' First Language in Their Acquisition of English Vocabulary"

Kate Clayton-Hathway

Paying 'due regard'? The impact of the Public Sector Equality Duty on service provision for single mothers

Gisele Ferreira de Aroujo

Promoting Sustainable Energy Literacy through Higher Education for the Arctic

Gregers Forssling

Rebuilding the Rainbow Bridge. A study of the historical development of Nordicism and its relationship with Modernity

Alfred Fullah

The Legacy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL)

Mary Gifford

Health Debate: Medical Discourses in the Early Novel

Sarah Hayes

To what extent does public presence destabilise a local church's autonomy over its precinct?

Ralph Loch

The British Colonial Press Coverage of the Indian Rebellion of 1857-8 and its Relationship to Local Concerns

Elizabeth Lutgendorff

Slaughtering sacred cows: rebutting the narrative of decline in the British secular movement from the 1890s to 1930s

Aimee Oxley

Great Ape Conservation in the Matrix. Investigating the Socio-Ecological Responses of Chimpanzees Living in a Forest – Farm Mosaic, Uganda

Kian Pourkermani

Non-Consensual Secession and The Law of Nations: The Contested Legal Scholarship on the Law of Self-Determination, Recognition and Statehood in International Law

Sarah Prendergast

The Welsh Revival (1904-1905) Recovering the Role of Welsh Women

Jaima Hillary Smith

An interdisciplinary examination and assessment of current conservation initiatives for Javan Gibbons (Hylobates Moloch)

Jamie Thorogood

Feeding the hunger of history: Society and politics in Dylan Thomas' prose and dramatic works

Lisette Toetenel

The targeted use of the informal register on social networking sites by foreign-language learners evaluated through linguistic analysis and perceived context-appropriateness

Sarah Waters

'Early Modern Melancholia and Present Day Depression: A Comparative Study of the Female Experience in Dramatic and Medical Sources

Annie Jane Webster

Language: What it's for and why we have it

Jennifer Wong

A transnational poetics of place: identity, otherness and the meaning of home in the poetry of Li-Young Lee, Marilyn Chin, Bei Dao, Hannah Lowe and Sarah Howe

PhD by Published Work**Daniel Bergin**

Wildlife trade in Morocco: uses, conservation, laws and welfare

Doctor of Education**Poppy Gibson**

Young Girls' Lived Experiences of 'Going Online': an Exploration into the Relationships between Social Media and Use and Well-Being for Primary Age Girls

Sunitha Mysore

The influence of international clinical placement experiences on careers of healthcare students: graduate and employer perspectives

MA in Practitioner Research

Robert Francis Giles Drake
Rashmi David

Dominique Loader

MA by Research**Charlotte Moss**

Classifying videogames as art and why it matters now

Joshua Patterson

"Aristotelian philosophy applied to interactive virtual media: On the effects of transportation on the player and the practical applications of Virtual Reality"

PGDIP Practitioner Research

Maxine Fletcher

Faculty of Technology, Design and Environment**Doctor of Philosophy****Avar Almukhtar**

Defining and Enhancing Place-Identity in Historic Cities: Embracing Heritage, Conflict and Globalisation in Erbil, Iraq

Shahzad Amouzad

Collaborative Flood Risk Governance at Property Scale: The Challenges and Discourse Around Property Level Flood Risk Data in England

Erasmus Chiappetta

Novel design and geometry for mechanical gearing

Joao dos Santos**Laranjeira**

New fatigue test method for evaluating the performance of adhesive bonded joints

Axel Ewald

Developing Processes for an Imaginative and Connective engagement with Natural Landscapes

Timottee Gentieu

Development of filled polymers for the replacement of ceramics used

Johann Goettel

A poetic pilgrimage towards a cosmopolitan world: an exploration of Dag Hammarskjöld's political vision and understanding, with special reference to

the field of social sculpture and its value for global citizenship education

Samuel Kamperis

Enumeration of polyhedral graphs

Achara Khamaksorn

Knowledge Transfer Processes in International Construction Joint Venture Projects in Thailand

Elizabeth Lovegrove

Interactions in the Text: Girls' Magazines and their Readers, 1955-2000

Alissar McCreary

Hybrid Residues: Exploring Experiences of displacement Through Active Participation in Art Practice

Adi Walker

Success Factors for the Leadership of International Humanitarian and Development Organisations in South Asia

MSc by Research**Benjamin Bradshaw**

A 1-D Theoretical Performance Analysis and Optimisation of a Bespoke Formula Student V-Twin Engine

George Kwasowski

Investigation into the effect of physical size on crack initiation in brittle materials subject to mixed mode fracture (with focus on graphite nuclear reactor cores)

Stay connected

Brookes has a strong and vibrant research student community. Here are just some of the ways you can stay in touch:



Graduate College Annual Research Student Exhibition

Come and join us in celebrating the extensive display of work submitted by our research students! Present at the exhibition yourself, support your fellow students, or come and find out more about doing a research degree at Brookes.

Wednesday 22 April 2020, 10am – 5.30pm
THE FORUM, JOHN HENRY BROOKES BUILDING, GIPSY LANE SITE

The display will also be available to view on Thursday 23 April 2020.

If you would like more information, please go to www.brookes.ac.uk/graduate-college/annual-event/ or email: asa-gcevents@brookes.ac.uk

Research Degrees Team Office Hours

9.00am – 4.30pm

When Student Central is closed and the shutter is down at the counter, we are still available during office hours. A phone is mounted on the side of the drinks vending machine opposite the office. Please call us on **x4244** (or on **01865 484244** from your mobile) and one of us will come out and help you with your query.

Research Student Support and Connect Groups



The Graduate College recognises and promotes the wellbeing of research students. To this end, the Research Student Support and Connect Groups were set up to help research students feel more connected. The groups provide an opportunity to share ideas and best practices, as well as challenges and successes.

The groups are intended to be generic ones, rather than focusing on specific subjects. They are structured with regards to time, and will otherwise be driven by what research students wish to talk about and focus on.

The Support Group is facilitated by Nicola Parkes, a member of the Oxford Brookes Wellbeing team. Nicola is a Transactional Analyst, a field particularly useful for effective communication, which can be so vital to the success of research students. Nicola offers experience in the academic community as well as independence from it. The Connect Group, which is not facilitated, offers research students the chance to meet informally with their peers.

For more information about the groups, please visit the Graduate College research student training website.

The **Writing Hub** aims to enable Brookes to develop into a community of writers who support each other to excel.

Run by the Upgrade Academic Skills Development team, the Writing Hub organises seminars, writing retreats and other events to draw together the conversation about writing across the university community and beyond. To find out more about the Writing Hub, please visit:

www.brookes.ac.uk/students/upgrade/writing-hub

Research Student Representatives

Our active body of Research Student Representatives help to ensure that research students have a strong voice that can be heard at a senior level.

Student Representatives represent and engage with other research students in their faculties and departments. By attending a variety of University Committees, they act as a conduit between research students and the University, gathering feedback and taking forward matters that arise both centrally and within the faculties. They also keep students up-to-date with current initiatives and developments, ensuring that research students feel that their views and concerns are taken seriously.

To find out more about the role of Research Student Representatives, please visit:

www.brookes.ac.uk/students/research-degrees-team/current-students/student-representatives

The Graduate College organise and support a variety of events for research students, including training and social get-togethers. For further information on all our activities please visit:
www.brookes.ac.uk/graduate-college/events

Follow us on  @BrookesGC

Research degrees



Research at Oxford Brookes enjoys an international reputation, attracting high quality staff and students as well as major funded projects. As a research student at Brookes you will join a vibrant and supportive environment, and benefit from expert supervision and a strong programme of research training.

Each of our academic departments and schools is engaged in a diverse range of research activities. Visit our department pages to more about research degrees, centres and groups, funding and research communities:

- School of Architecture
brookes.ac.uk/architecture/research/research-degrees
- School of Arts (includes the Oxford International Centre for Publishing Studies)
brookes.ac.uk/school-of-arts/#research
- Department of Biological and Medical Sciences
brookes.ac.uk/bms/research/degrees
- School of the Built Environment
brookes.ac.uk/be/research
- Business School
brookes.ac.uk/business/research/research-degrees
- School of Education
brookes.ac.uk/school-of-education/courses/research-degrees
- School of Engineering, Computing and Mathematics
brookes.ac.uk/ecm/research
- Department of English and Modern Languages
brookes.ac.uk/english-languages/courses/research-degrees
- School of History, Philosophy and Culture
brookes.ac.uk/hpc/courses/research-degrees
- Oxford School of Hospitality Management
brookes.ac.uk/hospitality/research
- School of Law
brookes.ac.uk/school-of-law/courses/research-degrees
- Oxford School of Nursing and Midwifery
brookes.ac.uk/osnm/research
- Department of Psychology, Health and Professional Development
brookes.ac.uk/phpd/research/degrees
- Institute of Public Care
ipc.brookes.ac.uk
- Department of Social Sciences
brookes.ac.uk/social-sciences/courses/research-degrees
- Department of Sport, Health Sciences and Social Work
brookes.ac.uk/shssw/research/degrees