Make Your Learning Count: Postgraduate Research in Art & Design

A CHEAD Seminar held at
The University of Brighton
Friday, 20 March 2015

Supported by the ELIA SHARE Network

The aim of this seminar will be to form a network for exchange and mutual support for doctoral researchers across all aspects of Art and Design education, including pedagogic research in A&D and media and architecture, or more widely on progression / access.

There is a recognised gap in support for those studying practice-based PhD and we intend that this will be a key focus for discussion at the seminar, particularly in light of developments at the HEA

Practice-based PhD students often work in isolation. Knowledge of and access to support communities tends to be patchy. No systematic attempt has been made to identify how many and which networks exist. Consequently, there is insufficient understanding of what supports such networks and how do students use them.

Objectives

The seminar therefore shall be an opportunity to map the range of support networks across practice-based art and design. In particular, it shall focus on the following:

- A sharing of networks and of how students use them.
- An articulation of the importance of networking among PhD students.
- An exploration of possible linkages between the networks. What are the nodes of learning, how can they be strengthened and what may CHEAD be able to do to support this?

Once the network has gained in momentum, the following wider objectives may be addressed with the support of CHEAD and through suggested linkages with the Research Alliance and the Gallery Network:

- To help address issues of
  - Consistent / high quality PhD supervision
  - Poor completion rates / lack of strong and competitive PhD applications → *thought to have similar root causes*

Students will be invited to prepare poster presentations that will be displayed throughout the CHEAD Annual Conference.

Seminar debates will further be placed in a European context will draw on the insights from the ELIA Share network. Mick Wilson, co-editor of the ELIA Share Handbook of Artistic Research in Education, will be the key speaker at the seminar.

This seminar coincides with the final day of the CHEAD Annual Conference 2015, with the theme Communicating Insights.

Outcome

Apart from networking opportunities during the seminar, participants will receive

- Contact list of fellow participants / CHEAD conference delegates
- A collation of the various poster presentations.

Draft Programme

09:45	**Inspirational Talk**: **Supporting artistic research** Mick Wilson, Head of Department, Valand Academy, University of Gothenburg
10:45	Tea & coffee
11:00	**Making our work count – Impact Case Study Workshops** (→ *where research, L&T and public engagement come together*) *Presentations to be in 3 parallel groups (combinations tbc):* *1. Brighton Waste House* *Brighton Fuse* *2. GSA 3-d visualisation / Jonathan Boyd (Jewellery design)* *David Cotterell, Sheffield Hallam University (tbd)* *3. Paul Seawright (Photography, Ulster)* *Fashion Design / Design History (UAL)*
12:30	***Make your learning Count: A Sharing of learning opportunities*** *A speed dating exercise for PhD students and a display of research posters.*
13:00	*Lunch*
14:00	*Annual Conference Depart*
14:30	***Mapping existing Research networks*** • *Which networks do PhD students use? How do they use them?* • *Are there any linkages?* • *Are there any gaps?* → world-café style session. Big table in the centre, map to be drawn on paper table cloth. Café tables to surround the central table, with each table focusing on different themes / networks.
15:15	*Tea & coffee*
15:30	**Research in a European Context – ELIA Share** M Wilson
16:30	Final talk / Summary
16:45	*Close* *Tea / coffee*