

## Graphic Design and the Research Excellence Framework

**One-Day Symposium**  
**12.30—17.30, 17 October 2018**  
**Sheffield Institute of Arts**  
**Sheffield Hallam University**

If you know where to look, graphic design research is thriving (Walker 2014), and in these places, we can glimpse how graphic design contributes to new forms of knowledge and understanding. However, when it comes to institutional mechanisms for measuring research, graphic design is, with a few exceptions, yet to flourish. A report that followed the 2014 UK Research Excellence Framework (REF2014) concluded 'the intellectual and theoretical underpinning' of graphic design submissions was 'generically weak' and showed little sign of improvement since the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise.

So, in advance of REF2021, this symposium will address two questions: 1) How do we foster graphic design research and make it visible within established academic contexts? 2) What can the disciplinary knowledge practices of graphic design research offer established academic contexts?

Featuring a keynote address from Professor Anne Boddington (Chair UoA 32 Art & Design REF 2021), James Corazzo, Dr Rob Harland & Steve Rigley will present findings from a CHEAD-sponsored project to map graphic design outputs from REF2014. Paul Bailey, Dr Rebecca Ross and Dr Alison Barnes will share their thoughts about their graphic design related research, and there will be the opportunity for discussion.

The objective is to bring senior academics, researchers and graphic design academics together with the ambition to identify the specific challenges facing graphic design research in an academic context and propose ways for its flourishing.

**Tickets are free** and available via [tinyurl.com/ybtdyhdn](https://tinyurl.com/ybtdyhdn), but you/your institution must be members of CHEAD or the Graphic Design Educators' Network. If you have any questions, please contact **James Corazzo** via [j.corazzo@shu.ac.uk](mailto:j.corazzo@shu.ac.uk)

Co-hosted by The Council for Higher Education in Art and Design (CHEAD), Graphic Design Educators' Network (GDEN) and the Art and Design Research Centre, Sheffield Institute of Arts

## Speakers

**Paul Bailey—**  
London College of Communication

**Dr Alison Barnes—**  
London College of Communication

**Professor Anne Boddington—**  
Kingston University &  
Chair for Art and Design: History,  
Practice and Theory REF 2021

**James Corazzo** (Sheffield Hallam University),  
**Dr Rob Harland** (Loughborough University),  
and **Steve Rigley** (Glasgow School of Art)

**Dr Rebecca Ross—**  
Central Saint Martins



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