

Troubling Research: Liminal Spaces, Methodological Challenges, Innovative Approaches

A one-day conference and a half-day workshop

Thursday 7th July and Friday 8th July, 2016 Newman University, Birmingham

VENUE: [ORANGE STUDIOS BIRMINGHAM](#)

The conference will be an opportunity for participants to explore, in a multi-disciplinary, cross-professional and exploratory environment:

- ways of engaging with marginalised groups so that research into their/our experiences and life-worlds can be more inclusively and authentically designed, conducted, recorded and communicated
- ways of representing – for example, aesthetically, affectively – research processes and knowledge so that necessary complexities, uncertainties, instability, disorder can find a place in educational research discourse
- ways of crossing boundaries, stepping over thresholds, that often unhelpfully divide and separate the multiple epistemic and psychic spaces we inhabit in our professional and personal lives

The workshop will explore a range of approaches to research design, and the opportunities and challenges surrounding inquiries that draw on aesthetic and affective modalities in areas such as creative writing, dance, drama, media, music, the spoken word and the visual and plastic arts.

A second component of the workshop will involve examining the alignment of research methods – both traditional and innovative – to troubling, troubled and/or troublesome areas of social science research where issues of access, participation, voice and representation present specific challenges for credibility, authenticity and trustworthiness.



Participants :

Colleagues from a range of disciplinary areas and professional fields, including, but not limited to, researchers and practitioners in arts development, education, healthcare, social work, youth work.



Key Note Speakers

Alison Phipps, OBE, PhD, BA (Hons) FRSE

Professor of Languages and Intercultural Studies, University of Glasgow



'Troublesome research' may also be troubled: Harsh and exciting research for higher education

Alison Phipps is Professor of Languages and Intercultural Studies, and Co-Convener of Glasgow Refugee, Asylum and Migration Network (GRAMNET). She is also Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Waikato University, Aotearoa New Zealand. In 2011 she was voted 'Best College Teacher' by the student body and received the Universities 'Teaching Excellence Award' for a Career Distinguished by Excellence. In 2012 she received an OBE for Services to Education and Intercultural and Interreligious Relations in the Queen's Birthday Honours. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

She has undertaken work in Palestine, Sudan, Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia, Germany, France, USA, Portugal, Ghana. She has produced and directed theatre and worked as creative liturgist with the World Council of Churches from 2008-2011 for the International Ecumenical Peace Convocation. She regularly advises public, governmental and third sector bodies on migration and languages policy.

She is author of numerous books and articles and a regular international keynote speaker and broadcaster. Her first collection of poetry, *Through Wood*, was published in 2009. She is a member of the Iona Community.

Morwenna Griffiths

Chair of Classroom Learning, Moray House School of Education, Edinburgh University



Love and social justice: a more-than-human perspective on ethics in education

Morwenna Griffiths holds the Chair of Classroom Learning in the Moray House School of Education at Edinburgh University. Her research includes philosophical theorising and empirical investigation, related to social justice, feminism, the nature of practice, pedagogy, joy in education and creativity. Her most recent work has focused on relationships. She has written on pedagogical relations as embodied and context-dependent.

Currently she is investigating social justice within all our educational relationships, understanding human relationships as just one aspect of being and living in the more-than-human world.

Her books include *Action for Social Justice in Education* and *Educational Research for Social Justice*. She is a co-editor of the new edited collections, *International Handbook of Interpretation in Educational Research Methods*, and *Re-imagining Relationships: Ethics, Politics and Practices*. Recent articles include: 'Educational relationships: Rousseau, Wollstonecraft and social justice', 'Encouraging imagination and creativity in the teaching profession' 'My life as a vixen'; 'Social justice in education: joy in education and education for joy', and 'Critically adaptive pedagogical relations: the relevance for education policy and practice'.

To book your place: go to <http://estore.newman.ac.uk/>

Conference Fees

Conference day rate: £70; early bird £50; students & unwaged £25

Half-day workshop: £25; students & unwaged £10 Limited bursaries available for students and unwaged applicants

Early bird closing date: 1st April 2016

Closing date for registration 1st June 2016

Submission of Abstracts: by 1st March 2016
TroublingResearch@newman.ac.uk

[Click here to go to conference webpage](#)

Conference Information

Key Dates

- Early bird closing date 1st April 2016
- Closing date for registration 1st June 2016
- Submission of abstracts by 1st March 2016
- Notification of acceptance by 1st April 2016

Proposals for contributions are welcome from all fields of educational and social science research, including but not limited to practitioners in arts development, education, healthcare, social work, youth work.

Submission Process

We welcome proposals in the form of papers, posters, performances/presentations, symposia or workshops.

Abstracts

Abstracts of 200-250 words, accompanied by 3-6 key words should be submitted by **1st March 2016** to TroublingResearch@newman.ac.uk.

Notification of acceptance by: **1st April 2016**

Papers Conference papers should be in the range of 3000-4000 words.

Symposia Up to a maximum of five linked papers.

Posters These should be A1 in size.

Workshops These are intended for delegates who want to work with others in the workshop, e.g. to explore their research in progress. This may involve examining a methodological issue or an aspect of a particular research or problem.

Think pieces, discussion topics and experimental proposals. Circa 1,000 words.

Performance/presentation This may be in the form of dance, drama, media (video/film) music or soundscape, poetry, story or similar.

Student Bursaries

There will be a limited number of bursaries available to students who are registering for the conference. If you are interested in applying for one of these bursaries (covering the full conference and workshop fee, but not travelling expenses), please email the conference mail link troublingresearch@newman.ac.uk Successful applicants will be notified prior to the conference.

Accommodation

A range of accommodation is available in close proximity to [Orange Studio](#). Please see the list of links below:

[Britannia Hotel 3*](#)

New Street, Birmingham, B2 4RX
Tel: 0871 222 0093 Fax: 0871 222 7071

[Ibis Hotel 2*](#)

21 Ladywell Walk, Arcadian Centre, Birmingham, B5 4ST,
Tel: (+44)1216199000 Fax: (+44)121/6226020 Booking by phone:
(+44)121/6199000

[Holiday Inn Hotel 3*](#)

Smallbrook, Queensway, Birmingham, B5 4EW
(Reservations) 44-0121-6346200 (Front Desk)
1 Snow Hill Plaza, St Chads, Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6HY
(Reservations) 44-121-6473999 (Front Desk)

[Jurys Inn Hotel 3*](#)

245 Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2HQ
Tel: +44 121 606 9000 Email: jurysinnbirmingham@jurysinns.com

[Radisson Blu Hotel 4*](#)

12 Holloway Circus Queensway, Birmingham, B1 1BT
Tel: +44 121 654 6000

[MacDonald Burlington Hotel 4*](#)

Burlington Arcade, 126 New Street, Birmingham, B2 4JQ,
Tel 0844 879 9019 International +44 121 643 9191

[Crowne Plaza Hotel 4*](#)

Central Square Holliday Street Birmingham, B1 1HH
Hotel Front Desk: 44-0121-2245000 Hotel Fax: 44-0121-2245119
Hotel Email: enquiries@cpbhamcity.com

[Ramada Hotel 3*](#)

160 Wharfside Street, The Mailbox, Birmingham, B1 1RL
Phone: +44 (0) 1216 439344 Fax: +44 (0) 1216 432044

[Penta Hotels 4*](#)

Penta Hotel Birmingham, Ernest Street, Holloway Head, Birmingham,
B1 1NS Room Reservations: +44 (0) 121 622 8800 Fax: +44
(0) 121 6228 810 Email: info.birmingham@pentahotels.com

[Premier Inn Hotel 3*](#)

Birmingham Exchange Buildings, Stephenson Place, Birmingham
B2 4NH Tel: 0871 527 9442*More info Fax: 0871 527 9443

[Hyatt Regency Hotel 4*](#)

Hyatt Regency Birmingham, 2 Bridge Street, Birmingham, B1 2JZ,
Tel: +44 121 643 1234 Fax: +44 121 616 2323
Email: birmingham.regency@hyatt.com

[Hotel Indigo 4*](#)

Hotel Indigo, 200 Wharfside Street, The Cube, Birmingham, B1 1PR
Reservations: 0121 643 2010 Email:
info@hotelindigobirmingham.com

[Hilton Gardens 4*](#)

Hilton Garden Inn, 1 Brunswick Square, Birmingham, B1 2HW
Tel: (0121) 643 1003