

FURTHER DETAILS

CReATeS PhD Studentship: Digital Research & Development for Arts and Culture in Scotland

The NESTA/Creative Scotland/AHRC Research and Development Consortium Project

The University of Stirling is the lead partner in a team of researchers funded by Nesta (the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts), Creative Scotland and the AHRC (Arts and Humanities Research Council) that is exploring how arts and cultural organisations engage with the opportunities and challenges of digital technologies. The arts and culture organisation range from local and national museums, heritage centres, art galleries, cinemas and other cultural centres. The PhD student will engage with a range of questions that are emerging from the work of the broader project, and will draw on wider literatures and theory as well as research settings with which the broader research team is involved. Further information is available via the CReATeS (Consortium for Research in Arts and Technology in Scotland) [website](#).

CReATeS's research is supporting the organisations to work with digital experts to understand and test the potential offered by new technologies to connect with wider audiences and explore new ways of working. The interdisciplinary team is led by Professor Claire Squires and includes researchers at Stirling from the School of Education, the Centre for International Publishing and Communication, the Institute of Socio-Management and the Institute for Social Marketing, as well as researchers from the Universities of Strathclyde and St Andrews.

The team is now seeking to appoint an outstanding PhD student to work alongside the research team and explore the ways in which arts and cultural organisations engage with the opportunities and challenges of digital technologies; patterns of organisational learning and change and the challenges of working in interdisciplinary settings. The student would be based primarily in the University of Stirling's School of Arts and Humanities but would be jointly supervised by staff from across the project team, and would be expected to participate in, and contribute to, the project's interdisciplinary work across multiple research settings.

The PhD Studentship

The successful candidate will engage with a range of questions that are emerging from the work of the broader project, and will draw on wider literatures and theory as well as research settings with which the broader research team is involved. Research questions might include the following considerations:

- What are the practices of working and co-production in the context of arts and cultural organisations and creative industries?
- How do arts and cultural organisations and technology partners learn to work with and from each other?
- How do organisations learn from their audiences - what are the framings and participatory practices that engage audiences not only with 'products' but in consultation, scoping, agenda-setting, design, development and evaluation?
- How are relationships between arts and cultural organisations and technology

partners influenced by broader cultural and political ecologies, for example by local, regional and national policies or changing market opportunities? How do these partnerships in turn influence these ecologies, through establishing new practices or diffusing new ideas?

The Candidate

The candidate will be educated to Masters' level or expect to complete a Masters level course in 2013. This might be an MRes or a subject-based Masters course with a substantial research element.

They might have an academic background in digital cultures or media, the creative arts and industries, digital humanities or museum studies, education, organisational learning or management studies. However, as important as any specific disciplinary background is a high level of interest and engagement in the creative industries, digital media and digital cultures and an interest in exploring and developing social/organisational models of learning in emerging and interdisciplinary contexts.

The candidate will need to be able to engage with both arts and technology organisations and be confident in developing an understanding of mixed methods research. These might involve the use of a range of qualitative methods as well as the ability to engage with and synthesise quantitative and 'born-digital' data, and involve research in both face-to-face and online environments.

The School of Arts & Humanities

The student will be based in the School of Arts and Humanities which includes staff and students drawn from all over the globe and coming together to experience a friendly but challenging intellectual environment. Their Director of Studies will be Professor Claire Squires, with Dr Padmini Ray Murray also on the supervisory team. We teach and research in a wide range of disciplines and are committed to multi and inter-disciplinary study. We have a strong postgraduate community and our undergraduate programmes facilitate progression to postgraduate study. The School of Arts and Humanities is very much a happening place where we regularly stage all manner of exhibitions, events and conferences. The culture is rich and vibrant.

The Stirling Management School

A third supervisor, Dr Doris Ruth Eikhof, will come from the Stirling Management School (SMS). SMS aims to provide a unique space for thinking about business and management; for challenging and benefiting people, organisations, communities and societies; for affecting lives by enabling public interests to be identified and realised. SMS staff have research expertise across the full breadth of business and management subjects. Our distinctive research seeks to deliver world-leading academic and societal impacts. We deploy and disseminate that research through teaching in undergraduate, postgraduate, professional development and other lifelong learning programmes that span the business and management field.

The Application Process

Applicants should apply for a PhD in Publishing Studies [via the School of Arts & Humanities](#) (the eventual programme of the title will depend on the orientation of the actual PhD project) and in the question about funding on the application form **please clearly reference the CReATeS project: (register as a new user on the online system to proceed to the application form)**. In addition you should submit the

following supporting documents to Sheilah Greig (Graduate Studies Administrator) sheilah.greig@stir.ac.uk by 12pm on Monday 11 February 2013:

- A full curriculum vitae
- A research proposal outlining their relevant interests and experience, the contribution they would make to the work of the project overall, and a discussion of how they would engage with the research topic and develop their research project, including potential research questions (maximum 2000 words).
- An example of recent academic writing (maximum 8000 words – such as an article, book chapter, report or section of a dissertation)
- Details of two academic references.

Interviews will be held in the week beginning Monday 18 February 2013. Potential applicants may contact Professor Squires, email: claire.squires@stir.ac.uk or phone: + 44 (0) 1786 467505 for an informal discussion of their application and any queries they may have.

The studentship includes funding for tuition fees (home/EU rate), and an annual stipend (£13,590 per annum) to cover living expenses and research costs for a 3 year PhD project.