

#UofG Engage Forum:
Engagement Collaborations

Spotlight on Funding



A selection of funds supporting inter-disciplinary collaborations in public engagement – none are specifically aimed at Arts/STEM collaborations but all either specifically encourage inter-disciplinary collaboration or have previously funded collaborative projects including UofG partners. Funding levels are in general substantial.

Public engagement aims of the schemes vary, and some require the lead applicant to be a member of a learned society or a current grantholder – see links for scheme details. Most funds are from science /engineering rather than arts organisations.; this seems to reflect the funding landscape.

NB In several cases, published examples of funded project involved working with professional artists or taking visual approaches to science topics, rather than collaborating with arts researchers.



Internal UofG funds

MVLS Engagement with Research Fund

<£2500; rolling deadline

For research-related public engagement activity and skills development

Must have MVLS involvement

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/mvls/researchinnovationengagementsupport/publicengagement/mvlsengagementfunding/mvlsengagementfund/>

Glasgow Knowledge Exchange Fund

Flexible Fund <£30,000; deadline 16 Nov

Small Grants Fund <£2000; rolling deadline

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/ris/knowledgeexchange/knowledgeexchangefunding/glasgowknowledgeexchange/>

The **MVLS Engagement with Research Fund** is managed by the MVLS Engagement team and open to staff and PRGRs. It offers iterative support to develop successful applications .

The **Glasgow KE Fund** is managed by Research and Innovation Services. Eligible activities include ‘Engagement with communities to pursue new research agendas, to increase the uptake of relevant research outcomes, and other public engagement initiatives, provided that they are structured in a way that supports the creation of strong, well-evidenced impact. Initiatives designed to support engagement with underserved communities or groups are particularly welcome.’

Collaborations with external partners , including industry, are encouraged. Previous interdisciplinary examples include Deborah Kinnear and Angela Henderson (Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory, Institute of Health and Wellbeing) working with external partner Listen, Think, Draw – ‘*Translating academic papers through visualisation and filming*’ .

External funds



ScotPEN Wellcome Engagement Award

<£100k, led by Wellcome research grantholder

Next call opens June 2021 (closes end Sept)

www.scotpen.org/swea

The ScotPEN Wellcome Engagement Award is a Phase 2 pilot open to Wellcome research grantholders including Health and Social Sciences and Science portfolios. Its remit is public engagement with Wellcome research, with a strong focus on partnership working. Inter-institutional and inter-disciplinary collaborations are encouraged. Early career researchers can be co-applicants.

All funded projects are summarised on the website. Interdisciplinary UofG examples include Dr Megan MacLeod's 'Co-Immunicate' project, which includes partners from Glasgow School of Art. For further information, contact the MVLS Engagement team (mvlS-engage@glasgow.ac.uk)

External funds



Royal Society Public Engagement Fund

£500-£10,000 (annually)

For Royal Society Research Fellows

<https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants/public-engagement-fund/>

This scheme is open to Royal Society Research Fellows only, “to undertake public engagement projects based on their research, and to increase the knowledge, skills and confidence of researchers.” Guidance specifically encourages collaboration between science and the arts.

External funds

Physiological Society Outreach Grants

Small outreach grants <£500; monthly

Large outreach grants <£20,000; annual - 31st January

<https://www.physoc.org/supporting-you/public-engagement/outreach-grants/>

This fund specifically mentions inter-disciplinary collaborations and examples of recent funded projects feature arts-based or visual approaches to engagement.

Dr Craig Daly (School of Life Sciences) currently holds an award for an inter-disciplinary project from this scheme.

External funds

Arts & Humanities Research Council Follow on Funding Scheme

For holders of AHRC grants

<£100,000 for projects up to 1 year long

<£30,000 for shorter or higher-risk projects

No formal deadlines

<https://ahrc.ukri.org/innovation/knowledgeexchange/follow-on-funding-scheme/>

This schemes is open to collaboration to achieve impact, but it is not a specific aim of the scheme. Stated aims are ‘to support innovative and creative engagements with new audiences and user communities which stimulate pathways to impact. Funds will be awarded for knowledge exchange, public engagement, active dissemination and commercialisation activities that arise unforeseeably during the lifespan of or following an AHRC-funded project.’



External funds

Royal Academy of Engineering Ingenious: Public Engagement Awards

Various categories, £3000 - £30,000

Annual - opens summer 2021

<https://www.raeng.org.uk/grants-prizes/grants/ingenious-grant>

The Royal Academy of Engineering' Ingenious awards are an extensive and well-established funding scheme. They aim to inspire creative public engagement with engineering projects. While inter-disciplinary projects are not specifically mentioned in the guidance, collaborative projects have been funded, including two Glasgow Science Festival projects involving UofG partners:

Imagineer (partners from UofG's Theatre Studies and School of Engineering)

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/events/sciencefestival/community/schools/previous/imagineer/imagineerpublic/>

Ingenious Circus (including UofG engineers)

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/events/sciencefestival/community/schools/ingeniouscircus/>

External funds

British Academy BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grants

<£10,000 for projects up to 24 months

Open to early career researchers

<https://ahrc.ukri.org/innovation/knowledgeexchange/follow-on-funding-scheme/>

This fund is somewhat different as it is specifically for research rather than engagement. It is included because the Special Research Grants: COVID-19 funding call based on this scheme funded the project by Azadeh Emadi (Arts), Daniele Faccio (Physics) and DeafBlind Scotland on touch post-Covid 19 (case study featured in UofG Engage Forum event, 5th March 2021).

External funds



Natural Environment Research Council Knowledge Exchange Fellowships

Up to 100% of salary plus <£40,000 direct costs - annual closing date in December

Open to early career researchers

The guidance for NERC's KE Fellowships cites both public engagement and "developing new relationships that lead to collaborative projects" as encouraged approaches.