

Interdisciplinary Funding Opportunities and Events

1st Brunel Research Interdisciplinary Lab (BRIL) Event: 15 September 2021

Submit application by 16th August 2021

1. Brunel Research Interdisciplinary Lab (BRIL) Event:

Brunel is launching a new initiative supporting challenge-led research. The Brunel Research Interdisciplinary Lab (BRIL) will convene interdisciplinary groups across Brunel in order to develop high-quality, interdisciplinary proposals for research funding.

Applications are now open for our first BRIL event, on the topic of **21st Century Bodies**, and our aim is to prepare high quality submissions for the Leverhulme Trust open call for Research Project Grants: [Research Project Grants | The Leverhulme Trust](#)

What you need to know:

- We will choose up to 22 researchers from across a wide range of Brunel disciplines and levels of seniority. Researchers from all Colleges and BCAST are welcome.
- The BRIL event will be conducted online by an external facilitator together with Meredith Jones, Director, Institute of Communities and Society and Christina Victor, Director, Institute of Health, Medicine and Environments.
- We will hold an initial briefing session on Wednesday 15 September to introduce the Leverhulme call, followed by workshops on the following four consecutive Wednesday afternoons:
 - 22 September 2021
 - 29 September 2021
 - 6 October 2021
 - 13 October 2021
- We anticipate some competitive bids being near completion by the end of the programme.
- Seed funding of up to £5,000 will be provided to selected projects developed in the BRIL, if required.

Who can apply:

You will have a strong research profile in line with your own discipline, experience and opportunities. You do not need previous interdisciplinary experience. You will be keen to work in a team and to develop new and exciting interdisciplinary projects.

About 21st Century Bodies:

This is a very broad topic that is designed to encourage participation across STEM, Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts disciplines. 21st Century bodies can be conceived of widely as human or non-human, living or dead, biological or manufactured. Below is a list of ways this can be thought about; *these are starting points only*:

ENVIRONMENTS AND COMMUNITIES

- Bodies in environments, bodies creating new environments, including environmental refugees, forced migrations, un/healthy environments, pollution, floods, rising sea levels, bushfires, cities, urban planning, etc.
- Bodies/communities in conflict, displaced communities, civil wars, race, diasporas, rural life, conservation etc.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

- Volumetric/Holoscopic technologies for creating 4D body holograms (Replica), body teleportation, multisensory human-to-hologram interaction, hologram-to-hologram multimodal interfacing, Big data analytics for multi-sensory bodies, etc.
- Body Area Networks (BAN), Telesurgery and minimally invasive 3D camera technologies, XR for immersive medical training, 5G/6G technologies for multi-sensory holo-conferencing, etc.
- Digital representation of 21st bodies using avatars, Design/creation/manipulation of 3D/4D avatars with full sensing capabilities, Remote interaction with avatars, Digital Twins for 21st century bodies, etc.

MODIFICATIONS AND ENHANCEMENTS

- Bodies changed by prosthetics, medicine, surgery, violence, incarceration, transplants, vaccines, etc.
- 'Acceptable' bodies: grooming, cosmetic surgery, steroids, gym work and exercise, weight loss/gain, etc

FOOD AND SUSTENANCE

- The basics for bodily integrity and growth: food, drinkable water, shelter, protection, etc.
- How we are sustained in other ways, eg by relationships, performance, culture, art, etc.

MAINTENANCE AND WELLBEING

- Pre- and post-natal health, ageing, recovery, practices of care, living with disability, etc.
- Sport, rest, play, emotional wellbeing, sexuality, mental health, death and dying, etc.

In order to be considered, please submit this [application form](#) by Monday 16th August.

If you would like more information about 21st Century Bodies please contact Meredith Jones or Christina Victor. For details about the application process, please contact RSDO-IDR@brunel.ac.uk.



[Follow the ICS on Twitter](#)

Meredith Jones [she/her or they/them]

Director, Institute of Communities and Society (ICS)

Author of Beautyscapes: Mapping Cosmetic Surgery Tourism (now in paperback)

Latest project:

Multigenerational living in London: age, gender and the (post) pandemic

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