

ISSUE E16

OXFORD
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UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

The newsletter for the research student community



Harmony of fighting and learning
A research student's code

News



Positive vibes

Zeena Hicks DCM Doctoral student at Oxford Brookes Business School, has been invited to speak at the 2024 GCX Global Exchange Conference to be held in October at Orlando, California. GXC is an international non-profit organization dedicated to curating conference experiences for professionals who want to elevate their knowledge regarding therapeutic practices, treatment models, and the latest mental health, addiction, and wellness innovations. Zeena is a positive psychologist, coach, author, and entrepreneur, specializing in cultivating empowered mindsets. Known as “The Positivity Doctor” by her clients, Zeena is a leading advocate for the science of human flourishing. She equips professionals, individuals, and organizations with personalized toolkits, empowering them to become architects of their own growth, well-being, and ability to positively influence others around them. With two neurodivergent sons, Zeena is passionate about de-pathologizing neurodivergence, supporting organisations, educators, and carers to positively navigate those complexities, enabling all individuals to thrive through mindful communication, emotional regulation, and strengths-based interventions.



Thesis' award

Junior Oliveira de Almedia PhD student at Oxford Brookes Business School was awarded the 2024 Worshipful Company of Marketors Thesis Award for his PhD thesis, “Online Engagement Among Child Consumers of Children-Produced YouTube Content”, conducted under the guidance of Professors Sarah Quinton and Peter Lugosi. Junior’s research explored the motivational factors that drive young children to engage with digital content created by their peers, delving into the ways children interact, learn, and grow within their digital social networks, moving beyond the traditional concerns about technology’s impact on youth and highlighting the active role children play in shaping digital culture, challenging the conventional view of them as passive consumers of social media. The Worshipful Company of Marketors—a modern livery company for marketing professionals established in 1975 and incorporated by the Royal Charter in 2010, recognized the groundbreaking research in this field that pushes the boundaries of marketing knowledge. Junior writes: “this achievement is not just a personal milestone but also a contribution to our understanding of digital engagement among youth, offering insights that can enhance marketing practices in contemporary society. I’m grateful for the recognition and excited about the potential impact of this work. Thank you to everyone who has supported me along this journey! Many thanks to all my friends and colleagues at Oxford Brookes Business School”.



Catherine Ross current PhD student in Fine Arts at the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology had her artwork featured on the cover of a book entitled *Threshold Concepts in the Moment*, published by BRILL in April 2024.

James Dunlop MBE and current PhD student at the Department of Film Studies in the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology recently released a video documentary in YouTube, entitled Britain’s Naked Christians.

Careers Training Programme

The Careers training programme for researchers is now live for bookings on www.brookes.ac.uk/Students/Careers/Researchers/Events

News

A Great Collaboration On June 21, Oxford Brookes Business School hosted the 4th Annual Southern PhD Economics Conference (ASPEC), organised by Dr Dimitrios Asteriou alongside his PhD students Reginald Kadzutu and Amina Mahmood Yakubu. The ASPEC 2024 Conference was a huge success, with over 20 PhD economic students in attendance from various UK universities presenting diverse and high-quality economic papers. A special thanks to all the contributors of this conference, especially Professor Keith Pilbeam, Editor in Chief of "International Journal of Finance and Economics", Professor Andy McKay, Editor in Chief of the "Review of Development Economics", and Professor Klaus Zauner, "Editor in Chief of "Economics and Politics" who gave valuable insights about their journals and good/ethical practices in academic publishing. Many thanks to OBBS members of staff Dr Stefanos Ioannou, Dr Juanxi Wang, Dr Huan Yang, Dr Antoine Le Riche, Dr Teng Ge, Dr Maryam Yousefi Nejad, and Dr Samaneh Elmi, who acted as chairs to the sessions.



Rising to the challenge Post-graduate students at Oxford Brookes Business School worked with businesses to address real-world issues at the annual Business Challenge Week. Forty-five students, including 12 from Brookes' partner Institution - the University of Regensburg, took part in this annual event hosted by Oxford Brookes Business School. The students collaborated with businesses to develop strategies and recommendations, culminating in a final showcase at the

University's Headington Campus. Dr Karla Zimpel-Leal, Senior Lecturer in Innovation and Enterprise at Oxford Brookes Business School, who organised the event, explained: "Business Challenge Week encompasses an intensive week of multidisciplinary consultancy-style projects, an exciting opportunity for our postgraduate students to tackle real-world challenges head-on, make a tangible impact, gain invaluable problem-solving experience and dive into a world of interdisciplinary challenge projects with our partner organisations."

Research Degrees Placement Opportunities 1-3 months Placement opportunities for our Research Degrees Students.

You will:

- Gain direct experience within industry and or other organisations - even outside of your discipline.
- Develop transferable skills.
- Expand your network and professional horizons.
- Develop interpersonal skills and working as part of a team.
- Liaise with staff in different roles, including senior staff.
- Grow in organisational skills.
- Engage with different audiences and interact with external stakeholders.

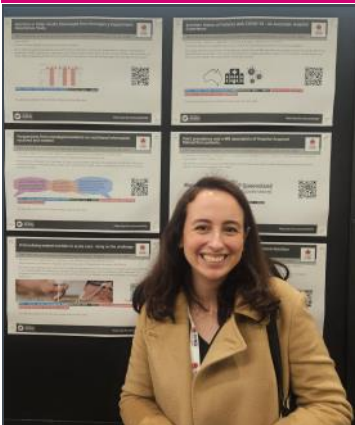
(Eligibility criteria apply - for more information please contact rdt-researchdegrees@brookes.ac.uk)



News

Gender-inclusivity: A Catalyst for innovation

Hannah Isabelle Tornow, PhD student sponsored by Advanced Oxford at Oxford Brookes Business School, presented a new report with recommendations for action, guidance and tools, informed by her research, to increase the innovation potential of science and technology companies, regardless of their heritage or location. She presented her findings on a public event held in John Henry Brookes Building on 12 September. Oxfordshire is recognised as one of the UK's leading innovation engines. Yet its science and technology companies are still male dominated. Only 18% of these companies have at least one woman founder and only 19% have achieved at least 30% representation of women in leadership roles. Through a three-year PhD research study at Oxford Brookes Business School, in collaboration with Advanced Oxford, we have examined the context, culture and practices in which employees innovate. The conclusion: the ecosystem and its companies are not sufficiently inclusive in terms of culture, structure, and practices to ensure the equality, diversity and inclusion that is needed for innovation.



Francesca Tabacchi PhD student at the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology was awarded a NMAHP Research Training and Development Bursary to participate at the 19th International Congress of Nutrition and

Dietetics held in Toronto, June 2024. Francesca presented a poster entitled 'Perspectives From Oncological Patients on Nutritional Information Received and/or Needed'. Her results showed that most patients feel they would have benefited from having a dietetic consultation, or at least being given general information and points of reference to turn to. From these findings it was inferred that most patients should be informed of nutritional services available and, when nutritional information is delivered, the information should be tailored in order to suit patients' needs and personal goals.

Alice Walker PhD student at the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology presented a paper entitled 'It looks more like a nursing home everyday' at the Second International Conference on Caring for Elderly and Dependent People in Tarragona, Spain. Her paper researched at Independent living, Identity and Care and looked at the ways in which later life housing can be seen as a form of precarious space, between the mainstream and care institution and what this means for the construction of identities. Alice will be also presenting at the Aging & Social Change: Fourteenth Interdisciplinary Conference on 18 September a paper entitled 'Home Time' - Identities, Temporalities and Interactions' looking at the ways people use selves, time and the presence/absence of others to create housing pathway maps.



Alexandra Hutchin first year PhD student at the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences presented her research at the RAISE Conference 2024 at the University of Leicester on 11-12 September. The RAISE Annual Conference offers the opportunity for students, staff, and anyone interested in university and college higher education, to showcase their practice and research. The RAISE annual conference is a friendly and welcoming conference and provides a supportive environment for first-time presenters.

Congratulations



Daniel Bardey and Emily Armstrong PhD students at the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology attended the 27th International Congress of Entomology in Kyoto from 25-30 August. Both received a presentation Award for Young Scientists (PAYS) and Emily received an additional award for Women Scientists (PAWS). Emily presented a poster entitled 'Characterising an unusual nicotinic acetylcholine receptor from the honeybee, *Apis mellifera*, and the diamondback moth, *Plutella xylostella*. Daniel gave an oral presentation entitled 'Does extreme body size variation in feather-legged assassin bugs (*Holoptilinae*) represent an adaptive radiation? These

awards were given by peer voting from conference attendees. Emily writes 'It was a really exciting congress. By far the biggest conference I have attended, it had more than 4000 attendees from 82 countries and regions. It was fantastic to see entomolo-



gists from across so many other disciplines'. The team had the chance to try some samurai costumes at the museum - showing their fighting spirit!

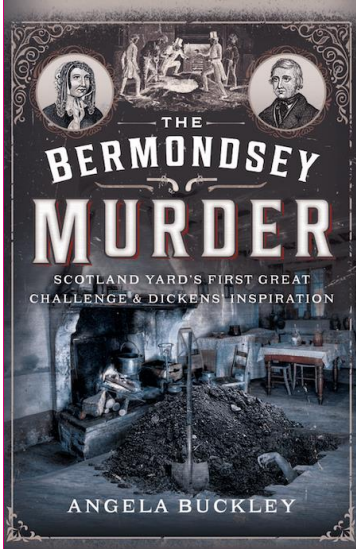


Nadine Field PhD candidate at the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology, won second place for best talk at the 24th European Network of Plant Endomembrane Research (ENPER) 2024 in Portugal.



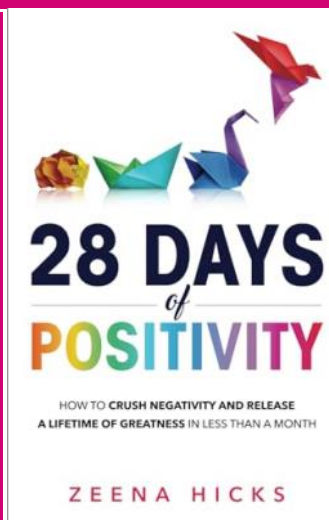
Kim Griffin PhD candidate at the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology received funding for the third year of her PhD from the Elizabeth Casson Trust. The Trust, set up in the memory of Dr Elizabeth Casson, who established the first professional training for occupational therapists in the UK, supports professional occupational therapists with their career development. They have a bi-annual call for PhD funding and Kim was successful in the 2024 spring round. Kim's research explores how teachers in mainstream primary schools help their students with self-regulation, or the ability to adapt their focus, attention, emotions and level of alertness throughout the school day to stay engaged. Her first study has asked teachers what tools and strategies they currently use in the classroom, and what supports they think they are missing. Stage two of her research will develop a support that helps teachers with the most frequently reported gap in their toolbox. The funding will help to support Kim with her fees, and enable her to publish her first article, when ready, as open access. This will facilitate greater impact, as it will make the information available to a wider audience.

Congratulations



The Bermondsey Murder is the true story of a killer couple which inspired Charles Dickens' *Bleak House* and was the first great challenge of Scotland Yard. Dr Angela Buckley alumnus and associated lecturer at the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at Brookes is a crime historian and author. Her thesis entitled

'*The Science of Sleuthing: The evolution of Detective Practice in English Regional Cities*'. Angela has published several history books and her work has featured in many national magazines and newspapers including *The Times*, *The Telegraph*, *The Sunday Express* and many more. Angela's latest book appeared in the July competition in the London Historians' newsletter and had a book launch in Cowes on 8 August.



28 Days of Positivity: How to crush negativity and release a lifetime of greatness in less than a month, provides a simple formula for finding more joy in your life and making good things happen. The book written by Zeena Hicks DCM student at Oxford Brookes Business School contains a

medley of invaluable life resources, which can pick you up when you are feeling down, stamp out any negativity ruling your life, or even completely change who you are and where you are going in life, on your terms! With 28 different activities and tools to try out, or embed into your daily routine, this book offers you the opportunity to take back control of your future direction and keep focused on what you want in life. Zeena's book is available from Amazon.



Congratulations to our recently awarded PhD student from OBBS, Dr Janine Roberts for receiving an award of excellence for her research from the Harvard McLean Institute of Coaching and for her poster being nominated as the best poster (out of 45 submissions) at the IOC conference this year.

Student's Latest Publications

Crawley, H. (2024). Combining "rapid response mentoring" with remote synchronous and asynchronous training and mentoring in a conflict zone. *Medical Teacher*, 46(7), 991–992.

Karapetsas, V and Mantas, C. (2024). 20 Years of Social Media: Let's Discuss "the Untold Truths". *HAPSc Policy Briefs Series*, Vol 3, Issue 1.

Mantas, C., Sawsan, M and **Karapetsas, V.** (2024) *The Integration and Development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Higher Education (HE): Challenges, Innovations, and Recommendations for the Academics. The Evolution of Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education*, 147-160. Emerald Publishing Limited.

Hicks, Z. (2023). *28 Days of Positivity. How to crush negativity and release a lifetime of greatness in less than a month.* Sansoms Books, 284 pages.



Congratulations to Dr Judie Gannon Director of Doctoral Programme at Oxford Brookes Business School for her recognition as Research Supervisor by the UK Council for Graduate Education UKCGE she writes: 'Thanks to all my amazing colleagues and brilliant doctoral candidates who supported my learning experience and portfolio. Love my doctoral supervision and never happier than when I'm inspiring others to develop their doctoral supervision pedagogy too.'

Past Events

Three Minute Thesis Competition This is the annual event where our research students undertake the challenge of presenting their current research in just three minutes to a non specialist audience. Eight students took courage and time to prepare and present their research in this year's Three Minute Thesis competition held at Headington Hill Hall on 25 June. The judges



Professor Susan Brooks and Professor Khaled Hayatleh from the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology and Dr Susannah Wright from the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences had - as always - a difficult time selecting the winner from such an excellent variety of presentations and topics. The winner this year was Roger Hiley from the Department of Sport, Health Sciences and Social Work with a presentation entitled "Is there sufficient evidence to support a manifesto for the enhanced use

of the outdoors therapeutically, when supporting vulnerable children?" The runner up prize was given to Madhusa Mendis from the School of Architecture for her presentation on "The cause of sick building syndrome". The People's Choice award was shared among Raabiah Yaacob from the School of Architecture and Natasha Stone from the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Take up this challenge and join us next year!



Upcoming Events

- City and Oxford Colleges Guided Tour, Monday 7 October from 4-5pm.
- Ghost Tour, 13 November 6.30-7.30pm
- Ashmolean Museum Highlights Guided Visit, Wednesday 29 January from 3-5pm
- Oxford Science Museum, 19 February from 2-2.45pm
- Headington Hill Park guided botanical walk, Saturday 29 March from 2.30-4pm
- Annual Research Student Exhibition, Tuesday 8 April from 10am to 4pm
- Oxford Botanical Garden Guided Visit, Wednesday 21 May from 3-5pm
- Three Minute Thesis Competition, Wednesday 18 June at HHH from 1 - 3pm

Bookings are now open in the [graduate college events and networking pages](#).



We are seeking contributors! Be a part of the Oxford Brookes Science Bazaar 2025: **register by 31st October 2024**. Are you interested in using your research expertise and developing your communication skills to inspire the next generation of researchers? We are currently seeking researchers in any STEAMS discipline to lead activities, talks, workshops, demonstrations or exhibitions as well as individuals who would

like to help facilitate the event for the next Oxford Brookes Science Bazaar on **Saturday 1st March 2025**. No previous experience of public engagement with research is required; just an enthusiasm to share your passion and knowledge with visitors. Volunteers can be from any disciplines of STEAMS and at any career stage from undergraduate study onwards, and to be an activity leader all you need is a desire to engage and a keen interest in the Science Bazaar!

RESEARCH STUDENT PROFILES



Alara Erenel

Department of Biological
and Medical Sciences

Thesis title: Investigating the Molecular Mechanism of Groucho Protein Function During Development in *Drosophila Melanogaster*.

Precise control of gene expression in response to developmental and environmental cues is essential for life. Transcription factors (TFs) play a key role in regulating the spatial and temporal expression profiles of many genes during animal development.

The Gro/TLE/Grg family of proteins are recruited by many transcription factors to repress gene expression during a variety of biological processes. Gro is also highly conserved across evolution and has many homologs and orthologs. Previous studies (using overexpression analysis) have indicated that post-translational modifications including oligomerisation and phosphorylation may play an important role in regulating Gro's activity as a repressor.

However, the importance of these post-translational modifications on Gro function during development is as yet unknown. We are aiming to uncover mechanisms through which TFs and Gro proteins function together to inhibit gene expression, focusing on the role of post-translational modifications to Gro in fly.

Settling into the research environment was fairly easy, my supervisors supported and trained me to make sure that I had a head start in the research environment. In addition, other PhD candidates were amazingly helpful. The support I constantly receive from my supervisory team is one of the driving forces for my PhD. The resources available at Brookes are very inclusive and helpful, not only academically but also personally.

I enjoy researching, learning, being able to contribute, and being part of academia. I faced a long-term challenge with my research this year, the experiments were not working as we expected and unfortunately, I was not able to get through it fast. Both of my supervisors supported me throughout this time with different strategies, and I learned something from both during this stage. I tried to stay calm, be as rational as possible, and try to figure out the problem while also conducting backup plans, making sure I was checking myself and my health on a regular schedule and talking to other researchers to gain perspective both academically and personally.

The research training offered is very helpful not only for scientific research but also for public engagement, writing, self-improvement, career development, and research planning. I think this program is preparing me to become the academic I am dreaming to be. I will definitely like to continue with my research as a post-doc researcher and to stay in academia.

The support I constantly receive from my supervisory team is one of the driving forces for my PhD.

The Graduate College

The Graduate College organise and support a variety of events for research students, including training and social gatherings. Visit: [The graduate college events page](#)

RESEARCH STUDENT PROFILES



Michael Power

Faculty of Arts, Humanities
and Social Sciences

Thesis title: The Upper Clyde Shipbuilders Work-In of 1971/72. This research is about the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders Work-in of 1971/72. The project's landscape is Glasgow's River Clyde in the early 1970s and the declining heavy industries that had once justified Glasgow's claim to being the 'Second City of the Empire'. Before World War One the city was a centre of excellence in the shipbuilding, railway and armament industries, when 100,000 people worked in Glasgow's shipyards alone. But by the 1960s this had reduced greatly as British shipbuilding declined under competition from Japan, Sweden and West Germany who had built new shipyards using modern methods of production. British shipyards were still characterised by outdated practices and craft-based demarcations.

In 1966 a government inquiry recommended that the industry should be re-organised nationally into larger groups and in 1968 five surviving Glasgow yards merged to create Upper Clyde Shipbuilders (UCS). The new company was troubled by historic debt and required further funding from the Labour government. But 1970's new Conservative government had a 'no lame ducks' industrial policy and refused a further request in June 1971, effectively forcing UCS into liquidation. The loss of the remaining 8,500 jobs at UCS together with perhaps 20,000 jobs from local suppliers would be a disaster, as unemployment in the region was already high. However, UCS was highly unionised and the shop stewards, led by Jimmy Reid and Jimmy Airlie, anticipated the crisis and thought up a strategy to fight back.

The stewards shunned strike action, occupied the yards and continued to build the ships that UCS were still contracted to complete. This was possible because a) the necessary steel was available, b) the skilled workforce supported the strategy and c) the 'work-in' became a national cause célèbre due to substantial media coverage. Styling the campaign as the 'Right to Work' the shop stewards avoided being seen as 'work shy and disruptive'. Whilst ministers refused to negotiate the shop stewards maintained the work-in and by February 1972 the government made a 'U-turn' and agreed to rescue the yards and their workforce.

The work-in was primarily successful because of the solidarity of the shipyard workers. But also because of firstly, the public support they received (notably £1,000 from John Lennon and Yoko Ono) and secondly, the work-in's leaders were highly articulate advocates for the campaign and secured many victories against opponents that underestimated them.

The events have been written about before, but this research takes a retrospective view exploring wider issues such as male identity, family, class, solidarity and localism in the wider shipbuilding communities, and how these may be linked to ideas of 'civic nationalism' in a devolving Scotland. A trip to Glasgow to interview surviving shop stewards and associated academics has provided eight hours of oral history material complementing the archival research and supporting the theoretical propositions.

....this research takes a retrospective view exploring wider issues such as male identity, family, class, solidarity and localism in the wider shipbuilding communities....

RESEARCH STUDENT PROFILES



Bea Stevenson

Department of Education

Thesis title: Education at school ‘or otherwise’: a Foucauldian discourse analysis exploring and comparing policy, non-governmental organisation, and parental, constructs of school and home education.

Parents in England have the legal responsibility to ensure that their child or children receive: ‘an efficient, full-time education, suitable to their age, ability and aptitude’ (*Education Act, 1996: section 7*). This can be via ‘attendance at school’ or ‘otherwise’- ‘otherwise’ being the category into which parents who choose to educate their child at home (home education) are placed. Within a twenty-first century English culture of school-based education, the phenomenon of families who choose to educate their children at home rather than school is viewed as an anomaly (*Pattison 2015*), as the phrase ‘otherwise’ suggests. However, since the Covid 19 lockdowns between March 2020 and March 2022 there has

been a rise in the number of families who are home educating their children - now estimated to be over 115,000 nationally. This is an increase of 34% from the previous year (*Association of Children’s Services Elective Home Education Survey 2021*).

This research is critically analysing both normative and resistant discourses of home education, examining how the phenomenon has become problematised with a normative culture of schooling (*Foucault, 1969*). I am in the process of conducting a two-phase discourse analysis, first of 6 policy and non-governmental texts and second of two focus groups of 6-8 parents, one with home educating and one with mainstream educating parents. By examining social constructs of the relationship between education and schooling, the research aims to ask questions about the role of school and home in education. The combination of secondary and primary data is supporting investigation of dominant and resistant discourses and the impact on the objects (school, home, education) they produce. By questioning assumptions about education, school and home, it will pose questions for parents, policy makers and practitioners, offering new perspectives and supporting home education to be better understood in what is currently a polarising and often adversarial debate.

This study is taking a Foucauldian approach to interrogating these narratives about home, school and education, asking questions about the ways in which schooling is made synonymous with education, and how home education is ‘othered’ in this context. I don’t intend to provide answers, rather the study aims to bring to the table (what is currently an often-adversarial debate) more questions may yet have been unexamined. Less accustomed to ambiguity, I have struggled with the fact that this thesis will not offer certainty, and to feel confident in the value of the power of asking questions that themselves may not have final answers. One aspect of this, I have wondered, may have been because my own schooling and education led me to believe that ‘being right’ and ‘knowing’ the answer was the end goal, and a way in which to lead a successful and productive life. Perhaps home education offers a different perspective? An additional level of ‘why’ has come from my journey through the process of reading, writing about and reflecting on the study – why will people want to read this work? Why is it important knowledge to generate? Why does it matter? I have come to believe, more and more, that the very act of asking WHY is in itself important. It is something that children do naturally, continuing to question and challenge the assumptions that adults and society make about knowledge and the nature of reality.

I have come to believe, more and more, that the very act of asking WHY is in itself important.

RESEARCH STUDENT PROFILES



Torie Slaughter

Oxford Brookes Business
School

Thesis Title: Navigating Backlash: Micro-Strategies of Black Women Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Practitioners in U.S. Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.

This research examines the micro-strategies of Black women Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) practitioners advancing DEI work from within Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in the United States, particularly in the context of recent backlash against DEI efforts. It focuses on their daily strategies of resistance and advocacy in their DEI roles within organizations. Black women have played a significant role in social justice activism and navigating multiple layers of oppression in the U.S. Despite their central role, they are often overlooked in corporate DEI efforts. Black women, facing intersecting forms of marginalization, are likely to encounter unique challenges in their roles.

Furthermore, in today's expanding DEI landscape, where significant investments underscore its profitability, there remains limited understanding of how DEI practitioners implement micro-strategies in their daily work. Examining this within the U.S. context becomes imperative amid escalating DEI backlash, offering insights into navigating future challenges. This study aims to uncover the nuanced experiences of Black women DEI practitioners, shedding light on their invaluable daily contributions and strategies for navigating obstacles to achieve genuine, lasting DEI advancement. This study will be informed theoretically by Black Feminism, Critical Race Theory, and critical diversity studies. It will draw upon the works of *Audre Lorde*, *Abrica and Oliver Andrews*, and *Gray et al.* to demonstrate how the DEI profession is driven by white interests and agendas. Additionally, literature from critical diversity management and organizational studies will be employed to explore how micro-strategies are shaped and influence diversity work within organizational settings. Empirically, an innovative multi-media digital diary study will be utilized, combined with interviews, to delve into the everyday strategies of ~25 Black women DEI practitioners. This methodology will allow the participants' worlds to be virtually experienced as their everyday contributions and strategies are analysed through multi-media diary entries.

By centering the experiences and perspectives of Black women DEI practitioners, the study will offer unique insights and strategies that can influence and inform DEI practice and advancement, particularly in the context of DEI backlash. This research is aimed at DEI practitioners and change-makers, organizational leaders committed to DEI, and diversity scholars interested in advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion knowledge and efforts.

The study offers significant contributions to the field of DEI research through several novel avenues. Firstly, it delves into the nature of DEI work, providing a rare glimpse into the daily contributions and strategies of Black women DEI practitioners—a group often overlooked in the literature. Secondly, by employing innovative multi-media digital diary methods, the study pioneers new ground in qualitative research methodologies, particularly in the realm of DEI studies. Thirdly, it integrates frameworks from Black feminism and Critical Race Theory with critical diversity management and organizational studies, a combination seldom explored in existing literature. This study's originality will provide a fresh perspective that is not commonly found in DEI scholarship.

This study aims to uncover the nuanced experiences of Black women Diversity, Equity and Inclusion practitioners...

Coming up

Research student training sessions to look out for this academic year:

Graduate College Training Programme

All sessions can be booked through our pages

Sessions in Semester 1 - 2024

- Imposter Syndrome or How to feel better about feeling worse.
- Research ethics process for PhD students
- Knowledge exchange at Oxford Brookes
- An introduction to consultancy, CPD & contract research
- Top ten tips for making the most of your research degree
- Commercialising and idea, startups & spinouts
- EDI best practice in research engagement
- How to make a preposterously pathetic poster
- Finding information for your research
- Time management: planning your research degree and keeping the momentum
- Optimising engagement through social media
- Endnote training - managing information overload
- Effectively managing the stresses and challenges of a doctoral student
- Tackling the writing up stage of the research degree
- How to give a truly terrible talk
- Applying a gender dimension in research

Sessions in Semester 2 - 2025

- What can open research do for you?
- Keeping up to date with your research
- Research ethics process for PhD students
- Academic blogging - raising the profile of your research
- How will my research degree be assessed?
- Integrating public engagement into your research
- Doing Impact? Building impact into your research plans and activities
- How to get the most out of conferences
- Evaluating your public engagement activities
- Offboarding - what happens at the end of my research degree?
- Managing your supervisor and building a good working relationship with your supervisory team
- Endnote training - Managing information overload
- Effectively Managing the Stresses and Challenges of a Doctoral Student
- Strategies for successful networking
- Engagement Tools: Infographics, Podcasts & Working with the Media
- Research degrees – strategies for successful part-time study

All these sessions can be now booked at the [graduate college student training pages](#).

There are also a number of pre-recorded materials available on demand to download.

CONGRATULATIONS

To all our research students on the successful outcome of their vivas and conferment of their degrees and awards for the period Sep2023-Aug2024.

Oxford Brookes Business School

Doctor of Philosophy

James Bannerman

'Return on Inspiration: A Socio-psychological investigation into the impact of lateral thinking upon individual, group and organisational performance'

Margaret Wambui Gichanga

'Organising for Security: Collaboration between multiple stakeholders at the local level in South Africa'

Abigail Muchecheti

'How Do Non-Academic Women Who Identify as Black and Ethnic Minorities in HEIs in the UK Experience Challenges in their Career Progression Aspirations and How Can This Be Understood Using an Intersectionality Lens?'

Jacqueline Marie O'Rourke

'How do relational dynamics influence public sector partnerships? A study of the Oxford Brookes University Associated College Partnership'

Nicole Pillinger

'Critical moments in doctor-patient conversations in the context of complex conditions using the example of endometriosis: What coaching research and practice can

contribute to the development of relational capabilities'

Caroline Susanne Schuhmacher

'An evaluation of governance systems for tourist-accessible animal sanctuaries in emerging economies and an assessment of their effectiveness from the perspective of stakeholders'

Anna Rozumowski

'Evaluating Trust based on Impression Formation in Business Encounters'

Anthony Ebow Spio

'An exploration of women entrepreneurs' competency development process in pursuit of entrepreneurial opportunities in the manufacturing sector in Ghana'

Steven Taylor

'Hero to Zero to Hero' Exploring the Experiences of Football Managers as they Socialise into a New Football Management Job Role.

Doctor of Coaching and Mentoring

Brajesh Bajpai

'Coaching in the Digital Age. How is Digitalisation Influencing Executive Coaching? A Grounded Theory Exploration'

Michael Livingstone

'How meaningful and useful is the concept of the life space in executive coaching?'

Amanda Maclean

'Change agent or neutral bystander? An exploration of how the coaching practices of internal coaches in Higher Education Institutions support organisational change'

Joanna Miles

'An exploration of conceptualisations of the mind-body connection in executive coaching: A key feature of coaching and change?'

Janine Roberts

'Coaching with the Heart in Mind. A Grounded Theory Exploration of the Influence of Coaching Leaders' Emotions and Organisational Relationships'

Faculty of Health and Life Sciences

Doctor of Philosophy

Samuel Bond

'Constraints on Phonological Statistical Learning in Adults'

Shamma Rattan Booth

'Investigating the evolution and functionality of closely related Wnt ligands in *Drosophila melanogaster*'

Tom Peter Chapman

'Exploring the brain mechanisms of breathlessness through the study of neurological patients'

Lewis Alan Cockram

'Deciphering molecular interactions in presynaptic dense projection formation in *C. elegans*'

Avril Dillon

The MenFAS Study, Understanding Mental Fatigue after Stroke'

Elena Emili

Genetic Regulation of Neuronal Stem Cell Differentiation: A Single-cell Sequencing Study in Planarians

Owen David Gustafson

'Evaluating the musculoskeletal health state of intensive care unit survivors'

Sophie Megan Harris

'The roles of anxiety, self-concept, self-efficacy, resilience and motor control in the perceptions and actions of adults with and without Developmental Coordination Disorder'

Elizabeth Caroline Jestico

'Shaping confidence to advocate for my child: The meaning of how 'significant others' can support parents to make decisions when their child has cancer'

Guillaume Florian Mougeot

'Developing a User-Friendly and Modular Framework for

Deep Learning Methods in 3D Bioimage Segmentation'

Amber Mae Ridgway

'The genetic mechanisms that coordinate the development and morphological divergence of *Drosophila* genital structures'

Yanica Said

'Identification of Novel Properties of Metabolic Systems Through Null-Space Analysis'

Fiona Tierney

'How do parents experience using sleep-related routines to benefit their toddlers' sleep?'

Lex Van Es

Isolation and characterisation of extracellular vesicles in baculovirus infection of insect cells

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