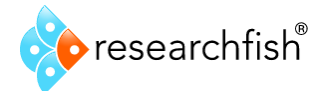


Postgraduate Teaching Centre, Cardiff University

20 & 21 september 2017, Cardiff

Boosting the Impact of Social Sciences & Humanities





Boosting the Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities

Lecture Theater 0.16

20 & 21 september 2017, Cardiff

VIII Closing session

Chairs of Sessions VI and VII: Outcomes and conclusions

Room 0.23

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Regional Environment

Chaired by:

Rick Delbridge

Academic Lead for SPARK; University Dean of Research, Innovation and Enterprise; Cardiff University

How can national policies encourage research impact?

Recommendation:

A context in which the multiple actors can:

1. Share in the framing of the question (ensure this is broad and engages with public needs)
2. Share in the activity that produces some answers
3. Build relationships and mechanisms that allow a flow of ideas, people and resources

What do we need more of:

4. New tools to make these issues and outcomes visible (Arloesiadur: a dashboard of real-time data)
5. Risk taking and both 'intrapreneurialism' and entrepreneurialism

Room 0.24

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Policy

Chaired by:

Tobin L. Smith

Vice President for Policy, Association of American Universities (AAU)

How can national policies encourage research impact?

Recommendation:

- 1) Impact comes in all shapes and sizes. There is no simple metric. Therefore, policies need to be flexible in how they assess and evaluate impact.
- 2) We need to help SSH researchers better evaluate and translate the value of their research to non-scientists in ways they can understand and which demonstrate societal as well as scientific impact.
- 3) Policies and programs that promote and encourage societal relevance can help to simulate impact, e.g. grand challenges, multidisciplinary funding/grant programs, new forms of training.

Room 0.04

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Measurement

Chaired by:

Paul Wouters

Professor of scientometrics and

Director of the Centre for Science and Technology Studies, Leiden University

How can impact be measured?

Recommendation:

Develop new evaluative methodologies to both *enable* and *make visible* societal impact of scholarship and research as well as interactions between researchers and society

Complement academic assessment systems with incentives for interaction with society in addition to academic criteria of performance

Combine quantitative with qualitative evidence of impact and put the evidence in disciplinary and societal context. Pay more attention to narratives including from the perspective of the users

Points of discussion:

Address the dominance of the English language in the international databases

Individual publications are not always the starting point of impact: pay more attention to the attribution of impact to scholars

Room 0.23

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Government & Public Policy

Chaired by:

Ingrid Petersson

Director General, Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning

What are the barriers to cooperation between policy makers and researchers?

Recommendation:

Room 0.24

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Business

Chaired by:

Andrew Henley

Professor of Entrepreneurship and Economics, Cardiff Business School

What factors contribute to successful business engagement?

Recommendation:

Think carefully about what is heard by the listener, when you attempt to explain what you think your research is saying.

Room 0.24

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Public Engagement

Chaired by:

Frank Zwetsloot

CEO ScienceWorks, founder AESIS Network

How can researchers and universities work with local communities?

Recommendation:

1. For connecting media with civil society and science we need leadership and share experiences on a European, national and local level
2. For real Impact we need to integrate the universities' third mission activities with teaching and research
3. For a smarter society we need to integrate social media with more responsive science

Lecture Theater 0.16

20 & 21 september 2017, Cardiff

Panel discussion

What is the vision for the future impacts of SSH? What actions can we take as researchers, institutions, policy makers en users to achieve this?

Geoff Mulgan

Erika Widegren

Anne Kiem

Steve Martin

Tobin L. Smith



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Wrap up by James Wilsdon

Thank you for visiting

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Next events organised by AESIS:



October 3rd, 2017

Webinar

From Open Science to Impact

October 24rd, 2017

Webinar

Measuring the Innovation Output of Science

March, 2018

Rome - Italy

Spring Course on “Demonstrating Qualitative Impact of Science (working title)”

June 14th & 15th, 2018

Ottawa - Canada

Annual Conference “Impact of Science”

Integrating societal impact in a research strategy,
29 November – 1 December in Vienna, Austria