

Recent Research Updates

"When I started at UOS in 2019, getting involved with research seemed unachievable, especially if you have no previous experience. However, in the last six months there has been a huge change. There is now a plethora of supportive professors making research accessible to all; from a vast array of workshops, opportunities big and small to allow different levels of engagement to research, to individuals who are willing to have a chat over a cuppa about research ideas. Research at UOS as a staff member is becoming more inclusive and I can't wait to commence my research journey" - Alicia Smith

As the quote from Alicia illustrates, our research culture is developing rapidly and our new Professorial appointments to lead our Research Institutes have had a significant impact on our research environment in just a few months. We have made incredible progress and wanted to provide staff with an informal update about the exciting research developments in our research institutes including a [Video Update from Prof Colin Martin](#) and our recent research successes.



We will be providing updates on a regular basis with video introductions from our other research leaders and fellows. Please contact research@uos.ac.uk for further information or to arrange to chat with us about your research ideas!

Institute of Health & Wellbeing

Activity within the Institute for Health & Wellbeing continues apace under the leadership of Professor Valerie Gladwell (Director) and Professor Colin Martin (Clinical Director). The research cafés organised by the Institute have been held monthly with excellent attendance and engagement from colleagues across the University. A number of grant applications have been submitted and funding secured for studies including the North-East Essex Neighbourhood plan with Professor Gladwell as principal investigator (PI), studies on sleep measurement in collaboration with Suffolk Mind, and a Long Covid Service evaluation with ESNEFT

with Professor Martin as PI. Funding for three large health-related projects has also been secured and details of these will be revealed in a forthcoming update when the contractual details have been finalised and agreed by all partners, including the communications plan for a public announcement of each study.

Institute for Social Justice & Crime

Dr Patrick Tidmarsh has been appointed to the ISJ&C as Associate Professor for Criminal Justice Reform starting on the 1st April 2022. Patrick has been working in the field of criminal justice for thirty years, in a variety of therapeutic, educational, and leadership roles, in both custodial and community-based settings. Patrick's key skills are in the identification and development of innovative projects and reforms, designed to improve responses to victims of sexual crime, and services for sexual offenders. We are also delighted to announce that Dr Katherine Allen has been promoted to Research Fellow and that Megan Hermolle joined the University on the 1st March as a Research Fellow.

Dr Dev Maitra and Dr Joana Ferrier have been awarded 10k from Suffolk Constabulary to evaluate their domestic abuse perpetrator programme and a team led by Dr Katherine Allen has been commissioned to conduct research and evaluation of Project Minerva, designed to address a constellation of related offences and behaviours which harm and/or endanger women and girls and impede their ability to safely navigate online (and offline) spaces. On the 15th March the ISJ&C and DARNet hosted a one-day online conference: *"Uneasy Bedfellows and Unintended Consequences: Gendered violence, the family, and the state"* with high profile speakers such as Professors' Liz Kelly, Aisha Gill and Gill Hague sharing the stage with our very own Megan Hermolle and Dr Dev Maitra, and ably chaired by Dr Katherine Allen.

Suffolk Sustainability Institute

Working with the LEP we have been successful in securing a Community Renewal Funded Project – Road to Net Zero Business Support Programme, Joint lead with UEA on the Barriers to Decarbonisation Research Piece. BT are working with us to Evaluate New Security Window and Entrance point technology with associates at Adastral Park and we are also working with BT to develop a key Satellite Space Research facility with an East of England Partnership to be based at Adastral Park.

We are thrilled that 2 new Research Fellows have joined us, Dr Alison Pooley and Dr Hannah Steventon, both are theme leads for the SSI and Dr Alison Pooley has won a grant in collaboration with UCL and six community partners - Almshouse Resilient Communities (ARC) For the Future.

Prof Darryl Newport, in collaboration with Prof Clare Rigg in the Business School, has been successful in securing a KTP project with Paddy and Scott's as the Industry Partner. The programme of research will investigate the decarbonisation of coffee production and process and we have attracted additional funding to build and test an additional building in tandem with the new EcoLab. We have now offered two PhD's to Anton Opperman and Mustafa Shahed.

Further good news about our research activity

The University of Suffolk has seen major increase in our research activity since August 2021. We have submitted 46 research grant applications in this financial year to date, and of these we have been successfully awarded 34 with a combined grant value of £1.5M (a 74% success rate) to date. This compares to 43 grant applications for the whole of the previous financial year, with a 44% success rate and total awarded funding of £519K. Our recent research grant successes include funding from major National funders such as the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), the British Academy and the Home Office. We currently have 69 active research grants with a combined grant value of £3.3M.

HR Excellence in Research Award

University of Suffolk has been successful in retaining the European Commission HR Excellence in Research Award at the 4 -year external review. The expert peer review team unanimously agreed that University of Suffolk has demonstrated strong, transparent research culture with forward-thinking and inclusive senior leaders as well as outstanding progress embedding the Concordat Principles within its research structures and governance. The HR Excellence in Research Award is an important mechanism for implementing the principles of the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers and in retaining their Awards UK institutions demonstrate their long-term commitment to the career development of researchers. More information is available on our UoS webpage on this link [here](#), including the press release of 14 March 2022.

Additionally, the outcome of the Research Audit in January 2022 provided Good Assurance on the effectiveness of the current measures in place to drive the research agenda forward.

Research Professional offers

Thousands of open funding opportunities for all disciplines from over 12,000 funders on the Research Professional website, which the university subscribes to, is available here <http://www.researchprofessional.com> and a training session for all academic staff interested in finding research opportunities will take place on 11 May 2022 at 12.00 pm (online training). For further information and to book a place, please contact the researchoffice@uos.ac.uk.

For all current funding opportunities please visit

<https://intranet.uos.ac.uk/funding-opportunities>

More information

We regularly update the content on the research webpages, so if you are interested in finding out more about the institutes, as well as recent research projects and publications from colleagues across the institution, please visit:

<https://www.uos.ac.uk/content/research>

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