DIGITAL DIMENSIONS: UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS GROUP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Dates: Thursday 12- Friday 13 June 2014 at University of Bristol Theatre Collection,

Venue: Wickham Theatre, Cantocks Close, University of Bristol, Bristol BS8 1UP

Delegate Rate: £58

Conference Overview

The theme of this year's University Museum Group (UMG) conference will be Digital Dimensions, including sessions on Current Cutting Edge Developments, Digital and Impact and the Post Digital World. It will ask questions such as 'What are the most innovative digital projects happening in museums at the moment? How are university museums using digital activity as part of their public engagement work and how can this impact be measured? What does this all mean for us now that digital is part of everything we do, and how does this change the way we work?

The conference will kick off on Thursday afternoon with a showcase of, innovative digital museum projects. This will be followed by the UMG AGM in the Wickham Theatre and a drinks reception at the University's Royal Fort House. Please note that numbers for the reception are limited so please book early to guarantee a place.

The main programme will take place on Friday (in the Wickham Theatre) with speakers including Tandi Williams (Research Manager, NESTA), Paul Smith (Director, Oxford University Museum of Natural History), Gail Lambourne (Strategy and Development Manager -Cultures and Heritage, AHRC) and Ross Parry, University of Leicester

The delegate rate of £58 covers the both days of the conference, the reception on Thursday evening and refreshments plus lunch on Friday. We are expecting this to be a popular conference and places are limited, so please book early. Bookings are available via the University of Bristol Shop (https://shop.bris.ac.uk/) and will close on 30th May 2014.

Provisional Programme

Thursday 12 June 2014

15.00 -16.30   Registration (Wickham Theatre Foyer)

15.00 – 16.30   Digital Project Showcase. Attendees are invited to visit project
                      demonstration stands at their leisure (Wickham Theatre / Foyer/T2)
                      (The call for showcase participants will be announced in early April)

16.30 – 17.30   UMG AGM (Wickham Theatre)

18.00 - 19.00   Welcome and Keynote address:
                      James Davis, Project Manager, Google Cultural Institute
                      (Wickham Theatre)

19.00 – 19.45   Drinks Reception at Royal Fort House
                      Hosted by Professor Sir Eric Thomas, Vice Chancellor
                      (booking essential)

Friday 13 June (all events held in Wickham Theatre and Foyer)

9.45 – 10.15   Arrivals and coffee
                      Registration (for those attending Friday only)

10.15 –10.30   Welcome and introductions
                      Sally MacDonald and Kate Arnold-Forster

10.30 – 11.00   Keynote address:
                      Tandi Williams, Research Manager, Nesta

11.00 –12.00   Current Cutting Edge
                      What are some examples of the most current cutting edge digital
                      projects happening in museums? Should University Museums be
                      striving to be digital pioneers – does it align with their visions and
                      unique resources – and how can University Museums achieve digital
                      innovation?

                      Chair: Paul Smith, Director, Oxford University Museum of Natural
                      History
                      •   Richard Clay, University of Birmingham
                      •   Mark Macleod, Infirmary Museum, University of Worcester
                      •   Danny Birchall, Wellcome Trust

12.00 – 13.00   Digital and impact
                      With the new focus within universities on impact, museums are
                      becoming more important than ever as facilitators of public

engagement. How are museums currently using digital as part of their public engagement initiatives, and how can the impact of these digital engagement initiatives be measured?

Chair: Gail Lambourne, Strategy and Development Manager (Cultures and Heritage), AHRC

• Claire Warwick, UCL, Department of Information Studies and Centre for Digital Humanities
• Jack Ashby, Manager, Grant Museum of Zoology
• Areti Galani, International Centre for Cultural and Heritage Studies, University of Nottingham

13.00 – 14.00	LUNCH Note: Brief tours of Theatre Collection available over lunch (bookable at Registration)
14.00 - 15.30	Post Digital What does it mean for museums now that digital is not a discrete area and is part of everything we do? How does this change the way we work? How can we prepare the next generation of museum professionals? This will lead on discussions at Museums and the Web conference in Baltimore in April 2014. Chair & Provocation: Ross Parry, University of Leicester
15.30 – 15.45	TEA
15.45 – 16.15	Plenary

Further information

Accommodation

For accommodation Bristol University provides information on its website
http://www.bris.ac.uk/maps/stay.html
http://www.bris.ac.uk/conferences-hospitality/holidays/

Most visitors tend to stay with the Clifton Hotel group http://www.cliftonhotels.com/
and in particular the Berkeley http://www.cliftonhotels.com/bristolhotels/berkeley-square/
Cheaper hotels can usually be found on booking.com

Conference Venues

For maps of Bristol and the University see http://www.bristol.ac.uk/maps/directions/
The evening wine reception on 12 June will be held at Royal Fort
House: http://www.bris.ac.uk/maps/google/?latlng=51.45794981,-
2.6016107499999634&t=0&h=1,
The majority of the conference will be held in the Drama Department Building / Wickham
Theatre on Cantocks Close http://www.bris.ac.uk/maps/google/?latlng=51.45572286,-
2.6007512099999985&t=0&h=1

Parking
The closest parking is at the NCP Car Park about 10 mins walk from Royal Fort House and 5
mins from the Theatre Collection and Wickham Theatre. There is plenty of on street meter
parking nearby, but this is limited to 1 or 2 hours. Unfortunately the University does not
have visitor parking for conference etc.

Please contact theatre-collection@bristol.ac.uk if you have any specific enquiries about
booking arrangements for the conference