

**SMuRF**

**Multidisciplinary** research conference  
for **early career researchers** (ECRs)

**Southampton Multidisciplinary Research Forum (SMuRF)**

De Vere Grand Harbour Hotel, Southampton.

16th-17th February 2012

[SMuRF@soton.ac.uk](mailto:SMuRF@soton.ac.uk)

# Introduction

The University aims to improve its position in the intensely competitive national and global higher education environment by increasing income from **research grants** and supporting innovative research **across disciplines** to address global challenges.

In order to best achieve this we believe that the University must make use of its, as yet, untapped resource of **Early Career Researchers (ECRs)** by providing them an opportunity to connect across disciplines, research groups and campuses.

As ECRs ourselves we understand that important **multidisciplinary work** is emerging and more needs to be done. However, there is a natural tendency for such collaborative work to be set up and discussed by research group heads and senior professors, with more junior staff members struggling to develop **long-term links**.

To address these issues we, a group of University of Southampton ECRs who have come together to form the Southampton Multidisciplinary Research Forum or **SMuRF**, have organised this conference, specifically for ECRs, to help **facilitate** and **promote** multidisciplinary research.

We hope that you enjoy it and that it leads to a plethora of innovative multidiscipline research projects in the future!

SMuRF

*Dr. Stephen Beers (Faculty of Medicine)*

*Dr. Hazel Blythe (Faculty of Social and Human Sciences)*

*Dr. Kim Bruce (Faculty of Medicine)*

*Dr. Filippo Fazi (Faculty of Engineering and the Environment)*

*Dr. Wynn Ho (Faculty of Social and Human Sciences)*

*Dr. Cheryl Metcalf (Faculty of Health Sciences)*

*Dr. Adam Sobey (Faculty of Engineering and the Environment)*

*Dr. Nick Townsend (Faculty of Engineering and the Environment)*

# Aim & Objectives

**Promote** and raise awareness of multidisciplinary research.

**Encourage** ideas and opportunities to be shared and developed over faculties.

**Provide** a means for individual ECRs to develop University-wide networks.

**Develop** new forums and discussions especially between early career researchers .

***To generate world-leading and internationally  
distinctive research***

For more information please email:

[SMuRF@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:SMuRF@southampton.ac.uk)

# Schedule

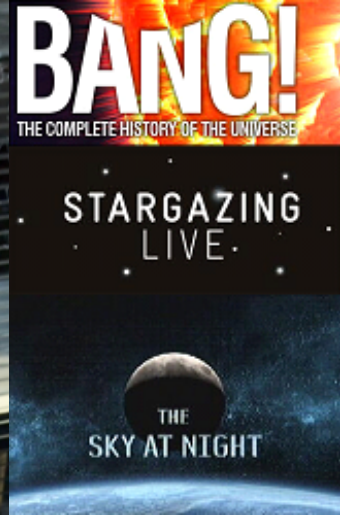
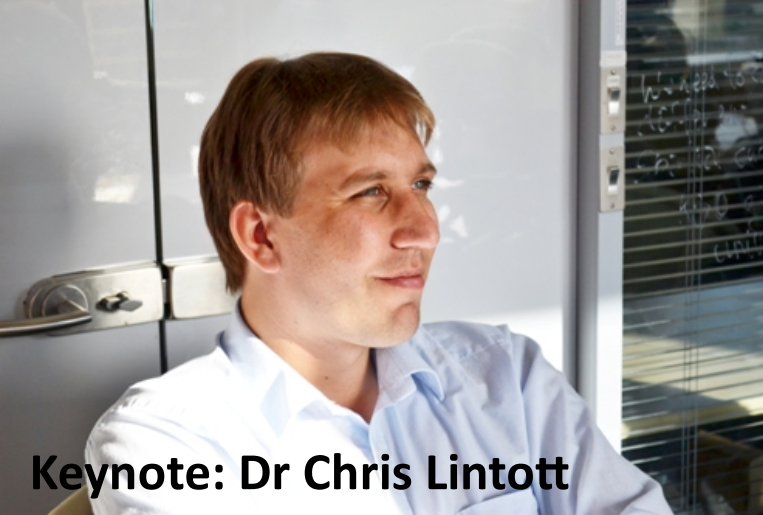
## Day 1

09:00 – 09:30	<i>Registration and coffee</i>
09:30 – 10:30	<b>Sources of funding for multidisciplinary research</b>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Speed Networking</b>
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30 – 12:30	<b>Keynote: Dr Chris Lintott</b> ( <i>University of Oxford</i> ) <b><i>What to do with 500,000 researchers?</i></b>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00	<b>Writing multidisciplinary grant applications</b>
15:00 – 15:30	<b>Speed Networking</b>
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	<b>Multidisciplinary research case studies</b>
17:30	<b>Drinks Reception at the Grand Café</b>
19:00	<b>Conference dinner at the Grand Café</b>

# Schedule

## Day 2

<i>09:00 – 09:30</i>	<i>Arrivals and coffee</i>
09:30 – 10:30	<b>Involving external collaborators</b>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Obstacles in conducting multidisciplinary research</b>
<i>11:00 – 11:30</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30 – 12:30	<b>Keynote: Prof. Philip Nelson</b> <b><i>Strategy for Research at the University of Southampton</i></b>
<i>12:30 – 13:30</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:30	<b>Opportunities of multidisciplinary research</b>
14:30 – 15:00	<b>University Strategic Research Groups (U.S.R.G.s) perspective</b>
<i>15:00 – 15:30</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:30 – 16:30	<b>Impact of multidisciplinary research</b>
16:30 – 17:00	<b>Closing address by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Don Nutbeam</b>



## Keynote: Dr Chris Lintott

*University of Oxford*

**Chris Lintott** is best known as co-presenter of the **BBC's long-running Sky at Night program** alongside Sir Patrick Moore.

Co-author of **Bang!** with Patrick Moore and Dr Brian May.

He is a researcher at the **University of Oxford**, where he runs **Zooniverse.org**, the world's most successful collection of citizen science websites.

**Zooniverse projects** have allowed volunteers to discover planets, classify galaxies, investigate the accents of whales, rescue historical climate data and transcribe ancient papyri.

He also has a regular column (on observing the night sky) in **The Times**.

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# EPSRC

Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council

The main UK government agency for funding research and training in engineering and the physical sciences.



**NATURAL  
ENVIRONMENT  
RESEARCH COUNCIL**

The UK's main agency for funding and managing research, training and knowledge exchange in the environmental sciences.

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## PRESENTATIONS



### ***Strategy for Research at the University of Southampton***

**By Prof. Philip Nelson** (Pro Vice-Chancellor)



### ***University Strategic Research Groups (U.S.R.G.s) perspective***

**Prof. Guy Poppy (pictured)/Prof. G Attard**

(Directors of Multidisciplinary Research Strategy)



### ***Closing Address***

**By Prof. Don Nutbeam** (Vice-Chancellor)

# Workshop Biographies

To share their expertise and experiences leading academics from across the University are attending the conference on day two, including;



**Dr Rachel van Besouw**

*Faculty of Engineering and the Environment (ISVR)*

Dr Rachel van Besouw is a RCUK Academic Fellow in the Institute of Sound and Vibration Research. She has been awarded an Arts & Humanities Research Council grant with Prof. David Nicholls for a collaborative research project on developing music (re)habilitation materials and compositions with and for severely or profoundly deaf people who use a cochlear implant.



**Prof. Seth Bullock**

*Faculty of Physical and Applied Sciences (ECS)*

Professor Bullock is Director of Southampton's new Institute for Complex Systems Simulation (ICSS), co-director of the University Strategic Research Group in Complexity in Real World Contexts (USRG Complexity). He helped found the Science and Engineering of Natural Systems (SENSe) research group and Agents, Interaction and Complexity (AIC) research group.



**Dr Graeme Earl**

*Faculty of Humanities (Archaeology)*

Dr Graeme Earl, a Senior Lecturer in Archaeology, is a member of the University Strategic Research Groups (USRG) for the Digital Economy and Maritime Studies. Via the Computational Modelling Group he is also involved in the activities of the USRG in Complexity Science. His research is currently funded by grants from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), British Academy, Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and JISC.



**Prof. Jane Falkingham**

*Faculty of Social and Human Sciences (Social Sciences)*

Professor Falkingham is Director of the ESRC Centre for Population Change, Head of the Academic Unit of Social Sciences and Professor of Demography and International Social Policy. Her research interests include; population ageing and social security, the redistributive effect of the welfare state, the impact of economic transition on living standards within the countries of the former Soviet Union and the relationship between poverty and health in low income settings.



**Prof. Douglas Macbeth**

*Faculty of Business and Law (Management)*

Professor Macbeth is Director of Business Development, Professor of Purchasing and Supply Chain Management and the Director of Supply Chain Research at Southampton. He is also the founding Director of SCMG Ltd, a Supply Chain Management, Procurement and Logistics consultancy.





**Prof. Peter Middleton** *Faculty of Humanities (English)*

Professor Middleton is a Director of the Centre for Cultural Poetics and was recently awarded an Arts and Humanities Research Board grant to help develop the British Electronic Poetry Centre. He is an author of a study of theories and texts on masculinity and is currently writing a book on American Science and Poetry in the Cold War. In the future he hopes to collaborate with researchers on fictional predictions of global catastrophe.



**Prof. Philip Nelson** *Pro Vice-Chancellor*

Professor Philip Nelson is currently responsible for the development of University-wide research strategy. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, the Institute of Acoustics and a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America. He is a member of the boards of the University of Southampton Science Park Ltd., University of Southampton Holdings Ltd., Southampton Asset Management Ltd., and the Wyvern Seedcorn Fund. He also serves on the CBI South East Regional Council, and the boards of Hampshire Economic Partnership and of the 'SET-squared' partnership of Southampton, Bristol, Bath and Surrey Universities.



**Dr Richard Polfreman** *Faculty of Humanities (Music)*

Dr Polfreman, a lecturer in music, has collaborated with IRCAM (Paris) and INA-GRM (Paris) and Sound Intermedia (London) on a number of projects involving the design of innovative music software and use of music technology in live performance and installations. He was awarded an i10 Enterprise Fellowship in 2004 and has recently completed an Arts and Humanities Research Board-funded project exploring the issues of preservation of works involving live electronics.



**Prof. Ajit Sheno** *Faculty of Engineering and the Environment (Ship Science)*

Professor Ajit Sheno is Lloyds Register/Royal Academy of Engineering Research Professor of Lightweight Structures and was head of the Fluid Structure Interactions Research Group at the University of Southampton. He is also the founding Director of the Southampton Marine and Maritime Institute.



**Prof. Mikis Tsimplis** *Faculty of Business and Law (Law)*

Professor Tsimplis is jointly appointed by the School of Law and the National Oceanography Centre. His scientific research is on sea level rise while his legal research is on environmental and maritime law. He is currently participating in an EU funded project looking at the liability for carbon storage under the seabed and a scientific project examining marine extremes under climate changes scenarios funded by Lloyd's Register Trust Fund. He is on the Governing board of the Institute of Maritime Law and on the steering committee of the Medclivar initiative.

# Notes



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