

# INTERDISCIPLINARY OPEN SESSIONS

13th October  
9:30am - 4:30pm  
Elphinstone Hall



Hosted by the Interdisciplinary Challenge Areas, this Open Sessions Day will provide an exciting opportunity to highlight the latest developments in interdisciplinary research and education using case studies from across the University of Aberdeen.

Hosted by the Interdisciplinary Challenge Areas, this Open Sessions Day will provide an exciting opportunity to highlight the latest developments in interdisciplinary research and education using case studies from across the University of Aberdeen. The sessions will facilitate cross-disciplinary discussions, explore new ideas and enable informal networking, and bringing together colleagues from across disciplines to develop new initiatives. Featuring flash talks, panel discussions, network introductions and poster sessions, the event will provide a unique opportunity to explore the University's five interdisciplinary challenges. Our aim is to use this day as a platform to:

Registration Link: <https://forms.office.com/e/6vG7sx8Y4s>

09:30 - 09:50

**Arrival & Networking with Refreshments**  
Interdisciplinary posters research showcase

09:50 - 10:45

**Welcome & Interdisciplinary Roundtable Q&A with the Interdisciplinary Directors of Research**  
**Energy Transition** - Professor John Underhill  
**Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing** - Professor Jennie Macdiarmid  
**Data and Artificial Intelligence** - Professor Georgios Leontidis  
**Social Inclusion and Cultural Diversity** - Professor Eleonora Belfiore  
**Environment and Biodiversity** - Professor David Burslem

10:45 - 12:15

**Interdisciplinary Fellows - Flash Talks & Audience Q&A**

**The Conquest of Supermarket Shelves: Ultra-Processed Food as a Global Human Rights Challenge**  
*Dr Vivek Bhatt, Interdisciplinary Fellow - Law*

**What big ears you have: the evolution of body shape and size in mammals**  
*Dr Catherine Sheard, Interdisciplinary Fellow - Biological Sciences*

**The Human Past in Pursuit of a Nature Positive Future**  
*Dr Michael Stratigos, Interdisciplinary Fellow - Archaeology*

**Intersecting Energy Cultures: Arts, Community, and Environmental Justice**  
*Dr Rebecca Macklin, Leverhulme Early Career Fellow - English*

**Energising the energisers: Alimentary dignity and food security among coffee producers**  
*Dr Sabine Parrish, Interdisciplinary Fellow - Anthropology*

**Harnessing the power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to study glaciers and ice sheets**  
*Dr William Harcourt, Interdisciplinary Fellow - Geography & Environment*

**Geovisualisation – Marine and coastal management application**  
*Dr Kate Gormley, Interdisciplinary Fellow - Biological Sciences*

**Galvanizing Glaciology within Ecocritical Art History**  
*Dr Isabelle Gapp, Interdisciplinary Fellow - Art History*

More talks to be announced soon...

12:15 - 12:45

**Spotlight talks: The University of Aberdeen's Interdisciplinary Networks and Collaborations**

**Interdisciplinary Human-Centred AI Research Network**  
*Dr Arabella Sinclair, Lecturer - Computing Science*

**Continuing conversations: developing death studies in Aberdeen**  
*Professor Vikki Entwistle, Professor of Health Services Research and Philosophy, HSRU & DHPA*

12:45 - 13:45

**BREAK FOR LUNCH**

13:45 - 15:00

**Spotlight talks: The University of Aberdeen's Interdisciplinary Networks and Collaborations Environment, Health & Agri-Food Systems (EHFS)**

*Dr Jennifer Wardle, Research Fellow in Sustainable Healthy Food Systems (SHEFS)*

**The pragmatics of interdisciplinary collaborations: an example from creative health statistics**

*Dr Silvia Casini, Senior Lecturer in Film and Visual Culture*

*Dr Beatriz Goulao, Advanced Research Fellow - HSRU*

**Challenge-led education and research**

More talks to be announced soon...

15:00 - 15:30

**Keynote Speaker: Professor Donna Hancox, Queensland University of Technology**

Collective Imagination: addressing urgent challenges through creativity and interdisciplinary

15:30 - 15:50

**Networking & Refreshment Break**

Interdisciplinary posters research showcase

15:50 - 16:30

**Panel Discussion: Interdisciplinarity, Impact & REF 2028**

Chaired by: *Professor Nick Forsyth, Vice Principal (Research)*

Panel Members:

*Marlis Barraclough, Research Policy and REF Manager*

*Dr Ruth Banks, Research Impact Manager*

Registration Link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/6vG7sx8Y4s>

Queries can be directed to the Grants Academy:

[grantsacademy@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:grantsacademy@abdn.ac.uk)