

ISSUE E17

OXFORD  
**BROOKES**  
UNIVERSITY

# GRADUATE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

The newsletter for the research student community



## **Safeguarding biodiversity**

### **Can traditional beliefs help conservation?**

# NEWS

## Traditional beliefs on the Western hoolock Gibbon (Hoolock hoolock) in Garo Hills, Meghalaya, India.

The Huro Programme is a conservation initiative focused on the endangered Western Hoolock Gibbon (*Hoolock hoolock*) which aims to combat the drastic decline in gibbon population from 1,00,000 individuals in 1977 to less than 7,000 individuals today. The factors for this decline are deforestation, pet trafficking, bush meat, and illegal trade. The Sonja Wildlife Rescue Centre was established in 2007, the first and only rescue centre for Western Hoolock Gibbons in India. The Huro Programme enables authorities to enforce wildlife laws, rescue illegally kept gibbons, rehabilitate and reintroduce individuals to the wild.

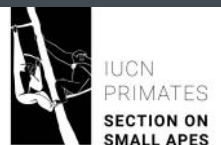


Over 15 years, the organization has built the world's largest captive care population of Western Hoolock Gibbons and emphasizes community development, including education, health programs, sustainable agriculture, and employment opportunities. As a flagship species, the Western Hoolock Gibbon plays a vital role in safeguarding tropical and subtropical forests, which are key to climate change mitigation and carbon sequestration. Found exclusively in India's northeastern states, south of the Brahmaputra River, their conservation is crucial, in an era of widespread environmental destruction.

In Garo oral traditions, gibbons are known as 'A'song nokgipa, chia nokgipa, burung nokgipa', which means they are the guardians of the land, rivers, and forests. According to the Songserok (the traditional Garo animistic faith) cosmology, the god of thunder, strength, and human destiny, known as 'Goera kalkame,' takes the avatar of gibbons. The deity is believed to reside in the 'A'song kosi' (sacred grove) alongside other forest 'mitte' (spirits). Due to the reverence and fear associated with the deity, gibbons are not harmed and songs of gibbons are considered a blessing for the land. Many traditional Garo villages preserve forested areas to safeguard the habitat of gibbons. The deep-rooted belief in gibbons has contributed to their survival in the region and is an indication of local conservation (Garo Myths & Legends documented by Sidharth Badri, PhD candidate at Oxford Brookes University, School of Social Sciences).



Despite the presence of traditional laws and beliefs, as well as the enforcement of the Indian Wildlife Protection Act (1972), gibbons are being hunted in certain villages, and captured for the illegal wildlife and pet trade. The religious shift from 'songserok' by most Garo, coupled with significant socio-economic changes in Meghalaya, has impacted local beliefs. Moreover, the disruption of law and order from 1999 to 2018 has contributed to the dissemination of local beliefs and the illegal wildlife trade involving gibbons' killing and capture. These factors combined have directly resulted in a decline in local knowledge systems. Consequently, without traditional beliefs, individuals may not feel compelled to actively participate in gibbon conservation efforts. Documentation of traditional practices, taboos, and beliefs is crucial for preserving Garo cultural heritage and informing future conservation efforts. This study aims to contribute to both gibbon conservation and cultural preservation.



## HURO PROGRAMME

A Western Hoolock Gibbon Conservation & Rescue Project

# NEWS

Notes from the field from one of our doctoral students ensconced at Oxford Brookes Business School. Mitaali Katoch is an engaged scholar among many at OBBS who is orienting her work towards enduring, contemporary, corporate luxury fashion firms. This summer, she authored a case study on Leadership styles in luxury fashion businesses, prototyping the use of GenAI for an upcoming book co-authored by Mark Saunders, Fariba Darabi, and Philip Lewis, *'Doing Research in Business and Management: An Essential Guide to Planning and Undertaking your Project'*. In November, she spoke as a panellist



at the 2024 Arc Universities Group (AUG) Student Summit. She is also invited to the Engaged Scholarship Conference for Early Career Researchers this January, an abbreviated two-day conference hosted by the Innovation and Research Caucus at Alliance Manchester Business School.

In a discussion focussing on the development of Oxford Cambridge Arc Region, she highlighted the significant role played by the creative industries in the UK's economy. She provoked the audience, which included major infrastructure partners—East West Railway Company, Oxford-Cambridge Supercluster Board and England's Economic Heartland amongst others, to consider especially highlighting the significance of this industry in their mandate.

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“The Oxford-Cambridge corridor has been a backdrop to high revenue yielding media productions, art and cultural institutions that garner global attention. We see investment in science and technology sectors however we do not see many cases that support investment in research within the creative industry. Oxford has huge potential for instance, Soho Farmhouse in Oxford has hosted Business of Fashion's Voices conference three years in a row that brings global luxury fashion players to Oxford. However, it seems like these events become invisible in the larger scheme of things. Let's not ignore the potential of the creative industry.”

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The day-long event at the University of Bedfordshire hosted eight institutions across the Oxford Cambridge Arc Region. Mitaali also presented her work in a 3-minute thesis competition held at the event.

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT** Congratulations to Oxford Brookes alumnus Dr Adam Tate for featuring in the alumni spotlight [blog](#) at Roehampton University, where he graduated in 2017 with a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) in Secondary Geography.

In this blog Adam talks about his journey from working as a Geography teacher to becoming a Higher Education Leader. After working as a teacher, Adam became a Lecturer and today he leads a Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education at Nottingham Trent University. Adam also founded a charity to raise awareness of Fahr's Disease.



# NEWS

**Art and inclusivity** Sylvia Morgado de Queiroz, artist and PhD researcher at Oxford Brookes University, is breaking new ground with her project “*Who Belongs Here? Diversifying Audiences in Arts Institutions in the UK and Brazil*”, a collaboration with Modern Art Oxford (MAO). In the initial phase of her practice-based research, Morgado invited individuals from diverse backgrounds to visit Oxford’s museums and galleries, some for the first time. This initiative culminated in a spoken-word session at MAO in October 2023, where participants reflected on their experience, fostering discussions on what creates a welcoming environment.

Another outcome of her research is the documentary “*Paving the Way*”. It delves into the transformative power of Brazilian artist Maxwell Alexandre’s practice. His pop-up galleries in Rio de Janeiro, or “pavilions”, celebrate Black culture and bring art to unconventional spaces, including Favela da Rocinha. Filmed in Rio de Janeiro, Morgado’s documentary captures the impact of these pavilions on local audiences, examining how Alexandre’s work inspires people to explore other art spaces and challenges traditional notions of access and belonging in the art world.

The film premiered at Rhodes House in October 2024, followed by



a screening at Fusion Arts in November during the exhibition *Windrush Years: Portraits of a Generation Who Rebuilt Britain*. Both events were followed by Q&A with participants from Brazil who travelled to Oxford specifically for the occasion. The documentary is set to debut in Rio de Janeiro in February 2025, concluding Morgado’s cross-cultural study.

As a natural extension of her ongoing collaboration with Modern Art Oxford, Morgado undertook an Oxford Brookes University Research Degree Placement at the institution in 2024 with their

Communities, Practice & Participation (CPP) team. Through this opportunity, she was offered to work on three vitrine displays, bringing part of MAO’s participation history to the public and aligning with themes around diversity and inclusion central to her research. The displays will be launched on 25 February 2025.



**Conferences** Nur Rasyiqah, PhD student at the School of the Built Environment, presented her research paper titled “*Making Heritage Livable: A Study of Malaysian Legislation and Policy*” at the 61st International Making Cities Liveable conference in Cortona, Italy - a small city rich in cultural heritage. Her paper explored strategies for balancing modernization with the preservation of historical assets, particularly in rapidly develop-

ing cities like Kuala Lumpur, where historical value often risks being overshadowed. This experience underscored the importance of practical solutions to heritage issues in urban areas, enriched by global perspectives. The conference brought together a distinguished audience of professionals, including councillors, practitioners, and government officials. Rasyiqah also presented a paper titled “*Rethinking Liveable Heritage: From the Experts’ Perspectives*” at the UIA2024 International Forum on 15 November, 2024, showing how interpretations of livable heritage vary by context and subject. Her paper will be published in the 2025 edition of the Malaysian Architecture Journal.

# News

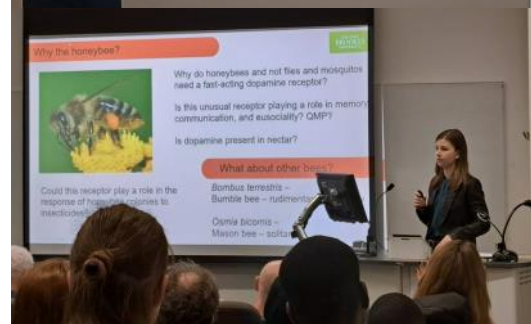
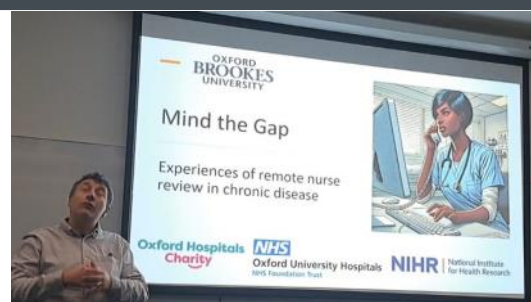
## Thank you!

This year's Postgraduate Symposium as every year - was remarkable in the quality of oral presentations and posters, as well as the atmosphere of camaraderie and enthusiasm. The oral presentations were very well attended and enjoyed by all. Emeritus Professor Nigel Groome was present commenting how happy he was for being able to attend again this year. It was very moving and inspiring to see so many students that are currently supported by his studentships.

First prize winners for oral presentations were given to Hayley Beth Free and Carmine Ruggiero, while runner ups were Nadine Field and Bonita Corrie-Lunn. The best poster was awarded to Charlotte Bosomworth and runner up to Shannon Skeffington. Several additional prizes were given for best microscope images and videos.

The day ended with a great and different presentation from Dr Shelly Coe talking about her own career path with its ups and downs, giving the perfect ending to a fabulous day.

Everybody was very grateful to the organising committee, especially to Christine Gahan and to all the external sponsors of this event. Already looking forward to next year.



## Careers Training Programme

The Careers training programme for researchers is now live for bookings on [www.brookes.ac.uk/Students/Careers/Researchers/Events](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/Students/Careers/Researchers/Events)

# News

Alumna Linda Ludwig and alumnus James Curle returned to Oxford Brookes University to share the secrets of their professional film-making success with current students.

In a masterclass held for Film Studies students, the duo reflected on their journey from university graduates to award-winning filmmakers.

Linda and James began collaborating during their time at Oxford Brookes. They founded Inquisitive Pictures after graduating from the Film Studies course. Since then, they have consistently garnered acclaim, with two films, 'Man of the Hour' and 'Under the Blue' standing out as milestones.



"We will be working on one specific film but once that's finished will immediately start work on ideas and funding applications for the next," said James. "We'll go to the film festivals where we can meet directors, producers, actors - a whole range of people in the industry. It's important to go out there all the time and keep connecting with people. You often meet the same people again and again when you are making films."

Linda said: "We tend to have more ideas than we have time to write, so we're always developing screenplays. We've already written a couple of different feature films as well as a TV series that we're excited to embark on next - and we're writing another project right now."

The students were treated to a screening of 'Under the Blue' - a true story highlighting the pressures of working as a police officer in the UK. They were also given a sneak preview of a forthcoming film written and directed by Linda and James.

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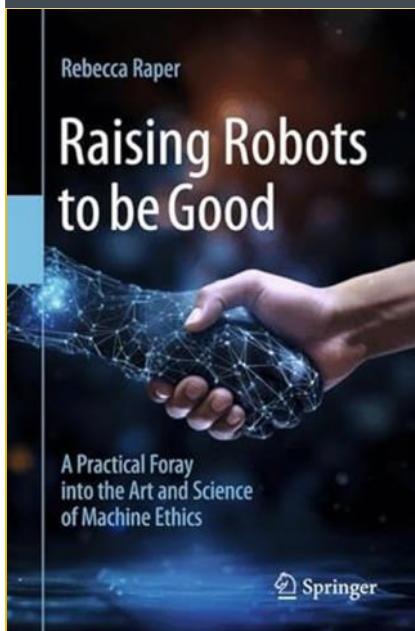
'Under the Blue' has gained 13 wins in British Independent Film Award qualifying festivals, winning jury prizes and audience awards alike. It followed 'Man of the Hour' which picked up multiple awards and nominations, including winning the Jury Prize at The American Pavilion Emerging Filmmaker Showcase during the Cannes Film Festival 2018.

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After the masterclass, Dr Paolo Russo, Interim Programme Lead for Media Arts and Senior Lecturer in Film Studies at Oxford Brookes, said: "It's inspiring for our students to hear firsthand from alumni who have achieved so much in their careers. Linda and James have real success stories to tell and are testament to the possibilities that await our graduates."

**Imposter syndrome** Alice Walker final year PhD student at the School of the Built Environment, gave an online training workshop on this topical subject in October 2024. Her session was attended by more than 35 research degree students and was shown to be an excellent time to share personal insights on how students perceive themselves in their research environment. We are very grateful to Alice for giving up her time, at this one of the busiest periods of her PhD. This session will be incorporated in the Graduate college training programme each year.

# CONGRATULATIONS



**Robots with morals?** Dr Rebecca Raper alumna from the Faculty of Technology, Design and Environment has published her first book entitled *Raising Robots to be Good*. Rebecca writes “In 1950 Isaac Asimov famously introduced us to the idea of Robots with the ability to tell between *right* and *wrong*. However, as his stories go on to show, the ‘Laws of Robotics’ weren’t quite able to govern robots in a way that we would deem acceptable for humanity. In recent years, scientists have worked to try to understand how we might create robots with this capability – *robots with morals* – and as Robots and Artificial Intelligence Systems become more integrated into society and our lives, it seems that achieving this aim is as pertinent as ever. This book introduces this pursuit, known as *Machine Ethics*, and aims to outline some of the art and science behind the field – including the philosophy, psychology and computer science that underpins much of the research into this area. After the necessary background, and an exploration of the problem, a new theory is proposed inspired how we might envisage moral agency developing in a child. The proposal is that we need to cultivate moral development in a robot, in pretty much the same way we might parent a child: *Raising Robots to be Good*.” For those interested in this exciting topic, Rebecca’s book can be found in Amazon.



**A double winner** Sheila Isabel Irigoyen Zozaya PhD alumna in Urban Design at the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences was awarded the overall winner Cup of the Faringdon Art Society (selected as the best piece of art in the exhibition) and also the winner for the best drawing for ‘Dreaming 01’. She displayed a total of 10 pieces of artwork (framed and unframed) and was also leading the design and hanging of artwork in walls for the overall exhibition. This exhibition celebrated the 60th anniversary of the Faringdon Art Society and it took place at the Corn Exchange in Faringdon from 25-27 October 2024. We display some examples of Sheila’s works.



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**Student Summit 2024** This event on 5 November, the first-ever Arc Universities Group Student Summit, was held at the University of Bedfordshire and attended by several research students from Oxford Brookes: Adriano Schommer, Sanjar Jumanazarov, Juul Steeghs, Molly Hair and Mitaali Katoch who presented her research on sustainable practices in the fashion industry in the three minute thesis competition. The aim of this summit was to engage with leaders from academia, industry and government at the forefront of sustainability. You can read more about the summit on the Oxford Cambridge ARC Universities Group [website](#).



# RESEARCH STUDENT PROFILES



**Siddharth Badri**

School of Law and  
Social Sciences

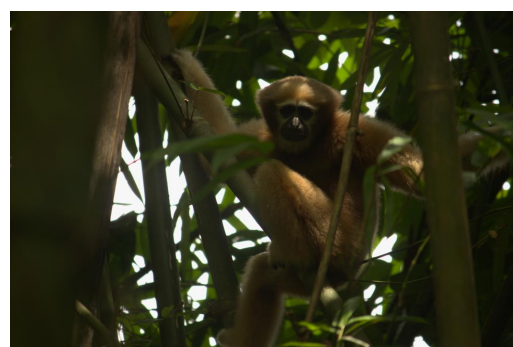
**Thesis Title:** The Socio-cultural dimensions of Western Hoolock gibbon (*Hoolock hoolock*) conservation in Garo Hills, Meghalaya, India.

My PhD research aims to comprehensively examine the socio-cultural dimensions of Western Hoolock gibbon (*Hoolock hoolock*) conservation in Garo Hills of Meghalaya, India, through an interdisciplinary framework that integrates natural and social sciences.

I will explore the indigenous A'chik (Garo) community's traditional ecological knowledge, including beliefs and practices such as hunting taboos and the preservation of forests, which may have played a significant role in the conservation of gibbons and other biodiversity sharing the same habitat.

I will also highlight the contribution of the local NGO, Huro Programme, which works alongside the A'chik community in gibbon rescue, rehabilitation, and release initiatives at Sonja Wildlife Rescue Centre.

By assessing historical and contemporary conservation practices, this research will provide insights into the effectiveness of in-situ primate conservation efforts, the role of the A'chick community, and the impact of rescue and rehabilitation initiatives on the long-term survival of India's only non-human ape – the Western Hoolock Gibbon (*Hoolock hoolock*).



...to comprehensively examine the socio-cultural dimensions of Western Hoolock gibbon conservation in Garo hills....

## Students and alumni latest publications

- **Wenborn M**, Nijman V, Parton A, Svensson MS, Nashongo AN, Hauptfleisch M. Local ecological knowledge on preferred vegetation of African savanna elephants in the semi-desert highlands of northwest Namibia. *Journal of Arid Environments* 2025, volume 227.
- Kapanidou M, **Curtis N**, et al. Targeting APC/C Ubiquitin E3-Ligase Activation with Pyrimidine-thylcarbamate Apcin Analogues for the Treatment of Breast Cancer. *Biomolecules* 2024, 14, 1439.
- **Raper R**. Raising Robots to be Good. *Springer* 2024.
- Murray F, **Hess KJ**, Rihtman T. Environmentally sustainable person-centred care: Occupational therapy students' attitudes, perceptions and self-perceived preparedness for practice. *Australian Occupational Therapy Journal* 2024; 1440-1630
- **Poulter M**, Coe S, Graham CA-M, Leach B, Tammam J. Menu provision in a young offenders institution, comparison with dietary guidelines, and previous menu allocation: a cross-sectional nutritional analysis. *Journal of Nutritional Science* 2024; 13.
- **Wilby A**. The end of BTECs has been paused, so now what? Comment August 2024 in WONKHE.



# RESEARCH STUDENT PROFILES



**Sanjar Jumanazarov**

Oxford Brookes  
Business School

**Thesis title:** A comprehensive examination of pro-sustainable behaviour and its impact on tourist well-being and word-of-mouth intention.

Tourism, while economically vital, often has significant negative impacts on the environment, leading to issues like habitat destruction, pollution, and overconsumption of natural resources. In recent years, the growing concern over these environmental consequences has led to a focus on promoting pro-sustainable behaviour (PSB) among tourists. This study aims to explore the factors that motivate tourists to adopt sustainable behaviours and examine the broader effects of these behaviours on their well-being and their likelihood to recommend destinations to others. Although much has been done to understand PSB in tourism, less attention has been given to the emotional and moral drivers that underpin these behaviours. Emotional factors, like a sense of responsibility toward the environment or moral obligation, have been explored in conservation psychology, but they remain under-researched in the context of tourism.

Moreover, while the benefits of sustainable tourism for the environment have been studied, fewer researchers have examined how engaging in PSB affects the well-being of tourists themselves. Furthermore, the connection between PSB and word-of-mouth intention—the likelihood of tourists recommending a destination based on their experience is important direction as well. This study attempts to fill this gap by investigating the link between tourists' sustainable behaviours and their sense of hedonic (pleasure-based) and eudaimonic (purpose-driven) well-being.

To investigate these relationships, data will be collected through on-site surveys at Blenheim Palace, a heritage site known for its efforts to promote sustainable tourism. The survey will measure key constructs, such as tourists' perceptions of personal values. These constructs are essential in understanding the motivations behind pro-sustainable actions. The survey will also assess tourists' well-being, separating it into hedonic and eudaimonic dimensions, and their likelihood of recommending the destination. Hence, this research makes several important contributions to the field of tourism and sustainability. First, it bridges two key theoretical models—the Norm Activation Model (NAM), which explores how personal norms and moral responsibility drive pro-environmental behaviour, and the PERMA model, which explains well-being in terms of both immediate emotional satisfaction and deeper meaning or purpose. By integrating these models, the study provides a more holistic understanding of how moral and emotional factors influence sustainable behaviour in tourism.

Second, the research offers new insights into the social outcomes of pro-sustainable behaviour, particularly the link between PSB and tourist well-being. This is especially significant as the well-being of individuals, alongside environmental preservation, is increasingly recognized as a critical aspect of sustainability. Finally, the study will explore how engaging in PSB can enhance a tourist's experience, making them more likely to recommend destinations to others, which is crucial for promoting sustainable tourism. This research, practically, provides empirical data to help tourism managers and policymakers develop strategies by understanding the drivers and outcomes of PSB, destinations can better balance environmental protection with the well-being of visitors, contributing to the long-term sustainability of the tourism industry.

...responsibility toward the environment or moral obligation, have been explored in conservation psychology, but they remain under-researched in the context of tourism.

# RESEARCH STUDENT PROFILES



**Smriti Singh**

School of Arts

**Thesis title:** Participatory Documentary as a tool to investigate agency and subjectivities in the everyday lives of women of the Indian Diaspora in the UK.

This research focuses on amplifying the voices of marginalized women from the Indian diaspora in the UK, exploring how participatory methods can challenge stereotypes and foster authentic representation. At its core, the project seeks to address the lack of diversity in mainstream media by creating spaces where underrepresented stories can be told and celebrated.

The study is informed by feminist principles and emphasizes collaboration and empowerment. By adopting a participatory approach, working directly with women from the diaspora, will enable them to share their experiences in their own words.

This process not only gives participants greater control over their narratives but also fosters confidence and agency, ensuring the stories reflect their lived realities. The research is structured around the concept of co-creation, which bridges the gap between academic inquiry and creative practice. Through workshops and guided activities, participants are introduced to methods for documenting their personal experiences. This collaborative framework challenges traditional hierarchies in research, positioning participants as active contributors rather than passive subjects.

One of the central aims of this work is to explore themes of identity, intersectionality, and cultural heritage. Women from the diaspora often navigate complex challenges, balancing the traditions of their heritage with the realities of life in a multicultural society. This research provides a platform to highlight these nuances, bringing attention to the resilience, creativity, and diversity within these communities.

The project also engages critically with broader questions about representation in media and society. By prioritizing the voices of women who have often been overlooked or misrepresented, it seeks to challenge conventional narratives and encourage more inclusive approaches to storytelling. This focus on representation aligns with personal commitments to social justice and advocacy, highlighting the power of media as a tool for empowerment and change.

While deeply rooted in academic research, this work also aims to have a tangible impact beyond the university setting. By creating opportunities for dialogue and reflection, it aspires to shift public perceptions and inspire greater empathy toward marginalized communities. Moreover, the participatory methodology has the potential to be applied in a variety of contexts, demonstrating how research can be both impactful and inclusive.

Ultimately, this research is about more than documenting stories—it is about fostering understanding and promoting equity. By amplifying voices that have long been silenced, I hope to contribute to a more inclusive narrative landscape, one where diverse experiences are recognized and valued. This project reflects passion for combining academic inquiry with creative practice, and it represents a commitment to making a meaningful contribution to the ongoing conversations about representation, identity, and empowerment.

....this research is about more than documenting stories—it is about fostering understanding and promoting equity.

# WORDS FROM OUR ALUMNI



Rebecca Raper was awarded her PhD in September 2023 and published her first book in December 2024. We asked for some words of advice for our current research students.

## **What was the main reason for taking up a research degree?**

I was completing an MSc in psychology, and had wanted to work in Artificial Intelligence for a long time, but lacked the technical skills to transition into this area. The PhD was advertised as looking at 'kindness in robots' which seemed a ridiculously ambitious yet exciting topic to work on, requiring somebody with a background in philosophy and psychology. I had some experience in psychology and philosophy, specifically the philosophy of mind (I

had completed my undergraduate dissertation on 'The Zombie Problem of Consciousness'), but no direct experience with modelling morality in robots, or even robotics as a field. However, my experience proved to be extremely transferable.

**What advice can you give to current PhD students with regards to using their time while on a PhD?** Cliché' as it may sound, enjoy the experience! Particularly, in the first year, when you are trying to get to grips with your topic area, make sure you give yourself time and space to enjoy reading as much as you can. This is probably the only time in your career that you'll have nothing else to do than read, so embrace it. Feel free to explore topics not quite in scope of your research area, they make for great inspiration later on. In terms of more practical advice, try to write at least some of your thesis (i.e. the literature review) earlier on. You'll be thankful of the time you spent casually writing a few chapters at the beginning when it comes to sitting down and writing the final thesis at the end.

**Did you attend conferences, were they useful? Did you make relevant contacts?** I presented a poster in my first year at a Microsoft AI Ethics conference. I didn't realise the conference was pretty high profile at the time, I didn't really take the chance to network. There were some influential people in my area at that conference, so I really should have taken the opportunity to meet other people. I guess a lesson that can be taken from my own experience, is to go to conferences prepared and aware of what your going to.

**Did you attend the events and training provided by the Graduate College?** I attended as many networking events as possible, and got involved in the graduate programme of activities, helping organise the graduate conference and taking part in the 3 minute thesis competition. I would recommend these events and activities. First, the training is extremely useful to prepare you for networking and for your viva. But also, a PhD can be quite an isolating experience, it's good to just meet and talk to other people who are in the same boat as you. Explaining your scientific thesis to someone in the film studies department, for instance, is a great way to not only clarify your own thoughts but learn how to communicate your research in an impactful way.

**Tell us about your career so far.** I was working as a learning disability support worker when I started this PhD, continuing part-time during the course of my PhD, until I became a consultant for Oxford Brookes Institute for Ethical AI, then as research associate for an AI startup at The University of Vienna. This experience, plus prior work experience in the financial services sector, gave me an advantage I think in applying for my current role – as a lecturer for Cranfield University. I had several interviews for this position. In terms of advice for other PhD students, I'd say if you focus on what skills you have alongside your PhD this will help you stand out amongst other applicants.

**Don't be too hard on yourself if you don't secure an academic role straight away. There are plenty of roles outside of academia that can make the most of your research abilities.**

# UPCOMING EVENTS



**Ashmolean Museum Highlights Tour**  
Join us on Wednesday 29 January  
3:00 to 5:00pm



**Oxford Science Museum**  
Join us on this guided Tour  
on  
Wednesday 19 February 2025 at 2:00 pm

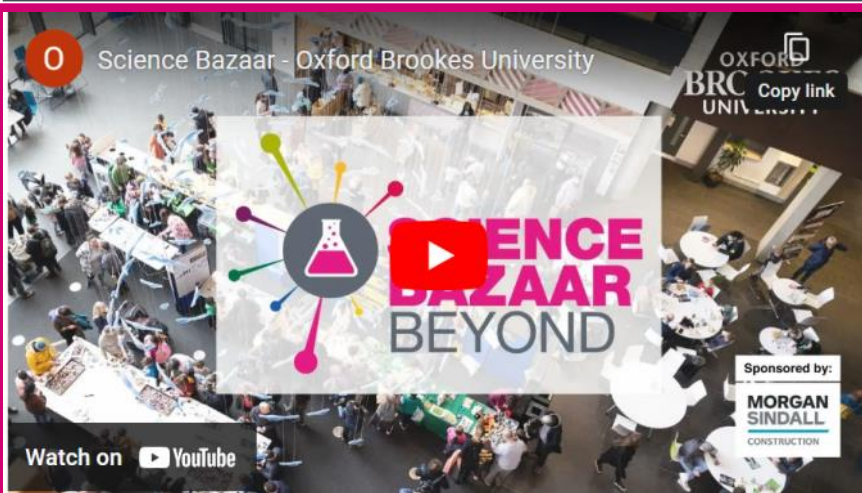


**THE FORUM  
JHB**  
8 APRIL 2025

## Annual Research Student Exhibition


Present your research and network with your peers

Book your place for these events on the [Graduate college events and networking page](#)



0 Science Bazaar - Oxford Brookes University

**SCIENCE BAZAAR BEYOND**

Watch on  YouTube

Sponsored by:  
**MORGAN SINDALL**  
CONSTRUCTION

## Science Bazaar 2025

**Saturday 1 March** at Headington Campus. A free event for the whole family and most suitable for 5 to 12 year olds.

Visit the [Science bazaar webpage](#) for more information, book your free ticket, volunteer or sign up to showcase your own work.

## The Graduate College

The Graduate College organise and support a variety of events for research students, including training and social gatherings. Visit: [The graduate college events page](#)

We are always looking for contributions for future editions of the newsletter. They are welcome from all sections of the University.

If you would like to get involved please email: [asa-gcnewsletter@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:asa-gcnewsletter@brookes.ac.uk)



PULSE offers a chance to dive into a world of innovation, inspiration, and endless possibilities. Meet successful entrepreneurs, get hands-on experience, and build valuable connections. For more information on upcoming events visit [Enterprise support](#)

# GRADUATE COLLEGE TRAINING PROGRAMME

Research student training sessions to look out for this academic year:



## Sessions in Semester 2 - 2025

- Business development—what's it all about
- Personal branding for academics
- AI and research—everything you need to know
- What can open research do for you?
- Keeping up to date with your research
- Research ethics process for PhD students
- What should you do with your data at the end of your research project?
- Academic blogging - raising the profile of your research
- How will my research degree be assessed?
- Integrating public engagement into your research
- Doing Impact? Building impact into your research plans and activities
- How to get the most out of conferences
- Evaluating your public engagement activities
- Offboarding - what happens at the end of my research degree?
- Managing your supervisor and building a good working relationship with your supervisory team
- Endnote training - Managing information overload
- Creating impactful presentations
- Presentation and public speaking skills
- Effectively Managing the Stresses and Challenges of a Doctoral Student
- Strategies for successful networking
- Engagement Tools: Infographics, Podcasts & Working with the Media
- Research degrees – strategies for successful part-time study

Bookings are at the [graduate college student training pages](#).

There are also a number of pre-recorded sessions and materials available on demand to download.

## Research Degrees Placement Opportunities 1-3 months Placement opportunities for our Research Degrees Students.

You will:

- Gain direct experience within industry and or other organisations - even outside of your discipline.
- Develop transferable skills.
- Expand your network and professional horizons.
- Develop interpersonal skills and working as part of a team.
- Liaise with staff in different roles, including senior staff.
- Grow in organisational skills.
- Engage with different audiences and interact with external stakeholders.



(Eligibility criteria apply - for more information please contact [rdt-researchdegrees@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:rdt-researchdegrees@brookes.ac.uk))

### Research Degrees Team

You can contact us on: [rdt-researchdegrees@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:rdt-researchdegrees@brookes.ac.uk)

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