

Submit an article for DISCOVER: Issue 4

Guidance notes for article submissions

Public Engagement for All with Research at Lincoln



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#EngageLincoln

What is Discover?

Discover is the University of Lincoln's annual review of activities and initiatives which engage wider society with research. Discover shares, celebrates, informs and inspires people within and beyond the University about the remarkable range of activity taking place at Lincoln which engages people in research.

The kinds of activity highlighted in previous issues of Discover has included; giving talks; contributing to exhibitions; running events; staging interactive activities; working with local businesses; organising focus groups; hosting debates; involving members of the public in research and much, much more.

Discover is compiled, edited and distributed by the PEARL team. Each issue of Discover is made available in print copy and online through the PEARL website. Issues 1-3 are available from the PEARL website at www.pearl.lincoln.ac.uk/discover

What type of content are we looking for?

For this issue of Discover, we are looking for contributions which fall under one of the following 3 categories. Contributors may submit multiple articles, but each article can only be submitted to one category.

For examples and inspiration, please take a look at [Discover: Issue 3](#), to see the kinds of articles we've featured previously.

1. Events In The Spotlight

There is a lot of public engagement activity that takes place as part of one or more **regular programme of events** across Lincoln. Whether you've been the **organiser** and orchestrator of such an event, or you've **delivered a talk, workshop or activity** as part of it, we want to highlight the great work you've done.

Previous submissions included stories from those who have delivered content as part of the likes of the Lincoln Science Fayre, TEDx Brayford Pool, Café Scientifique, and the Being Human festival.

For articles in this category, here are some writing prompts for things we'd like see included:

- *What research was your activity about?*
- *Why was it important to you to engage the public with your research in this way?*
- *Who were your audience? What was the impact on them?*
- *What was your experience of delivering this activity?*

2. Publicly Engaged Research Projects

This is the **broadest** of our three categories. Here we feature a wide variety of **unique and exciting projects** which engage **specific public audiences** in their research through a **diverse range of formats**.

We have previously featured such projects as "There's No Place Like Home", led by Professor Stephanie Hemelryk-Donald and Dr Kaya Davies Hayon, which used the creative approaches of music, poetry and photography to engage with a local community in London in a two-way dialogue about questions relating to migration, detention, hospitality and integration.

Another previously featured project was “The Impact of Dog-Human Related Activities on Human Wellbeing”, led by Ana Maria Barcelos. Ana’s project integrated highly engaging workshops and focus groups into her wider research project which enabled her to not only collect new data from her audience, but to share the findings of her work with them as well as to gain a deeper understanding of positive impacts dog-ownership had on them.

For articles in this category, here are some writing prompts for things we’d like see included:

- *What were the public engagement aims of your project?*
- *Who were your audience? What did intend them to gain from engaging in your research?*
- *What was the approach you took to engage your audience in your work?*
- *Why was it important to you to engage this particular audience in this research?*
- *Where there any particular challenges you encountered when developing and/or delivering this project?*
- *How did you evaluate the impact of your engagement?*
- *What was the resulting benefit to you and your research?*

3. Engaging Thoughts

The Engaging Thoughts category is the reflective section of Discover. In this category, we’re looking to share **stories, lessons, tips, and experiences** that can give others an insight into what it’s like to do public engagement with research work.

Finding ways to meaningfully engage new audiences in research which positively impacts all those involved always requires a lot of hard work, creativity and ingenuity. As such, we are very keen to highlight stories which can give others an **insight into the experience** of being involved in public engagement with research, and in particular, **what lessons you may have learnt** along the way.

- *What have you learnt from taking part in a public engagement project for the first time?*
- *Can you share your experience of engaging with public audiences in a new setting or using new methods?*
- *Do you feel that you have any key public engagement successes or failures that have aided your personal and/or professional growth?*
- *Are you a public engagement veteran who can share insights about your approaches to evaluation, working collaboratively with creative and community partners, or how you manage engagement projects?*

Article specifications

The content of each article should be broadly appropriate for the category it is submitted to, but otherwise articles may be written in whichever style or layout you feel best suits your story, item or report.

Technical requirements

Please note the following formatting requirements and details which are necessary for all articles:

- Articles should be submitted as **MS Word files only**.
- Each article should have a short, catchy and relevant **title**.
- Be **no longer than a single side of A4 in at least font size 11**.

- If you are including any **references and/or links** to further, relevant information, please use numerical (e.g., [1], [2], [3]) citations in-text and list all links and references in full at the bottom of the page.

Images

We strongly encourage contributors to include any relevant images for use in the final publication.

- **You can submit up to 2 related images**, of which PEARL may decide to use one or all of them.
- Images must be submitted, via the submission form, as **full size, high-resolution** files in either **JPG or PNG formats**.
- Please include a short **caption & any photo accreditation details** at the bottom of your article in your Word document. Please clearly indicate which image file name each caption/accreditation relates to.

Key terms

When you submit your article to our online form, **you will be asked to provide some key words and/or terms that describe the content of your article**. This will help us to organise the report and to produce a useful index.

For an example of the previous descriptors used, please see the Index of [Discover: Issue 2](#), page 35.

How do I submit an article?

Before you submit your article, please ensure you have read the information above to insure you have included all relevant details.

To submit your article, please use our online submission form, [HERE](#).

University of Lincoln staff and students only.

Submissions from external colleagues are welcome by email to pearl@lincoln.ac.uk

Deadline

All submissions must be received no later than **5pm on Friday 28th January 2022**.

Edits and amendments

Please note that the PEARL team may make minor edits to correct any typos or to improve readability, where necessary. Article writers will be consulted where any major changes are necessary.

If you have any further questions about Discover, or if you'd like to discuss the details of a potential submission, please don't hesitate to contact us by email at pearl@lincoln.ac.uk.

Kind regards,
Dr Matt Young | PEARL Public Engagement Manager