Collaborative Futures Academy: Pause, Reflect, Engage  
– Researcher Application

22-26 November 2021

The Collaborative Futures Academy (CFA) aims to connect early career researchers and Public Engagement experts from across borders to grapple with the challenges and opportunities of embedding inclusive ways of working into our practice and navigating challenging content in challenging times.   
Public engagement requires the confidence to build relationships with our communities and the expertise to address challenging issues together. This week-long online masterclass supports researchers to develop these skills, explore creative ideas for engagement, learn from experts and connect digitally with colleagues from all over the world. All sessions will be delivered online and will be scheduled on Central European Time. Participants from all over the world are welcome to apply.  
Here you can learn how to deliver insightful public engagement that puts equity, resilience and collaboration at its heart.  
  
**Are you up for the challenge? Then come and join us for an exciting week at the Collaborative Futures Academy 2021!**#PauseReflectEngage21 #publicengagement #training #researcherdevelopment #engagedresearch #challengingconversations #resilience #EDI #confidence #communities #stakeholders #communication #listening

**Time commitment**

Please note, by applying to The Collaborative Futures Academy, you arecommitting to be available to attend live sessions at the masterclass from Monday-Friday, 22-26 November 2021. Further detail can be found in the Applicant Commitment section of the application form below. While participation in the course is free, each place is subsidised by the co-ordinating organisations and selected applicants are expected to fully participate to maximise the opportunity.

**Participation is free of cost. To apply please;**

1. Complete the application form below and send it to us together with;
2. A short video of max two minute length, reflecting on the following questions: (1) What does a collaborative research culture mean to you? (2) What excites you about this project?   
   Please refer to the guidance selection below for advice on how to create the video and where to upload it.   
     
   Alternative formats can be submitted instead of video, including:
   * A two minute voice recording
   * A 500 word written reflection
   * Other creative expressions (such as art or music) are welcomed

Please name both the form and video “CollaborativeFutures \_Surname” (e.g. **CollaborativeFutures\_Smith**)and send themto [BerlinSchool@mfn.berlin](mailto:BerlinSchool@mfn.berlin). If your video is too big to be sent via email, you can upload it here and send us the download link in an email (<https://wetransfer.com/>)

Deadline for applications is the **12 October 2021** and all applicants will be notified by 18.10.21 about the success of their application.

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| **Collaborative Futures Academy: Pause, Reflect, Engage** **2021  – *Application Form Researchers*** | |
| **1. Applicant details** | |
| Title (if applicable) |  |
| First name |  |
| Surname |  |
| Email |  |
| Academic Institution | ☐ University of Cambridge ☐ Wellcome Genome Campus  ☐ Museum für Naturkunde Berlin  ☐ Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  ☐ Other (please specify): |
| Country (if other) |  |
| Academic School and  Department/Faculty |  |
| Role (e.g. PhD, postdoc, etc.) |  |
| If you like, please tell us a bit about yourself and your biography  (e.g. what are you doing, what interests you, what skills do you bring into the collaboration)  Max 250 words |  |
| **2. Applicant commitment**  Please find below the academy commitments and state you agree to fulfil them | |
| Five days of training and facilitated exchange, amounting to 4 hours of live sessions per day (Monday-Friday, 22-26 November) via a digital platform. Core sessions will be held between 10.00-17.00 CET with additional evening sessions from Monday-Thursday.  You will need internet access throughout the academy and need to be comfortable speaking in person online, with cameras on as part of the training.  The week will consist of interactive workshops, panel discussions and small structured group discussions to develop skills, confidence and expertise needed to build relationships with our communities/stakeholders and to engage with challenging issues.  Outputs:   1. Participants will use a reflective diary to document learning throughout the week and set individual goals to put their learning into practice. 2. A follow up evaluation will be used to monitor the participant’s learning journey   ☐ I understand the time commitment necessary and will be available for the training and group work.  ☐ I confirm that I am aware that the program as well as the application Videos (or alternative creative expressions) will be documented and consent to the publication of my likeness as part of the project documentation and evaluation.  ☐ I give permission to be contacted by the project team (University of Cambridge, Wellcome Connecting Science, The Berlin School of Public Engagement and Open Science) as part of the follow up evaluation. Participants have the right to revoke permission at any stage. | |

**Guidance for creation of your introductory video**

We are embarking on a special journey to push the boundaries of how we engage and who we engage with. Through this week-long masterclass we will build skills, confidence and expertise to bring equity, resilience and collaboration into our public engagement. To do this we need small groups and confidential networking spaces for researchers to plan, practice and reflect with experts and peers. But we don’t want to keep it all behind closed doors, we want to share our learnings and inspire others to follow in our footsteps. To do this, we will create a film, among other things, to show why these issues matter. The film relies on co-creation and your introductory videos will form your first contribution.

Here are some tips on how to produce them:

* What camera should I use? Feel free to use your smartphone! Please check the settings of your native camera app (or the specialised one you may be using) to check that it is set to 30 fps and full HD recording (or more)
* Format? Please film yourself holding the camera in landscape perspective. So turn it 90 degrees from what you are used to so your phone is on its side.
* How to set up? That’s easy, because the smartphone camera does most of the work for you. Just make sure you have some lighting on your face. Indirect light from a window or a lamp works best. Also it helps if there is no direct or strong light source behind you.

Once you are all set, just hit record and share your perspective on the project. We are excited to get to know you!

**Other application formats**

Video introductions are the primary format for applications but application information can also be captured via voice recording or equivalent written reflections, and other creative expressions are welcome.   
If you have any questions about alternative formats for your application, you can contact [BerlinSchool@mfn.berlin](mailto:BerlinSchool@mfn.berlin)