

ENGAGING SCIENCE CONFERENCE

Science for all: is public engagement engaging the public?

PROGRAMME
HIGHLIGHTS

3-4 April 2006

Manchester Conference Centre

wellcometrust

Why have some children never visited a science centre, some students never enjoyed a science lesson, some adults never read a science article in a newspaper? Public engagement activities seek to stimulate an informed dialogue to raise awareness of science and its issues in new and exciting ways, providing access to all. But is this realistic and are they succeeding?

The Engaging Science Conference will be the ideal forum for anybody who is involved in education or in encouraging dialogue between scientists, the public, the media and government. In a two-day conference that combines debate, live performances, workshops, activities and discussion, we hope to begin to answer the question:

Is public engagement engaging the public?

The Wellcome Trust supports a diverse range of projects to engage people with bioscience and its issues. We have funded activities, major capital projects, research and policy initiatives that have inspired, informed and involved the public, both young and old.

The Engaging Science Conference will employ projects funded by the Wellcome Trust to illustrate and explore current methods of public engagement. Scientists, policy makers, educators, artists and community leaders will come together in one place to address the issues of today and develop effective strategies for the future.

Learn about the range of people and organisations we have supported and find out how you could get funding for activities, events or research projects that help to build bridges between science and society.

www.wellcome.ac.uk/funding/publicengagement



Over 90 panellists and speakers will be at the Conference to offer their experience, including:

- **Barbara Myers**, award-winning radio and television presenter and journalist
- **Dr Raj Persaud**, Consultant Psychiatrist at the Bethlem Royal and Maudsley Hospitals, and Gresham Professor for Public Understanding of Psychiatry, as well as the presenter of *All in the Mind* on BBC Radio 4
- **Quentin Cooper**, BBC television and radio presenter
- **Alan Friedman**, Director of the New York Hall of Science
- **Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell**, Research Professor and Vice-president for Research at the University of Manchester
- **Dr Derek Bell**, Chief Executive of the Association of Science Education
- **Michele Corrado**, Head of Medicine and Science Research at the Ipsos MORI Social Research Institute
- **Dr Steve Hill**, Deputy Chief Executive at The Environment Council
- **Andrea Bandelli**, an independent adviser on science communication initiatives.



Barbara Myers



Dr Raj Persaud



Alan Friedman



Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell



Dr Derek Bell



Andrea Bandelli

Session highlights

Join us in an exploration of biomedical science through exciting thought-provoking performances.

IMPACT Danscience 3 April, 15.30–17.00

Eight young dancers will perform IMPACT Danscience, inspired by discussions on epigenetics and the movements of classical Indian Bharata Natyam dance.

Every Breath 4 April, 13.30–15.00

Y Touring's theatre production *Every Breath* is a new play that explores the questions raised by the use of animals in medical research.

This is one of many productions by Y Touring that addresses scientific issues in an artistic setting.

Live events

Democs card game 4 April, 15.30–17.00

Democs (DEliberative Meetings Of CitizenS) is a conversation card activity through which participants find out about a contentious topic, form their opinions, discuss the topic with others and vote on what they would recommend. There are no right or wrong answers and no previous knowledge on the topic is required. Come along and try it for yourself.

Take part in a range of project showcases and discussions.

Freaks and Geeks: Science on the TV 4 April, 11.00–12.30

With dozens of channels to choose from, the public can turn off science, if they find it a turn-off. Some channels have gone for sex and shocks, but does the science get lost in the process? Can science find a place in television genres such as drama, soap opera and format programmes? Is there an alternative to geeks or freaks? In this session four speakers from the BBC, Channel 4, five and Sky television channels explain their strategies.

Sessions



Forums

Attend one of our issue-based forums for debate and discussion.

Science as culture: Engaging the humanities 3 April, 15.30–17.00

Initiatives such as Café Scientifique and Philosophique, where people can chat and debate about science issues in a friendly and informal atmosphere, have proved successful new ways to engage adults. With so much competition for their leisure time, what other ways can we find that are equally valuable and interesting? Does treating science as part of culture encourage new, desired audiences to explore it?

Join our panellists, who have all taken a less than traditional approach to public engagement, to discuss the cultural exploration of science, and contribute your experiences and ideas.

Education: Contemporary science for all? 4 April, 15.30–17.00

How can education be more responsive to current scientific research and associated social issues? How important is it for the science curriculum to include contemporary science?

These are questions that will be discussed in this session – a conversation between education and science. Speakers include Roger Lock (science: biology tutor, University of Birmingham) and Nancy Rothwell (Vice-president for Research, University of Manchester). It will also highlight innovative projects that have tried to reflect contemporary science through the curriculum, such as Twenty First Century Science, Science Learning Centres, Research Ethics Committees, Y Touring, *Big Picture* and *Science in the News*.

Workshops

Be involved in a range of hands-on/minds-on activities.

Behind the scenes: Insight into Wellcome Trust funding 4 April, 15.30–17.00

This workshop will provide an overview of the public engagement funding opportunities available at the Wellcome Trust. Perspectives from the office, grantholders and funding committee representatives will also be presented. You will have the opportunity to put yourself in the role of the funder and to consider the criteria you would apply to effectively distribute a limited amount of funding.

Facilitators: Engaging Science Grants Team (Wellcome Trust).

Conference programme – day 1
Monday 3 April 2006

10.30–12.30	Opening speech: Clare Matterson (Director, Medicine, Society and History division, the Wellcome Trust) Keynote plenary panel debate 'Science for all: Is public engagement engaging the public?': Barbara Myers (chair)					
12.30–13.30	Lunch (lunchtime session: drop-in Wellcome Trust funding surgery)					
13.30–15.00	Who are we reaching and how?	Live event Debating Matters Live schools debate competition.	Session Translating Science: The many languages of public engagement Project showcase and panel session followed by discussion.	Forum Developing Inclusion: Learning from others Social inclusion, broadening access and participation.	Workshop Reaching Out to the Young: Practical ways of engaging 5–11-year-olds with science A creative hands-on session.	EXHIBITION
Tea break 15.00–15.30		IMPACT Danscience performance Live performance inspired by epigenetics and Indian classical dance. Followed by discussion.	Scientists are Doing it for Themselves Project showcase and discussion on scientists taking the public engagement stage, and the issues involved.	Science as Culture: Engaging the humanities To what extent can science engagement be a cultural activity?	Going Digital: A circus of interactive stations and activities What the digital age offers public engagement and education.	
15.30–17.00		Café Scientifique Informal debate on the latest biomedical issues.		Meet the Mighty Gene Machine Live drama-based dialogue event.		
17.15–18.30						
19.30	Conference dinner – Harvey Nichols Restaurant					

Booking form – contact details

Details will appear in the Conference delegate list (*and on Conference badge)

Name*

Job title

Organisation*

Address

Postcode

Email

Telephone

Payment details (tick relevant box)

I enclose a cheque made payable to the Wellcome Trust for £

Please charge my credit card £

Visa Mastercard AMEX Diners

Cardholder's name

Card number

Expiry date

Start date (if shown)

Issue no. (if shown)

Our VAT reg. no. is GB744495211, charity no. 210183.

Please return this form to: Michelle Honey, Wellcome Trust, Gibbs Building, 215 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE

T 020 7611 8246 F 020 7611 8237

E m.honey@wellcome.ac.uk

Booking form

Please tick the elements of the Conference you wish to attend

Registration fees

2 days Conference – Monday and Tuesday, inc. lunch, tea/coffee £55

1 day Conference – Monday inc. lunch, tea/coffee £30

1 day Conference – Tuesday inc. lunch, tea/coffee £30

Evening

Sunday evening drinks and buffet reception free

Monday evening Conference dinner £30

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Accommodation

Student Halls of Residence, Manchester University

Adjacent to the Manchester Conference Centre.

Sunday night en suite (bed and breakfast) £41.50

Monday night en suite (bed and breakfast) £41.50

Any dietary requirements?

Any special access requirements?

Any other comments?

Which sector do you work in?

Closing date Tuesday 14 March 2006

Please note that places are limited and early registration is recommended. Places at the Conference cannot be guaranteed until payment has been received.

Conference programme – day 2

Tuesday 4 April 2006

10.00–10.45	Opening speaker: Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell (Vice-president for Research, University of Manchester) Keynote speaker: Alan Friedman (Director, New York Hall of Science)				EXHIBITION	
Tea break 10.45–11.00	At the science interface	Live event	Session	Forum		Workshop
11.00–12.30		Freaks and Geeks: Science on the TV Presenters from BBC, Sky, Channel 4 and five.	Science–Art Collaborations: The scientists’ perspective	Education: To the Future – Science in 2015 Panellists to share their vision for science education followed by discussion and debate.		Involving all Stakeholders
12.30–13.30	Lunch (lunchtime session – at the science/arts interface)					
13.30–15.00	Creating an impact	Every Breath: Y Touring’s new theatre performance Performance and debate addressing the issues of animal experimentation.	Beyond These Four Walls: Science centres and museums – the bigger impact.	To the Power of ‘e’: The internet – a virtual or actual tool for democracy? Powers (and limitations) of the internet to society.		Wellcome Monitor Consultation
Tea break 15.00–15.30		Engagement education policy and practice	Democs Policy and debate card game activities.	Education: Contemporary science for all? ‘Conversation’ between education and science, project showcases and discussion.		How soon is now? At what stage are people engaged with science: when, who decides and on what terms?
15.30–17.00						
17.00–17.30	Plenary closing session					

Conference fringe programme and exhibition

The Conference fringe programme offers further opportunities to explore and debate Engaging Science. Whenever you are not involved in a Conference seminar, workshop or performance, the fringe will offer you something of interest – whether in the hands-on exhibition hubs, multi-media presentations on display around the venue or informal lunchtime discussion groups.

Funding Surgeries

Big ideas? Need funding to get them off the ground? Drop in to our Funding Surgeries and speak to one of the Engaging Science grants team. However you are involved in public engagement – as researcher, educator, artist, science communicator – come along to see what funding opportunities are on offer.



Relaxation and networking

Pre-conference drinks and buffet reception
Fossils Gallery, Manchester Museum
2 April, 19.00–21.00

Join us for pre-conference evening drinks and buffet reception in the Fossils Gallery of the Manchester Museum. Designed and built in 1890 by the famous architect Alfred Waterhouse, the Manchester Museum is the perfect place to begin our exploration of public engagement with science.

Conference dinner and drinks reception
Harvey Nichols Restaurant and Brasserie
3 April, 19.30 for 20.00

The ideal way to round off the first day of the Conference! We are holding an evening reception and dinner at Harvey Nichols Restaurant and Brasserie. Artist, comedian and actor Ken Campbell will provide the after-dinner speech. Located on the second floor of the department store, the Brasserie has great views of Manchester from the Exchange Square development. Places are limited, so book soon to avoid disappointment.

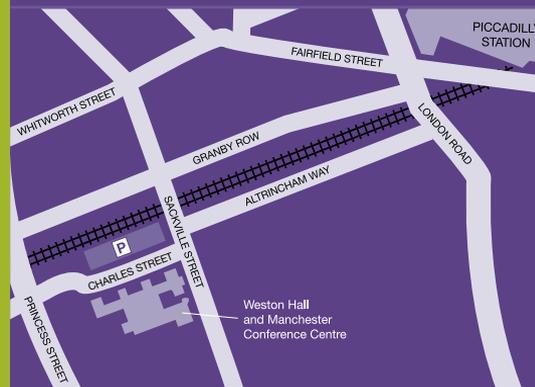
Venue

Manchester Conference Centre
Weston Building
Sackville Street
Manchester M1 3BB

T 0161 955 8000

www.manchesterconference.com

Nearest train station: Manchester Piccadilly
(seven minutes' walk)



Register now to reserve your place at the Conference. Closing date Tuesday 14 March 2006

At a glance

Sunday 2 April 2006

- Evening drinks and buffet reception, Manchester Museum.

Monday 3 April 2006

- Registration from 09.30 (for 10.30 start). Ends 18.30.

- Conference evening dinner at Harvey Nichols Restaurant, 19.30 for 20.00.

Tuesday 4 April 2006

- Registration from 09.30 (for 10.00 start) Ends 17.30.

The Wellcome Trust is an independent charity whose mission is to foster and promote research with the aim of improving human and animal health.

Reflecting the profound impact today's research will have on society, the Wellcome Trust also seeks to raise awareness of the medical, ethical and social implications of research and promote dialogue between scientists, the public and policy makers.

The Wellcome Trust is a registered charity, no. 210183. Its sole Trustee is The Wellcome Trust Limited, a company registered in England, no. 2711000, whose registered office is 215 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE. DC-3531.p/3.5K/2-2006/JP

Further information can be found at www.wellcome.ac.uk/esconference

