POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AND POSTDOCS

Establish the foundations of a UK-wide Archive, Exhibition, and Large-Scale Research Project

Develop and apply your research skills to work on a creative challenge with the University through the University of Cambridge ThinkLab

Who is this opportunity for?

We are looking for a team of committed and motivated Cambridge University postgraduate students and postdocs to produce a strategic development and delivery strategy for the **'Sandbach Tinne Interactive Exhibit Project'** on behalf of a team of partner organisations, including:

- National Museums & Galleries Liverpool
- The National Library of Scotland
- Liverpool Central Library (City Council)
- University of Bristol
  - Jean Golding Institute
  - Bristol Digital Futures
- University of Liverpool
- University of Glasgow
  - Scottish Business Archives
- University of Cambridge
  - Faculty of History

The project will aim to assess the strategic needs of the partner organisations, in respect of their collections, archives, and funding requirements needed to participate in the development and delivery of a multi-agency research project, which will culminate in curating a physical and interactive digital exhibit, that tells the story of the British empire through the lens of one family, known as Sandbach Tinne. The process aims to create research opportunities for further study into each collection, and your role will involve assessing those needs and developing the strategic development and delivery strategy. For a more extensive insight into the project's background, please have a look at Malik Al Nasir's article on the BBC website and the first pilot project at the Walker Art Gallery.

The ThinkLab team will help develop the first phase of this large-scale project, which is aiming to pursue large funding opportunities and spin out additional projects, museum exhibitions, and potentially the establishment of an international research network on the legacies of slavery and colonialism. There will be many opportunities for anyone from ThinkLab to stay involved as the project develops further.

We welcome researchers from any disciplinary background, especially those with experience in digital humanities, project and data management, business studies, international public health, history, Afro-Caribbean studies, and anything related to the Atlantic world. This will be a unique opportunity to broaden your professional skill set, gain valuable experience, make high level strategic industry contacts, and help contribute towards a ground-breaking socio-historical project.

How it works

Over an approximately 12-week period you will work alongside our project leader Malik Al Nasir and various stakeholders from within the University of Cambridge (e.g. the UL) as well as representatives from external stakeholders in three different cities in the UK on the research project and develop innovative solutions to accomplish the project goals, facilitated by the ThinkLab team. Besides our weekly 2-hour meetings where we develop ideas, plan our research, and provide updates on our progress, the additional individual workload of participating in a ThinkLab project may be up to 4 hours a week, depending on the stage of the project. Collaboration is central to the ThinkLab model, and every member of the team is expected to contribute to the final outputs in order for the project to succeed, so please do consider your other commitments before applying.

Programme Outline (PRELIMINARY)

Week 1: Introduction to ThinkLab and project plan discussion	Week beginning Monday, 31st Oct 2022
Week 2: Establish project roadmap & work plan	Week beginning Monday, 7th Nov 2022
Week 3: Partner meetings: engagement and plans	Week beginning Monday, 14th Nov 2022
Week 4: Research & data collection	Week beginning Monday, 21st Nov 2022
Week 5: Research & data collection	Week beginning Monday, 28th Nov 2022
Week 6: Partner check-ins	Week beginning Monday, 5th Dec 2022
Week 7: Finalise research & data collection	Week beginning Monday, 9th Jan 2023
Week 8: Discuss final outputs	Week beginning Monday, 16th Jan 2023
Week 9: Finalise outputs	Week beginning Monday, 23rd Jan 2023
Week 10: Final team meeting and presentation prep	Week beginning Monday, 30th Jan 2023
Week 11: Presentations & project wrap-up	Week beginning Monday, 6th Feb 2023
Week 12: Project debrief & next steps (TBC)	Week beginning Monday, 13th Feb 2023

Note: Dates and times for the ThinkLab schedule are provisional, but you should ideally be able to attend all sessions once dates and times are fully confirmed. The meetings will either be in person, online, or a hybrid of the two - venues etc TBC. Please inform us about any access requirements you might have.

How do I apply? (PLEASE NOTE: amended deadline)

Fill out the online application form (link below) no later than **5pm, Monday 24th October 2022**. If you have any further questions about the project or require a specific accessible format of the application form, please feel free to contact us at thinklab@admin.cam.ac.uk.

Link to the application form: please click here