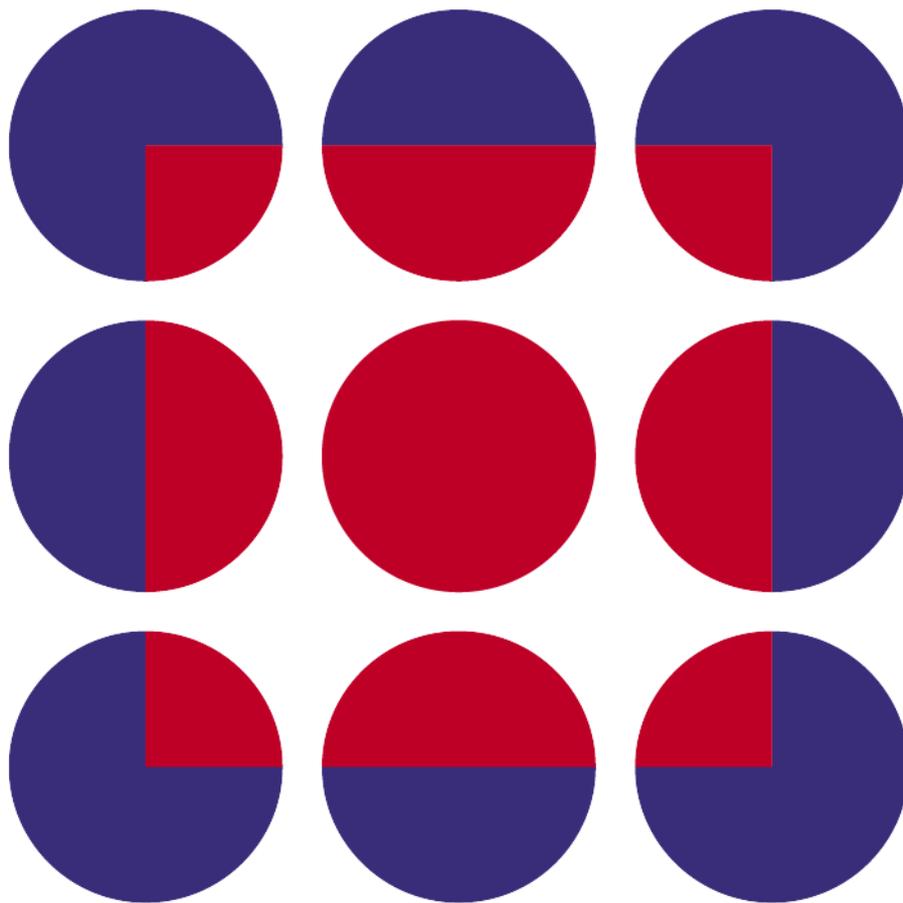


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MAKING WAVES

Rhythms, Patterns, Forces

Research Assistants for Scientist in Residence Programme

Making Waves Research Assistants

(3 positions available)

Join this exciting transdisciplinary project to work with social science researchers to observe activities and collect data.

Hours: 30 hours

Period: 1-18 February (see schedule below)

Deadline for applications: midnight on Sunday 16 January

Project:

Making Waves: Rhythms, Patterns, Forces

The Scientist in Residence (SiR) programme offers UAL postgraduate students the opportunity to collaborate with leading scientists from Tokyo Institute of Technology (Japan) and Queen Mary University (UK), interrogate their cutting-edge research and experiment with transdisciplinarity in action through hacking practices. Hosted in the Grow Lab at Central Saint Martins the collaboration also involves UAL faculty and visiting social scientists.

The programme for 2021/22 will explore the rhythms, patterns and forces within scientific research encompassing the dynamics of living systems, processes and patterning across scales.

Description of role:

This year, Social Scientist in Residence Prof. Kayoko Nohara will not be able to attend the SiR event in person, due to travel restrictions. The Research Assistants (RAs) will support the project by performing tasks on site (at CSM, Kings Cross), collect data for analysis and generally provide Prof. Nohara and her assistant, Dr Giorgio Salani, with "eyes" on the activities as they unfold. The role will require excellent communication with participants at CSM and researchers in Tokyo.

Aims of the research:

The purpose of the social scientific research is to observe and analyse the transdisciplinary methods in action during the SiR event: dialogues, behaviour, artwork, prototypes and other mediums used by students and visiting scientists to communicate across disciplines, nationalities, levels of expertise, etc. Following a broadly ethnographic approach, the RAs will participate in all activities as active observers, recording interactions and reporting back to the researchers in Tokyo at the end of each day.

Tasks - Data collection and generation:

- generally attending all events, participating in conversations and taking notes of key points/developments made by the participants
- writing down descriptions of events, including timelines and reflections on key developments, such as comments, conversations or actions by participants
- asking questions to the participants, occasionally conducting brief semi-structured interviews or questionnaires under Kayoko's instructions, as required
- preparing, placing and maintaining fixed audio/video cameras in the Grow Lab during the entire duration of the activities on each day (e.g. charging and changing batteries, downloading data from cards, ensuring correct views, etc.)
- filming additional material on action cameras or mobile phones, to follow key activities (TBC)
- collecting digital data used or produced by participants for or during activities
- taking photos of students portfolios and other notes on each day, and share them with Tokyo - so that the evolution of thoughts can be tracked
- downloading data at the end of each day on a shared folder TBC (e.g. box, dropbox, google drive)
- keeping track of the data collection using a spreadsheet/instructions to be provided by Giorgio

Tasks - Data analysis:

- depending on individual research interests, skills, and available time/resources, the RAs could also help with the transcription of the conversations and initial coding - during and/or after the SiR week.

Schedule:

Pre - week of 31 January

Attend online meetings with researchers in Tokyo to prepare research methods and data collection processes. (Dates/times to be confirmed, but likely to be between 8-10am due to the 9 hour time difference between London and Tokyo).

During - 7-11 February

This is an intensive week long 'hackathon' type project. Students will be in person 2-5pm each day. The RAs will need to be on site at CSM Kings Cross 1.30-5.30pm to set up and debrief. Online meetings to liaise with Tokyo researchers, will take place in the morning.

Post - week of 14 February

Some post production and liaison with researchers in Tokyo online (Dates/times to be confirmed).

Required Skills / Experience:

We are looking for 3 Research Assistants who have strong organisation skills (to collect and manage data), excellent communication skills (to listen, comprehend and relay events observed), and who can be sensitive to the role of observation (quietly attentive and not intrusive). The RAs should be able to follow instructions given by the research team in Tokyo and also be able use their own initiative in responding to events as they unfold (when to ask questions, when to step back and observe).

At least one candidate should have experience of videography to set up and manage static cameras recording events in the room.

Please let us know in your application why you are interested in this role and what skills and experience you bring.

More information about the project can be viewed [here](#).