



BEYOND FUTURES

Festival of Research & Innovation

University of Wolverhampton

BEYOND FUTURES RESEARCH & ENTERPRISE FESTIVAL 2025

Programme

When: 9th – 11th September 2025

Where: University of Wolverhampton City Campus, Millenium City Building, Wulfruna St, Wolverhampton, WV1 1LY

Please join us for the three-day showcase of impactful research, enterprise collaboration, and creative innovation between.

Through inspiring panels, exhibitions, and talks, the festival will explore how collaborative research, and enterprise can drive forward sustainability, inclusivity, health, and digital creativity. Please contact the organising team on beyondfutures@wlv.ac.uk with any queries you may have.

Please find below the programme highlights, and the full agenda.

Tuesday 9 September

09:00 - 16:00 Student Conference

Wednesday 10 September

09:00 - 13:40 Session 1: Green Innovation

12:00 - 15:35 Session 2: Digital and Creative

Thursday 11 September

09:00 - 13:40 Session 3: Inclusive Communities

12:00 - 16:05 Session 4: Medicine & Health

14:00 - 16:40 Launch of the International Centre for Creative Industries & Critical Cultural Practice



Session 1: Student Conference

Tuesday 9 September

Kicking off the festival is our Research Student Presentation & Poster Conference – an exciting opportunity to hear directly from our early career researchers and student innovators.

Guests are warmly invited to attend, engage, and support our talented student community as they share their research through live presentations and interactive posters.

Agenda

09:00 Registration and Networking

09:30 Welcome address

10:00 Student Oral Presentations

13:00 Networking Lunch

13:30 Poster Presentations (Gallery & Engagement Session)

16:00 Close

Celebrate the next generation of research excellence. Your support and feedback will help shape their development and confidence.





Session 1: Green Innovation

Wednesday 10 September

A deep dive into the transition to Net Zero and sustainable futures through collaborative research and knowledge exchange.

Venue: University of Wolverhampton Millennium City Building (MC001)

Agenda

09:00 Registration and Networking

09:50 Welcome address *Professor Prashant Pillai MBE, University of Wolverhampton*

10:00 Innovation within Additive Manufacturing through Collaboration and the Green Innovation Corridor (GEMM) *Professor Arun Arjunan and Dr John Robinson, University of Wolverhampton*

10:30 The Green Innovation Corridor (GIC) *Paul Woodcock, Programme Director, City of Wolverhampton Council and Professor Prashant Pillai MBE, University of Wolverhampton*

11:00 Panel Discussion *chaired by Professor Arun Arjunan*

- Anusha Shah, Global Senior Director, Arcadis
- George Seplyarsky, Systems Engineer, Areamine
- James Willets, Technical Director, AceOn Group
- Perminder Balu, Head of Net Zero, City of Wolverhampton Council
- Rupert Lyle, Investment Director, West Midlands Co-Investment Fund
- Sarah Moorhouse, Chief Executive Officer, Black Country Chamber of Commerce

11:45 Closing Remarks

12:00–13:40 Networking Lunch, Exhibitions & Courtyard Talks

Explore a vibrant mix of interactive stands and informal talks showcasing current work across Green Innovation, Digital & Creative, and General Research & Knowledge Exchange. This includes contributions from stakeholders across the region, with university insights into enterprise support, research impact, international development, creative collaborations, and more.





Session 2: Digital and Creative

Explore how emerging technologies and AI are reshaping creativity and empowering new forms of digital expression.

Venue: University of Wolverhampton Millennium City Building (MC001)

Agenda

12:00 Registration & Networking Lunch, Exhibitions & Courtyard Talks

Explore a vibrant mix of interactive stands and informal talks showcasing current work across Green Innovation, Digital & Creative, and General Research & Knowledge Exchange. This includes contributions from stakeholders across the region, with university insights into enterprise support, research impact, international development, creative collaborations, and more. Content is tailored to each theme to enrich your experience.

13:40 Welcome address Ceri D. Jones, Director, Research & Enterprise Directorate, University of Wolverhampton

13:45 Overcoming Disadvantage and Supporting Development through Innovative Informal Digital Solutions, Professor John Traxler, UNESCO Chair, University of Wolverhampton

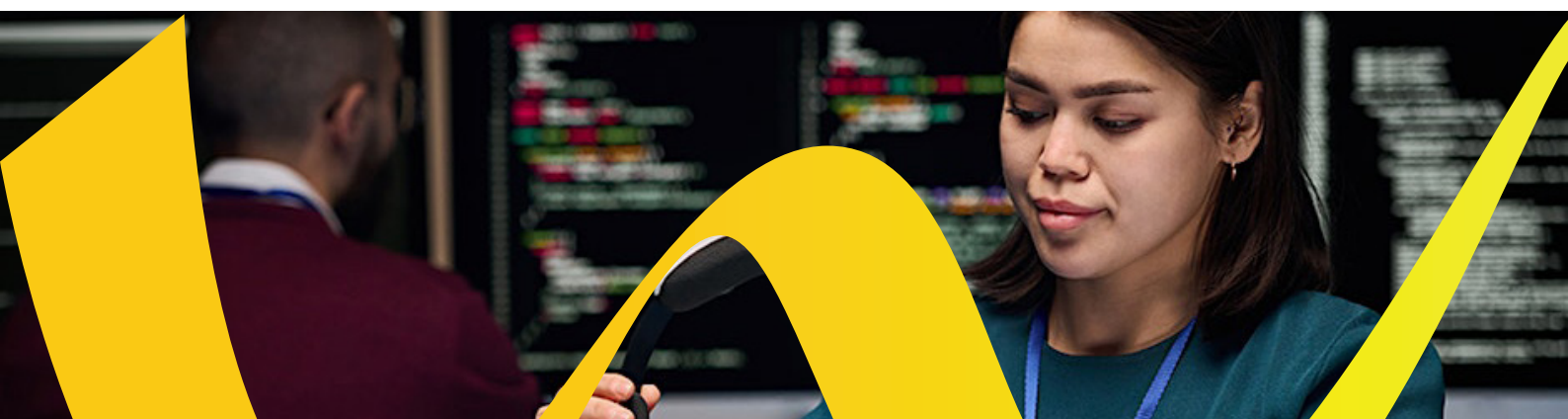
14:10 Nurturing Intelligence: A Human-Centred Approach to Responsible AI Professor Mohammad Patwary, University of Wolverhampton

14:35 Brain Tumour Diagnostics using Deep Learning Muhammad Imran, ThermoSol Limited and Umar Manzoor, University of Wolverhampton

15:00 Panel Discussion chaired by Professor Zeeshan Pervez, Professor in Cyber Security, University of Wolverhampton

- Andy Hague, Chief Operating Officer, TechWM
- Asha Devi, Healthcare Lead, ARUP
- Chris Downen, Director, MoRServ Group
- Heather Clark, Head of City Economy and External Funding, City of Wolverhampton
- Mike Chinn, Co-Director, StonesThrow Media

15:45 Closing Remarks





Session 3: Inclusive Communities

Thursday 11 September

Creating Inclusive Communities Through Collaboration, Partnership, and Community Engagement.

Venue: University of Wolverhampton Millennium City Building (MC001)

Agenda

09:00 Registration and Refreshments

09:50 Welcome Address *Dr Opinderjit Takhar, University of Wolverhampton*

10:00 Beyond the System: Leadership, Inequality, and Co-Creation with Communities *Professor Patrick Vernon OBE*

10:30 Wolverhampton City of Youth Culture Collaborative Case Study *Kelly Jeffs and Rachel Winsper (Wolverhampton City of Youth Culture) and Dr Mahuya Kanjilal and Dr Mary-Rose Puttick (University of Wolverhampton)*

11:00 Panel Discussion *chaired by Professor Laura Caulfield, Director of the Institute for Community Research and Development, University of Wolverhampton*

- John Denley, Public Health at City of Wolverhampton Council
- Keshena Bowie, Community Research Manager at Birmingham Voluntary Service Council
- Professor Patrick Vernon, University of Wolverhampton
- Sapreena Kumari, Co-President of the Asian Business Chamber of Commerce
- Warinder Juss MP, Wolverhampton West

11:45 Closing Remarks

12:00–13:40 Networking Lunch, Exhibitions & Courtyard Talks

Explore a vibrant mix of interactive stands and informal talks showcasing current work across Inclusive Communities, Medicine and Health, and General Research & Knowledge Exchange.





Session 4: Medicine and Health

Exploring the challenges and opportunities around Medicine and Clinical Trials with panel talks, collaborative case studies and live demos.

Venue: University of Wolverhampton Millennium City Building (MC001)

Agenda

12:00 Registration & Networking Lunch, Exhibitions & Courtyard Talks

Explore a vibrant mix of interactive stands and informal talks showcasing current work across Inclusive Communities, Medicine and Health, and General Research & Knowledge Exchange.

13:40 Welcome Address Professor Andy Gibson, University of Wolverhampton

13:45 Inequalities and Biases of AI Professor Rajeev Krishnadas, University of Cambridge

14:15 Detecting disease with Bio Detection Dogs – Forging a New Path in Science

Dr Claire Guest OBE, Medical Detection Dogs

14:45 Gynaecological Malignancies Dr Aditi Desai, The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

14:55 Robotic Surgery in ENT Cancers Professor Farhan Hassan, The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

15:05 RRDN Operationalising Research in the UK Dr David Shukla, National Institute for Health and Care Research

15:15 Delivering Research Ms Pauline Boyle, National Institute for Health and Care Research

15:25 International Collaboration Dr. Sharanprakash Patil, Hon'ble Minister for Medical Education and Skills Development, Government of Karnataka, India

15:35 International Collaboration Dr. M.C. Sudhakar, Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education, Government of Karnataka, India

15:45 International Collaboration Prof. Bhagavan Balagopal Channarayapatna, Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka, India

15:55 Greenspace Exposure & Population Health Dr Weiju Zhou, Tsinghua University, Beijing

16:05 Panel Discussion, Q&A & Closing Remarks chaired by Professor Tonny Veenith, University of Wolverhampton





Launch Event: International Centre for Creative Industries & Critical Cultural Practice Thursday 11 September

Launching the International Centre for Creative Industries and Critical Cultural Practices (CICCUP).

Venue: University of Wolverhampton Millennium City Building (MC401)

Agenda

- 14:00** **Welcome address** *Professor Vijay Reddy, Associate Dean Research and Knowledge Exchange, University of Wolverhampton*
- 14:10** **Introduction to CICCUP** *Co-directors Professor John Roberts and Dr Fran Pheasant-Kelly*
- 14:20** **Can creativity save the world? Inspiration for sustainability at the intersections of creativity and culture** *Professor Natascha Radclyffe-Thomas, Professor of Marketing and Sustainable Fashion, Ravensbourne University, London*
- 15:00** **Refreshments**
- 15:20** **Injustice at the Intersection: The Experiences of Black women in the Criminal Justice System** *Dr Paula McLean, Senior Lecturer in Criminology, Sheffield-Hallam University*
- 16:00** **Always Already After: Arts, Humanities and AI** *Professor Caroline Bassett, Professor of Digital Humanities, University of Cambridge*
- 16:40** **Closing remarks**

