New Director of CREST

We are delighted to announce Stacey Conchie as the new Director of CREST. Stacey takes over the leadership of our Centre from our founding Director, Paul Taylor, who has moved on to a new role as the UK’s first National Policing Chief Scientific Adviser.

From Stacey:
“It’s a great privilege to take over as Director of CREST. The Centre holds a unique position in the landscape of research centres – a result of an outstanding central team, a collegiate network of leading researchers, and supportive and engaged stakeholders. I look forward to working with them all as we play our role in ensuring the best behavioural social science research is available for countering security threats.”

From Paul:
“My warmest congratulations to Stacey as incoming director of CREST. Stacey is a long-standing member of the CREST community who has made critical contributions to our core areas, particularly with her research on disruptions and source management. I have no doubt that CREST will flourish under her leadership.”

Further information about CREST can be found here.

Meet a Colleague

Professor Stacey Conchie

My research interests focus on the socio-psychological factors that shape behaviour in high-risk contexts. This has resulted in work with several high-risk industries on safety, and with industry and government on security. Core to my work is the role of interpersonal trust in social relations and the impact this has on decision-making, leadership processes and promoting behaviours that are essential for organizational success, yet are difficult to promote through formal mechanisms. I am Director of the £12M Centre for behavioural and social science research on security threats (CREST), which houses an active programme of research, regular events, and partnerships with industry. I am also co-director of the EPSRC network on digital security, identity, privacy, and trust; and a Board member of the First International Network of Trust.

Funding Calls

Develop digital economy research communities with NetworkPlus

Apply for funding to build digital economy and manufacturing research communities.

The EPSRC digital economy theme, working in partnership with the manufacturing the future theme, aims to support five ‘NetworkPlus’ grants to stimulate development of digital economy research and communities. Each funded NetworkPlus must address only one of
the digital economy theme five priority areas which reflect the theme’s long-term strategic goals:

- beyond a data driven economy
- content creation and consumption
- equitable digital society
- sustainable digital society
- trust, identity, privacy and security

**Protecting citizens online complementary projects: outline stage**

Apply for funding to research the needs of citizens online, help them control how their data is used and protect them from online harms.

Projects should align with the National Research Centre on Privacy, Harm Reduction and Adversarial Influence Online (REPHRAIN) funded through the first phase of the programme.

The UKRI Strategic Priority Fund (SPF) is awarding up to £11 million of research funding for this opportunity.

This is an opportunity to research the diverse and changing realities of citizens’ needs online, and empower them to understand and control how their data is used. This will create user-focused tools to mitigate online harms whilst enabling data sharing to maximise societal benefit in the digital economy.

This is the second phase of the SPF Protecting Citizens Online (PCO) programme, aiming to fund a portfolio of projects complementary to the National Research Centre on Privacy, Harm Reduction and Adversarial Influence Online (REPHRAIN), funded through phase one.

Together, these two discrete but interdependent workstreams comprise the PCO programme.

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**Introducing: COP26 at Lancaster Festival**

To tie in with a major climate change conference in Glasgow this November, the University is looking to spark debate and showcase our leading specialists and research relating to climate change as part of a ‘COP26 at Lancaster Festival’ – and we’d like you to get involved.

The 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) will be held in Glasgow 1–12 November 2021, and will bring together heads of state, climate experts and campaigners to agree coordinated action to tackle climate change.

In the run up to the Glasgow conference, Lancaster University is aiming to draw together relevant activity from across our institution to form a special week-long ‘COP26 at Lancaster Festival’ between 20–27 October 2021, and we’d like you to get involved by suggesting ideas for a programme of events.

The COP26 at Lancaster Festival will bring together a diverse programme of internal and externally-facing events aimed at staff, students, the public and school children. The programme of events will specifically aim to:

- Connect communities working on climate change areas across campus
- Engage staff, students, local communities, businesses and our global partners with COP-related research and innovation
- Provide an opportunity for the University to highlight actions taken in response to declaring a climate emergency
- Highlight individual contributions made by University staff

Speaking about the festival, Professor Simon Guy, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Global (Digital, International, Sustainability and Development) said: “The COP26 at Lancaster Festival will provide an opportunity to bring together Lancaster’s leading voices on climate change issues, all with the aim of connecting people and raising awareness whilst also sparking discussion, debate and collaboration on the greatest challenge facing us all.

“As part of the University’s declaration of a climate emergency in November 2020, this festival will demonstrate further our commitment to accelerating action on climate change from local impact to global impact and highlight the excellent research, knowledge and other activities we have going on across the University.”
Get involved – Express your interest

We’re now looking for expressions of interest to be part of the festival’s programme of events which will run from Wednesday 20 October to Wednesday 27 October 2021. Perhaps you already have a potential event planned during this period that can be added to the festival, or do you have a suggestion for one of the following?

- Academic seminar
- Public seminar
- School-focused activity or climate change assembly
- Practical panel session

Ideally, we’re looking for events that will engage, inform and spark debate. They can be specifically aimed at staff, students, school-children, the general public or all of the above. Where possible, it would be great if your suggestion is linked to one of the COP main themes (although this isn’t exclusive and if you have other ideas, please do still get in touch). The main themes are:

- **Adaptation and resilience**: How to help communities adapt, and prepare for the impact of climate change.
- **Nature based solutions**: How to safeguard and restore natural habitats and ecosystems to preserve the planet’s biodiversity.
- **Energy transitions**: How to accelerate the clean energy transition by encouraging the use of cheaper renewables and storage.
- **Clean transport**: Work around speeding up the global transition to zero emission vehicles.
- **Finance**: Encourage our financial systems to be cleaner to unlock growth and create green jobs.

In the first instance, please complete this form with your expression of interest by **Monday 21st June 2021**. At this initial stage, this will help us build a picture of what the festival could look like and you won’t be held to delivering on your expression of interest. We’ll be in touch shortly after the deadline to discuss plans.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about the festival please contact cop26festival@lancaster.ac.uk.

The University will also be hosting part of the Annual National ESRC Festival of Social Science 2021 throughout November, with events focussing on COP26 themes – more information and an Expression of Interest form will follow. For further information in the meantime, please contact esrciaa@lancaster.ac.uk.

Seminar Series

- **Stefan Katzenbeisser** - Memory-Based PUFs - Constructions and Applications Seminar Taking place on Friday 18th June from 2-3pm
- **David Buil-Gil and Jose Pina-Sánchez** - Measurement Error in Crime Data and Its Implications for Explaining and Preventing Crime. Taking place on Friday 9th July from 2-3pm

A full list of our seminars can be found [here](#).

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