CHERISH-DE Centre

Call for Expressions of Interest

Deadline for EOIs: 4pm, 4th June 2018
Shortlist published 11th June 2018
Pitch development workshop: 18th June 2018
Pitches to panel, funding decisions: 19th June 2018

£100,000.00 of funding is available in this round

- *Pilot* Up to £5K,
- *Escalate* Up to £10K,
- *Impact* Up to £15K.
- Sandpits £5000
- Focus groups £1500

Applications open 4th May 2018

'The Digital Economy is simply the ability to provide platforms, services and devices that enable people to transact and relate - be that for an economical gain, or a societal gain.'

Overview

The CHERISH DE Centre is one of six national Digital Economy Centres funded by EPSRC and a range of project partners for a five-year period until 2020.

The Swansea centre targets **challenging human environments** ranging from health care, deprived regions to security contexts.

All of our work is interdisciplinary in recognition that difficult social and economic challenges can be best tackled through the combined insights from arts and humanities, STEM, medical and social sciences.

CHERISH has three objectives:

1. **Maximise impact of the unique Challenging Human Environment Digital Economy (DE) work grown within Swansea;**

2. **Act as a beacon for an innovative impact-led way of working; and,**

3. **Develop a generation of ambassadors who will be the sustaining dynamic of DE working.**

We are currently seeking interdisciplinary research ideas that will lead to impact within three broad areas of the Digital Economy:

- Health and Social Care;
- Resource Constrained Communities;
- and, Safety and Security.

Research ideas can be in one or more of these broad areas. Where the bid has a focus on one area only, applicants should demonstrate how their work can also inform one or more of the other two themes.

Application Process

1. **Call for Expressions of Interest – Deadline 4th June 2018**

In this funding round we are inviting [Expressions of Interest (EOI)](#) to our Escalator Fund. The deadline for EOI submission is 18th May.

After these have been considered, a shortlist of applicants will be selected and invited to develop their ideas into a pitch that they will be deliver, alongside their Co-Is where possible, to a 'Dragon's Den' style panel on 19th June.

2. **Shortlist of applicants announced 11th June 2018**

3. **Pitch development workshop – 18th June 2018 (COMPLUSORY)**

Participants invited to pitch will be supported via a one-day workshop to develop their idea. The workshop will take place on 18th June and will be led by former Computational Foundry resident [Tim Kindberg](#) of the Pervasive Media Studio, Bristol.

4. **Pitches to panel – 19th June 2018**

Applicants will pitch their idea to a panel including:

Professor Matt Jones, Head of College of Science
Susan Dray and David Siegel (dray consulting), Computational Foundry Residents
Clare Henson, Project Manager CHERISH
Professor David Ford, CHERISH DE Co Investigator
Early career researcher

Applicants will be given an in principle decision on the day.

Escalator Fund

CHERISH DE offers seedcorn funding through an **Escalator Fund** that encourages beneficiaries to return to it for additional funding over time. The fund's three tiers are:

- *Pilot* (to create or trial a promising impact-driving idea) – Up to £5K,
- *Escalate* (to further develop the idea) – Up to £10K, and
- *Impact* (to provide funds for a well-developed idea to be articulated in a way that optimises the delivery of impact) – Up to £15K.

Impact ideas will combine digital innovations and insights from social, medical, economic, legal, historic and other perspectives leading to case-studies, proofs of concept, toolkits and platforms that will be "open source" to stimulate novel products, services, laws and policies.

General information

Proposals **must** be co-created with one or more research users, drawn from our user partners or another external stakeholder identified by the proposers.

Proposals should show how these non-academic partners will **actively support** the work (through in-kind contributions such as time or equipment, or directly). Partners **may not** receive any funding.

Proposers are encouraged to work, where appropriate, with other researchers in one of the other 5 DE Centres in the UK (or equivalent globally).

Proposers can request funds for travel and subsistence; and, materials and equipment (where no piece of equipment should be valued at £10,000 or more).

RA support from the CHERISH Centre

The Centre employs two Post Doctoral Research Officers who have a strong background in digital economy working including the design and development of prototypes; and, the facilitation of user-centred prototyping and evaluation. Proposers can request a proportion of these researchers' time to assist in the project work. This support does not need to be costed into a bid

We anticipate allocating up to 80% of a FTE researcher per annum for this support work and proposers are encouraged to bid for up to 20% FTE in their applications, if needed.

If you would like to discuss an idea with Doon Macdonald or Thomas Reitmaier please contact the centre to arrange a meeting**.**

All proposals will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Digital innovation
- Interdisciplinarity
- Fit with the objectives of the Centre (see above)
- Co-design and engagement with stakeholders (e.g. research partners, international group, other DE Centres or equivalent)
- Outcomes including plans for work beyond the funding
- Value for money

Engaging with Research Users

The CHERISH-DE website lists our founder Project Partners. Where researchers wish to discuss potential ideas with these partners, they are asked to liaise with the Centre's User Engagement Officer (cherish-de@swansea.ac.uk) in the first instance. A list of our partners is included at the end of this guidance.

Eligbility

Proposers must be academic or research staff at Swansea University and hold a post that will outlive the duration of the award. Research Officers/ Associates must have their application endorsed by their line manager to indicate that the project is aligned with the wider duties of their research projects and activities.

Award Spend and Reporting

All spending related to an award must be completed before 31st December 2018. Award holders will be asked to complete some brief reporting on the outcomes of the work by 30th January 2019 and showcase their research at CHERISH DE , Festival of ideas in January/February 2019

CHERISH-DE Project Partners

Our founding partners all contribute to the development of the centre's research themes and have established collaborations with Swansea University. They are committing significant resource to support the development and implementation of the Centre, offering researchers:
- Training and development
- Access to facilities
- Hosting secondments
- Staff time
- Co-funding research
- Proof –of-concept activity

List of CHERISH Founding Partners

Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board
Accelero
BBC Research & Development
Blurrt
City and County of Swansea
DVLA
FRAM3
GPC
Pobl (formerly Grŵp Gwalia)
IBM Research (India)
Go Fore (formerly LeadIn)
Microsoft (India)
Microsoft Research Ltd (UK)
Protect 2020
South Wales Police Cyber Crime Unit
Symlconnect
TechHub
WePredict