

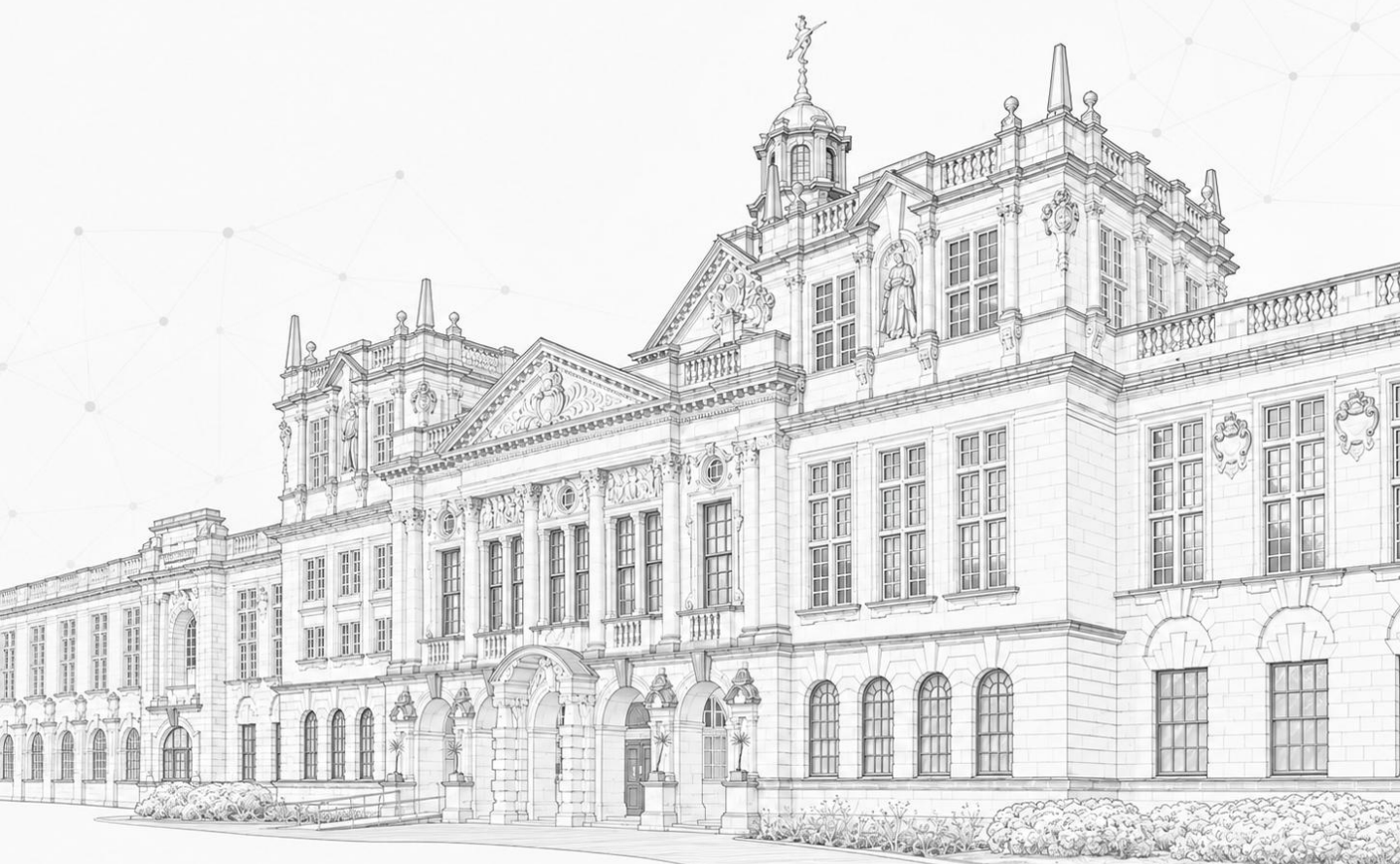
The Art and Science of Uncertainty and the Future

An Interdisciplinary Summer School

6-10 JULY 2026

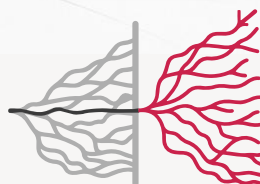
CARDIFF, WALES, UK

PROGRAMME HANDBOOK



Data
Lab for
Social Good
Cardiff University, UK

Interdisciplinary.
Collaborative.
Future-facing.



SUMMER SCHOOL

The Art and Science of Uncertainty and the Future.



Welcome to Cardiff...

We are delighted to welcome you to *The Art and Science of Uncertainty & the Future – An Interdisciplinary Summer School*. Questions of uncertainty and the future have been relevant throughout history, remain pressing today, and will continue to be so for generations to come.

This summer school grows from a long-standing fascination with how we understand, communicate, and act under uncertainty, and how these shape the futures we create. Over the years, that fascination developed into a vision: a space where different perspectives on uncertainty and the future can meet, challenge one another, and spark new ways of thinking.

In the days ahead, we encourage you to bring your questions, your disciplines, and your doubts. Speak across the boundaries that usually separate us, listen closely to perspectives unlike your own, and let yourself be surprised. The futures we imagine here begin with the conversations we're willing to have.

Welcome, we are glad you're with us.



Prof. Bahman Rostami-Tabar

Academic Director

The Art & Science of Uncertainty & Future:
an Interdisciplinary Summer School

Inside this handbook

01 About the summer school

Purpose, themes, people, and practical information

02 Programme

A detailed day-by-day agenda for 6-10 July

03 Keynotes and workshops

Session summaries, speakers, and learning outcomes

04 Panels and research talks

Conversations and participant-led research

05 Site visit and social programme

Big Pit, film screening, gala dinner, and Cardiff tour

06 Community and travel

Organising team, participants, sponsors, and visitor information

The Message Behind the Summer School.

We often treat uncertainty as a problem to be solved, something to reduce, quantify, manage, or remove. But uncertainty is also what keeps the future open instead of fixed. It is where different possibilities exist together, and where some of the most important human decisions are made: in science, in policy, in art, and in our own lives. How we understand uncertainty shapes how we imagine and build the future.

The difficulty is that we rarely discuss uncertainty and the future across the borders of our fields. A statistician, a historian, a climate scientist, an engineer, a novelist, and a philosopher may each have a very different understanding of what it means to face the unknown and to think about what is coming, yet they rarely meet and talk with one another. When they do, something valuable happens. What seems like common sense in one field is shown to be just one way of thinking, not the only one. Tools created in one area of knowledge become useful in another, and the different fields complement one another. And the future stops looking like a single prediction to be calculated, and starts looking like something we take part in creating.

This is the idea behind the summer school. It is especially designed for ECRs and PhD researchers who want to explore uncertainty and the future beyond the boundaries of their own disciplines. It was built as a meeting place rather than a lecture hall, a space where the art and the science of uncertainty and the future can be brought together instead of kept apart. During our time together, you can expect to move between formal methods and open questions, between careful analysis and free imagination. You will work with people whose background is very different from your own, and you will leave, we hope, not only with new knowledge but also with new ways of thinking and asking questions.

Engage with uncertainty. Shape the future.

The summer school provides conceptual, methodological, and creative tools to understand, model, communicate, and act in the face of uncertainty. Keynotes, workshops, panels, research spotlights, and collaborative activities connect theory to lived and institutional practice.

What participants will develop

- Knowledge and confidence to navigate uncertainty and imagine alternative futures.
- Skills in probabilistic reasoning, forecasting, visual communication, foresight, and decision quality.
- Experience of creative and participatory practices for interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Connections with an international community of researchers and practitioners.
- Ideas for research proposals, publications, teaching, policy, and professional practice.



Summer school at a glance

DATES

6-10 July 2026

WELCOME

5 July 2026

VENUE

Cardiff University

CITY

Cardiff, Wales, UK

FORMAT

In-person

CONTACT

halgamuwehewagehr@cardiff.ac.uk

Main rooms

- Glamorgan Building, Room 0.81 - keynotes, panels, and research presentations.
- Glamorgan Building, Room 1.68 - selected workshops.
- Glamorgan Building, Room 1.67 - refreshments and lunches.
- Bute Building, Room 0.15 - workshops.
- Glamorgan Committee Rooms 1 and 2 - gala dinner, and closing keynote.



Glamorgan Building
King Edward VII Ave, Cardiff CF10 3NS
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/u5zmqvyUrnD2Vyxq6>



Day 1 | Monday 6 July 2026

Opening, decision quality, creative pedagogy, and a guided Cardiff tour.

08:00 - 09:00	Registration Coordinator: Beverly Francis	Glamorgan Reception
09:00 - 09:15	Welcome and opening Prof Bahman Rostami-Tabar: Welcome Harsha Halgamuwe Hewage: General Information	Glamorgan, Room 0.81
09:15 - 10:30	Session 1: Opening Keynote Speaker: Sir David Spiegelhalter Title: The Art of Uncertainty: planning for a future that is hard to imagine	Glamorgan, Room 0.81
10:30 - 11:00	Break	Glamorgan, Room 1.67
11:00 - 11:30	Session 2: Icebreaker Lead: Prof Peter Madden Coordinator: Amir Salimi Babamiri	Bute, Room 0.15
11:30 - 12:30	Session 3: Workshop Speaker: Prof. Mohammed Amin Mohammed Title: Decision Quality and Uncertainty	Bute, Room 0.15
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch	Glamorgan, Room 1.67
13:30 - 15:00	Session 4: Workshop Speaker: Prof. Mohammed Amin Mohammed Title: Decision Quality and Uncertainty	Bute, Room 0.15
15:00 - 15:30	Break	Glamorgan, Room 1.67
15:30 - 17:00	Session 5: Workshop Speakers: Dr Laura Barritt Dr Theo Humphries	Bute, Room 0.15
17:15 - 19:00	Cardiff Tour Group 1: Dr Neil Harris Group 2: Dr Brian Webb	Meeting point: Glamorgan Building stairs

Day 2 | Tuesday 7 July 2026

Futures practice, leadership under uncertainty, and education for adaptability.

09:00 - 10:15 **Session 6: Keynote 2** Glamorgan, Room 0.81
Speaker: Bill Sharpe | Title: Finding ourselves in the future

10:15 - 10:30 **Break** Glamorgan, Room 1.67

10:30 - 12:00 **Session 7: Panel 1** Glamorgan, Room 0.81
Title: Uncertainty, the Future, and Better Decision-Making |
Panelists: Prof. Wendy Larner; Mr. Derek Walker; Dr. Fin Monahan;
Dr. David Fluck

12:00 - 12:30 **Session 8: Interactive Activity** Glamorgan, Room 1.68
Lead: Prof Peter Madden | Title: Embracing Uncertainty

12:30 - 13:30 **Lunch** Glamorgan, Room 1.67

13:30 - 14:45 **Session 9: Workshop** Glamorgan, Room 1.68
Speaker: Prof. Michelle Lazarus | Title: Educating for an Uncertain
Future: Pedagogies That Prepare Learners to Adapt

14:45 - 15:15 **Break**

15:15 - 16:30 **Session 10: Workshop** Glamorgan, Room 1.68
Speaker: Prof. Michelle Lazarus | Title: Educating for an Uncertain
Future: Pedagogies That Prepare Learners to Adapt

Day 3 | Wednesday 8 July 2026

Communicating uncertainty, industrial heritage, documentary film, and the gala dinner.

09:00 - 10:30

Session 11: Workshop

Speaker: Dr Nicola Rennie | Title: Communicating and Visualising Future Uncertainty

Glamorgan, Room 1.68

10:30 - 11:00

Break

Glamorgan, Room 1.67

11:00 - 12:00

Session 12: Workshop

Speaker: Dr Nicola Rennie | Title: Communicating and Visualising Future Uncertainty

Glamorgan, Room 1.68

12:00

Lunch

Packed lunches will be provided before departure.

Glamorgan Building entrance

12:00 - 16:00

Session 13: Site visit

Destination: The Real Underground Experience, Big Pit National Coal Museum | Departure: 12:30

Departure point: Glamorgan Building entrance

17:00 - 19:00

Film screening

Please arrive at 17:00 for at 17:15 start | Film: The Coal Beneath Our Feet, The Wind Above Our Heads

2.06 Sir Stanley Thomas lecture theatre, Centre for Student Life

19:00 - 22:00

Gala dinner

Glamorgan, Committee Room 1 and Committee Room 2

Day 4 | Thursday 9 July 2026

Participant research, responsible future-making, and publishing uncertainty research.

09:00 - 10:30 **Session 14: Research presentation** Glamorgan, Room 0.81
 Matthew Ray Bobea, Charlie Leedham, Amirhossein Ghadiri,
 Sode Idelphonse

10:30 - 11:00 **Break** Glamorgan, Room 1.67

11:00 - 12:15 **Session 15: Keynote** Glamorgan, Room 0.81
 Speaker: Prof Barbara Adam | Title: Future Matters: Action,
 Knowledge, Ethics

12:30 - 13:30 **Lunch** Glamorgan, Room 1.67

13:30 - 14:45 **Session 16: Panel 2** Glamorgan, Room 0.81
 Title: Advancing Uncertainty and Futures Research: What Editors
 Look For | Panelists: Prof. Pierre Pinson; Dr. Christopher Groves;
 Prof. Aris Syntetos

14:45 - 15:15 **Break** Glamorgan, Room 1.67

15:15 - 16:45 **Session 17: Research presentations** Glamorgan, Room 0.81
 Steffan James, Elias Peter Mwakilama, Patrik Dahl, Matunga
 (Mattie) Barwell

Day 5 | Friday 10 July 2026

Algorithmic risk, long-term planning, feedback, and the closing keynote.

09:00 - 10:30

Session 18: Workshop

Bute, Room 0.15

Speaker: Prof. Galit Shmueli | Title: Predictive Inconsistency in Algorithmic Risk Assessment Tools

10:30 - 11:00

Break

Glamorgan, Room 1.67

11:00 - 12:30

Session 19: Workshop

Bute, Room 0.15

Speaker: Peter Madden | Title: Planning and Building for the Long-term When the Future Is Uncertain

12:30 - 13:30

Lunch

Glamorgan, Committee Room 1 and 2

13:30 - 14:15

Session 20: Closing remarks and feedback

Glamorgan, Committee Room 1

Leads: Prof Bahman Rostami-Tabar, Dr Laura Barritt

14:30 - 15:45

Session 21: Closing Keynote

Glamorgan Council Chamber

Speaker: Prof Michelle Lazarus | Title: Discomfort of uncertainty or absurdity of certainty: navigating uncertainty in an evolving world

16:00 - 16:30

Coffee break

Glamorgan, Committee Room 2

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Four perspectives on uncertain futures



The Art of Uncertainty: Planning for a future that is hard to imagine

Sir David Spiegelhalter

Emeritus Professor of Statistics
University of Cambridge



Finding ourselves in the future

Bill Sharpe

Co-founder of Future Stewards,
co-creator of the Three Horizons framework



Future Matters: Action, Knowledge, Ethics

Barbara Adam

Emerita Professor
School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University



Discomfort of uncertainty or absurdity of certainty: navigating uncertainty in an evolving world

Michelle Lazarus

Professor and Director
Centre for Human Anatomy Education, Monash University

KEYNOTE

The Art of Uncertainty: planning for a future that is hard to imagine

Mon 6 July | 09:15-10:30

Glamorgan 0.81



Sir David Spiegelhalter

Emeritus Professor of Statistics
University of Cambridge

Speaker

Professor Sir David Spiegelhalter FRS OBE is Emeritus Professor of Statistics at the University of Cambridge and a leading public voice on risk, evidence, and uncertainty. His books include *The Art of Statistics* and *The Art of Uncertainty*.

Talk overview

Traditional decision frameworks can struggle when uncertainty is deep and the full range of possible futures cannot be imagined. This keynote explores humility, imagination, and resilience as essential qualities for adapting, recovering, and thinking beyond systems designed only for present conditions.

Chair: Prof Bahman Rostami-Tabar

KEYNOTE

Finding ourselves in the future

Tue 7 July | 09:00-10:15

Glamorgan 0.81



Bill Sharpe

Co-founder of Future Stewards,
co-creator of the Three Horizons framework

Speaker

Bill Sharpe is a futures practitioner, systems thinker, co-founder of Future Stewards, and author of *Three Horizons: The Patterning of Hope*. His work connects science, technology, society, and regenerative futures.

Talk overview

How can we act with hope in the face of complexity and existential risk? This keynote introduces Three Horizons, a futures practice that helps people identify patterns of continuity and change, understand their role within them, and convene conversations for transformative action.

Chair: Prof Rachel Ashworth

KEYNOTE

Future Matters: Action, Knowledge, Ethics

Thu 9 July | 11:00-12:15

Glamorgan 0.81



Barbara Adam

Emerita Professor
School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University

Speaker

Barbara Adam is Emerita Professor at Cardiff University and founding editor of *Time & Society*. Her social theory of time and futures is taught across the arts, humanities, social sciences, and environmental sciences.

Talk overview

Social life is lived prospectively through intention, anticipation, and visions of what could and should be. This keynote examines the challenges that future-making creates for evidence-based knowledge and explores openings for more responsible institutional practice.

Chair: Prof Peter Madden

KEYNOTE

Discomfort of uncertainty or absurdity of certainty: navigating uncertainty in an evolving world

Fri 10 July | 14:30-15:45

Glamorgan Committee Rooms

**Michelle Lazarus**

Professor and Director
Centre for Human Anatomy Education, Monash University

Speaker

Michelle Lazarus is Professor and Director of the Centre for Human Anatomy Education at Monash University, an award-winning educator, and author of *The Uncertainty Effect* and *The AI (R)evolution*.

Talk overview

This keynote explores uncertainty tolerance and how it shapes thoughts, feelings, and actions. It considers why people seek certainty even when it limits curiosity or growth, and offers practical ways to sit with discomfort and navigate uncertainty constructively.

Chair: Prof Sara Macbride-Stewart

WORKSHOPS

Six ways of working with uncertainty

Mon 6 July

Decision Quality and Uncertainty

Mohammed A. Mohammed

Mon 6 July

Poetic Worlding

Laura Barritt and Theo Humphries

Tue 7 July

Educating for an Uncertain Future

Michelle Lazarus

Wed 8 July

Communicating and Visualising Future Uncertainty

Nicola Rennie

Fri 10 July

Predictive Inconsistency in Algorithmic Risk Assessment Tools

Galit Shmueli

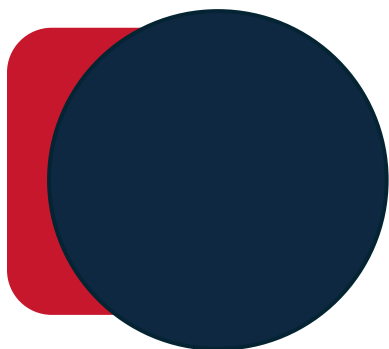
Fri 10 July

Planning and Building for the Long- term

Peter Madden

WORKSHOP

Decision Quality and Uncertainty

Mon 6 July | 11:30-12:30 and 13:30-15:00**Bute 0.15****Mohammed A. Mohammed**

Head of Innovation & Academic Partnerships at the NHS Strategy Unit; Emeritus Professor at the University of Bradford and Visiting Professor at Cardiff University.

Summary

An interactive introduction to making high-quality decisions in complex environments. The workshop uses the six elements of decision quality and practical tools for assessing uncertainty, reducing avoidable risk, and strengthening commitment to action.

Learning outcomes

- Understand the six elements of decision quality.
- Analyse and manage uncertainty in decision processes.
- Apply probabilistic thinking to improve decision-making.

WORKSHOP

Agitate, anticipate, aggregate: Worlding new systems for learning and living

Mon 6 July | 15:30-17:00

Bute 0.15



Laura Barritt

Lecturer in Education Development,
Cardiff University



Theo Humphries

Senior Lecturer Product Design,
Cardiff Metropolitan University

Summary

A collaborative exploration of poetic engagement, playfulness, humour, and hope as pedagogical tools. Participants use drawing, collage, blackout poetry, and reflection to challenge assumptions and imagine more ethical futures for learning.

Learning outcomes

- Use poetic engagement for shared meaning-making.
- Experiment with playfulness, humour, and hope.
- Reframe assumptions and imagine alternative educational futures.

WORKSHOP

Educating for an Uncertain Future: Pedagogies That Prepare Learners to Adapt

Tue 7 July | 13:30-14:45 and 15:15-16:30

Glamorgan 1.68

**Michelle Lazarus**

Professor and the Director of the Centre for Human Anatomy Education, Monash University

Summary

This workshop introduces uncertainty tolerance in educational and professional learning environments. Participants examine how learners respond cognitively and emotionally to uncertainty and design activities that support adaptability without removing productive challenge.

Learning outcomes

- Identify where uncertainty arises in learning.
- Interpret evidence on cognitive and emotional responses.
- Apply strategies that develop adaptive skills.
- Design learning activities that intentionally include uncertainty.

WORKSHOP

Communicating and Visualising Future Uncertainty

Wed 8 July | 09:15-10:30 and 11:00-12:15

Glamorgan 1.68



Nicola Rennie

Data Visualisation Specialist
Office for National Statistics

Summary

An interactive workshop on language, visual storytelling, and best practice for communicating uncertainty. Participants consider when uncertainty should be shown, how to avoid misleading audiences, and how different chart forms support interpretation.

Learning outcomes

- Explain uncertainty clearly to non-technical audiences.
- Recognise when visualising uncertainty is appropriate.
- Create and assess chart types for communicating uncertainty.
- Use uncertainty communication to strengthen trustworthiness.

WORKSHOP

Predictive Inconsistency in Algorithmic Risk Assessment Tools

Fri 10 July | 09:00-10:30

Bute 0.15



Galit Shmueli

Chair Professor of Business Analytics at the Institute of Service Science within National Tsing Hua University (NTHU)

Summary

Using criminal justice as a case, this workshop shows how defensible but technically different modelling choices can produce different risk scores for the same individual. It introduces predictive inconsistency and an adapted multiverse analysis for evaluating it.

Learning outcomes

- Understand Algorithmic Risk Assessment Instruments.
- Define predictive inconsistency and its sources.
- Recognise uncertainty introduced across the modelling pipeline.
- Use multiverse-style analysis to visualise inconsistency.

WORKSHOP

Planning and Building for the Long-term When the Future Is Uncertain

Fri 10 July | 11:00-12:30

Bute 0.15

**Peter Madden**

Professor of Practice in Future Cities
Cardiff University

Summary

This workshop explores how planners, designers, and decision-makers can prepare homes, neighbourhoods, and infrastructure for long-term change. It introduces resilient and adaptable approaches and methods for stress-testing plans against multiple futures.

Learning outcomes

- Understand how uncertainty shapes built-environment decisions.
- Explore resilient and adaptable planning approaches.
- Evaluate strategies that remain robust across possible futures.
- Apply case-study insights to future-ready practice.

PANELS

Decision-makers and editors in conversation

Panel 1

Uncertainty, the Future, and Better Decision-Making

Senior public-sector leaders discuss incomplete information, weak signals, evolving risk, and how uncertainty is handled in real decisions.

Panel 2

Advancing Uncertainty and Futures Research: What Editors Look For

Editors examine novelty, rigour, methodological innovation, conceptual clarity, and relevance in uncertainty and futures research.

PANEL DISCUSSION

Uncertainty, the Future, and Better Decision-Making

Chair: Prof Bahman Rostami-Tabar

Senior decision-makers consider how leaders work with incomplete information, shifting signals, and evolving risks. The discussion connects probabilistic thinking, weak-signal sharing, risk assessment, and scenario planning to decisions with real public consequences.

Panelists



Prof. Wendy Lerner

Vice-Chancellor, Cardiff University



Derek Walker

Commissioner for Wales, Future Generations
Commissioner for Wales



Dr Fin Monahan

Chief Fire Officer, South Wales Fire & Rescue Service



Dr David Fluck

Medical Director, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

PANEL DISCUSSION

Advancing Uncertainty and Futures Research: What Editors Look For

Chair: Dr. Thanos Goltsos

Editors from leading journals discuss how contributions can genuinely advance understanding of uncertain environments, and how novelty, rigour, conceptual clarity, methodological innovation, and practical relevance are assessed.

Panelists



Prof. Pierre Pinson

Imperial College London
Editor-in-Chief, International
Journal of Forecasting



Dr Chris Groves

Swansea University
Editor-in-Chief, Futures



Prof. Aris Syntetos

Cardiff University
Editor-in-Chief, IMA Journal of
Management Mathematics

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Participant-led research across disciplines

Two research sessions create space for participants to present work in progress, test ideas with an interdisciplinary audience, and connect their projects to the summer school's wider questions about uncertainty and the future.

Session 14 | Thursday 9 July, 09:00-10:30

- Matthew Ray Bobea - forecasting model failures.
- Charlie Leedham - heat-risk perceptions across housing tenure.
- Amirhossein Ghadiri - flood disruption and healthcare delivery.
- Sode Idelphonse - Bayesian data fusion for African baobab distribution.

Session 17 | Thursday 9 July, 15:15-16:45

- Steffan James - unintended and unanticipated consequences.
- Elias Peter Mwakilama - forecasting future well-being through big data.
- Patrik Dahl - pitching socio-technical futures.
- Matunga (Mattie) Barwell - governance, legality, and uncertainty.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Session 14 | Research presentations

Thu 9 July | 09:00-10:30 | Glamorgan 0.81



Matthew Ray Bobea

National Tsing Hua
University

Navigating Uncertainty Through Forecasting Failure Prediction

TreeAlert identifies patterns associated with extreme forecasting errors and predicts when future failures are likely. The work shifts error analysis from retrospective measurement towards forward-looking, interpretable warning.



Charlie Leedham

DECIPHer, Cardiff University

How Do Heat Risk Perceptions Vary Across Tenure Groups?

Analysis of a representative UK survey finds that renters perceive greater personal vulnerability to heatwaves than homeowners, while differences are weaker for collective or future climate risks.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Session 14 | Research presentations

Thu 9 July | 09:00-10:30 | Glamorgan 0.81



Amirhossein Ghadiri

DL4SG Research Group,
Cardiff University

How Floods and Rising Sea Levels Disrupt Healthcare Service Delivery

A mixed-methods framework combines natural language processing, interviews, and expert surveys to identify disruption mechanisms and produce uncertainty-aware estimates for healthcare resilience planning in Wales.



Sode Idelphonse

University of Abomey-Calavi

Predicting African Baobab Distribution through Bayesian Data Fusion

Presence-only and abundance data are combined through Bayesian spatial modelling to improve species distribution estimates and reduce predictive uncertainty in data-limited conservation contexts.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Session 17 | Research presentations

Thu 9 July | 15:15-16:45 | Glamorgan 0.81



Steffan James

Cardiff Business School

Unanticipated or unintended consequences?

The research separates intentionality from anticipation to clarify different forms of consequences in operations and supply-chain management, showing when tools such as forecasting and risk management are useful.



Elias Peter Mwakilama

University of Malawi

Forecasting of future well-being: Big data analysis approach

Forecasting future well-being requires models that connect individual psychological processes with wider economic, social, and environmental change. This talk explores how machine learning, big data, and longitudinal cohort studies can predict well-being trajectories while accounting for adaptation, cultural variation, and unexpected shocks, supporting better policy and sustainable human flourishing.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Session 17 | Research presentations

Thu 9 July | 15:15-16:45 | Glamorgan 0.81



Patrik Dahl

School of Social Sciences,
Cardiff University

Pitching socio-technical futures

An ethnographic study of hackathon pitches examines how presenters make technologies-in-development tangible and assessable through narrative, imagined social need, and live demonstration.



Matunga (Mattie) Barwell

School of Law and Politics,
Cardiff University

Decision-Making Under Uncertainty: Governance, Legality, and the Monitoring Officer

A socio-legal study of how local government institutions in England and Wales manage, mediate, and distribute uncertainty through professional judgement, internal safeguards, and governance practice.

SITE VISIT

The Real Underground Experience Big Pit National Coal Museum

Wed 8 July | Depart 12:30

Return to Cardiff | 16:30

Image source: Northern Mine Research Society

BIG PIT

Blaenavon, South Wales



<https://museum.wales/bigpit/about/>

Why this visit matters

Big Pit offers a vivid introduction to Wales's coal-mining history and its lasting social, economic, and environmental significance. The underground experience provides a direct encounter with the conditions, labour, and communities that shaped the South Wales coalfield.

The visit frames later discussion on industrial change, regional identity, and the challenge of building fairer futures after carbon-intensive economies.

Practical details

- Packed lunch: 12:15-12:30 in Glamorgan Room 1.67.
- Departure point: Glamorgan Building entrance.
- Wear practical footwear and follow museum safety instructions.

EVENING PROGRAMME

The Coal Beneath Our Feet, The Wind Above Our Heads

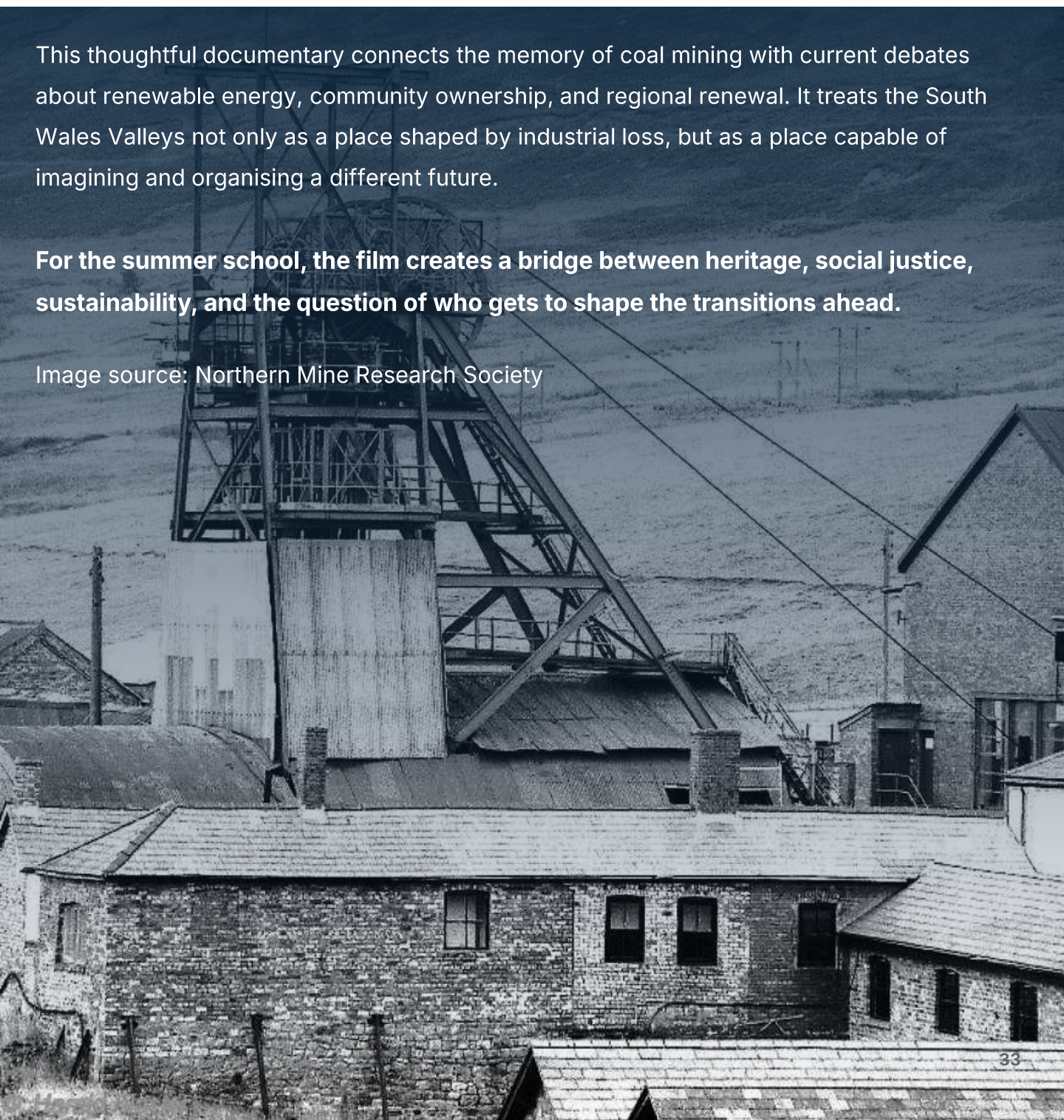
Arrive 17:45 | Film 18:00

Gala dinner | 19:00

This thoughtful documentary connects the memory of coal mining with current debates about renewable energy, community ownership, and regional renewal. It treats the South Wales Valleys not only as a place shaped by industrial loss, but as a place capable of imagining and organising a different future.

For the summer school, the film creates a bridge between heritage, social justice, sustainability, and the question of who gets to shape the transitions ahead.

Image source: Northern Mine Research Society



ORGANISING TEAM

The people behind the programme



Prof. Bahman Rostami-Tabar
Academic Director
The Art & Science of Uncertainty
& Future: an Interdisciplinary
Summer School



Harsha Halgamuwe Hewage
Programme Manager
Cardiff Business School, Cardiff
University, UK



Prof. Peter Madden
Programme Support
School of Geography and
Planning, Cardiff University, UK



Ms. Emma Heady
Logistics Coordinator
Vice-Chancellor's Office, Cardiff
University, UK



Mrs. Beverly Francis
Logistics Coordinator
Cardiff Business School,
Cardiff University, UK



Dr. Thanos Goltzos
Visit Coordinator
Cardiff Business School,
Cardiff University, UK

Participants

**Mustafa Aslan**

DL4SG Research Group, Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University

**Lucy Dunhill**

Welsh School of Architecture, Cardiff University

**Matunga (Mattie) Barwell**

School of Law and Politics, Cardiff University

**Xiaohao Fang**

School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University

**Matthew Ray Bobea**

Institute of Service Science at National Tsing Hua University

**Amirhossein Ghadiri**

DL4SG Research Group, Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University

**Chigbo Chisom Godwill**

International Research Centre of Excellence, Institute of Human Virology, Nigeria

**Roza Ghaedi**

University of Sheffield

**Moussa Coulibaly**

University of Bordeaux, France

**Harsha Halgamuwe Hewage**

DL4SG Research Group, Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University

**Patrik Dahl**

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**Shuangyi Li**

UCL

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Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University

**Xinru Liang**

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**Sarah Joseph**

Centre for Study of Islam in Britain, Cardiff University

**Sode Idelphonse**

Laboratoire de Biomathématiques et d'Estimations Forestières, University of Abomey-Calavi

Participants

**Olivia Kiely**

Cardiff University/ Prifysgol Caerdydd

**Fatemeh Monshizadeh**

DL4SG Research Group, Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University

**Arvind Kumar**

The Institutional Architecture Lab (TIAL)

**Elias Peter Mwakilama**

University of Malawi

**Charlie Leedham**

DECIPHer, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University

**Agnes Njambi**

Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT

**Oussema Omri**

LGI CentraleSupélec, University of Paris-Saclay & CESIT, KEDGE Business School

**Nirushan Sudarsan**

School of Geography and Planning, Cardiff University

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**Uğur Şahan**

CoreXas

**Xiaoqian Wang**

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**Zhuoli Wu**

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**Rui Xu**

DL4SG Research Group, Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

With thanks to our supporters

The summer school is made possible through the support of university, research, doctoral training, and professional partners.



Cardiff University



Cardiff Business School
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Cardiff Business School



Doctoral Academy
Academi Ddoethurol

Doctoral Academy



Digital Transformation
Innovation Institute
Sefydliad Arloesedd
Trawsnewid Digidol

Digital Transformation Innovation Institute



Society for the Advancement of Management Studies



Welsh Graduate School for the Social Sciences

Getting to Cardiff

BY RAIL

Cardiff Central is the main rail station. Direct trains from London Paddington to Cardiff Central run frequently, usually taking under two hours. Cardiff is also well connected to Bristol, Birmingham, Southampton, Manchester, Liverpool and other UK cities.

BY AIR

Participants arriving by air can travel to Cardiff by train or coach. From Heathrow, take the train via London Paddington or a National Express coach to Cardiff Sophia Gardens. From Gatwick, take the train via Reading or a National Express coach to Cardiff Sophia Gardens.

Quick guide

By train: Heathrow Airport → London Paddington → Cardiff Central

From Heathrow, you can take the Heathrow Express or Elizabeth Line to London Paddington, then take a Great Western Railway train from London Paddington to Cardiff Central. Heathrow Express advertises a 15-minute journey to Paddington, while National Rail should be used to check live train times and route options.

By train: Gatwick Airport → Reading → Cardiff Central

This is often the simplest train route because it avoids crossing central London. Gatwick Airport notes that Great Western Railway runs direct services between Gatwick and Reading, and from Reading participants can take a train to Cardiff Central.

Book your tickets at: <https://www.nationalrail.co.uk/> | <https://www.thetrainline.com/>

By coach: Heathrow Airport / Heathrow Central Bus Station → Cardiff Sophia Gardens

National Express operates direct coaches from Heathrow to Cardiff Sophia Gardens, with services running up to 16 times a day depending on the date.

By coach: Gatwick Airport → Cardiff Sophia Gardens

National Express also operates direct coaches from Gatwick to Cardiff, with services running up to 9 times daily depending on the date.

Book your tickets at: <https://www.nationalexpress.com/en>

After arriving in Cardiff:

From Cardiff Central or Cardiff Sophia Gardens, participants can take a taxi, Uber, local bus, or walk depending on their accommodation location.

A photograph of Cardiff Castle, a large stone fortress with multiple towers and battlements, situated on a grassy hill. The surrounding trees are in autumn, with yellow and orange foliage. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The castle is the central focus, with a stone staircase leading up to its main entrance.

CARDIFF

A capital shaped by history and change

Image source: Cardiff Castle Autumn Scenery by safarov-zhora

Cardiff combines a compact, walkable city centre with Victorian arcades, civic buildings, green spaces, cultural institutions, and a transformed waterfront. It provides a fitting setting for a summer school concerned with how places remember, adapt, and imagine their futures.

Within walking distance

- Cardiff Castle and Bute Park.
- National Museum Cardiff.
- The Victorian and Edwardian shopping arcades.
- The Principality Stadium and the River Taff.
- Restaurants and cafes around the city centre.

Further afield

- Cardiff Bay, the Senedd, and Wales Millennium Centre.
- The South Wales Valleys and industrial heritage.
- Bannau Brycheiniog / Brecon Beacons.
- Coastlines, castles, and market towns across Wales.

Visitor information: [visitcardiff.com](https://www.visitcardiff.com)



STAY CONNECTED

Keep shaping the future

The summer school is designed as the beginning of a community, not the end of a week. Continue the conversations, share your work, and look for opportunities to collaborate across disciplines and sectors.