



**UK ASSOCIATION FOR STUDIES OF INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(AsSIST-UK)**

**Programme for Early Career Researcher Summer School
Greater than the Sum: Collaboration and Impactful STIS**

11am - 6pm Wednesday 27th May 2026
Science Policy Research Unit
Jubilee Building (1st Floor; 115&117)
University of Sussex Business School
Falmer, Brighton, UK

A workshop for PhD students, early career researchers and others involved in Science, Technology and Innovation Studies (STIS), offering a varied programme of interactive sessions to help scholars in the field develop the skills, strategies and contacts needed to build and strengthen their careers.

11.00 - 11.30	Registration & Coffee
11.30 - 11.35	Welcome & Thanks Robin Williams, Katerina Psarikidou and Michael Hopkins
11.35 - 12.45	<p>Session 1: What is Impactful STIs today?</p> <p>A panel of colleagues from different theoretical and disciplinary traditions of Science, Technology and Innovation Studies will participate in an interactive session through which they will share insights and respond to ECR interventions on the impact that STIS can have in the context of a changing world and academic landscape.</p> <p>The Panel includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adrian Smith, SPRU, University of Sussex • Jane Calvert, University of Edinburgh • Kieron Flanagan, University of Manchester • Les Levidow, Open University <p>Panel Chairs: Steve Scholte (Sussex) and Xiao Yang (Edinburgh)</p> <p>Note: Thank you for submitting your questions through the registration form to shape the debate!</p>

12.45-14.00	<p>Lunch</p> <p>Meet-A-Mentor* - you can sign up upon registration for a timeslot (12.50-13.20 or 13.20-13.50) with one of our team of up-and-coming and senior scholars, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kieron Flanagan (Manchester) - Phil Johnstone (Universities of Tartu, Utrecht and Sussex) - Robin Williams (Edinburgh) - Valeria Ramirez (Cambridge) - Les Levidow (Open) - Adrian Ely, Adrian Smith, Josh Moon, Katerina Psarikidou, Michael Hopkins & Tim Foxon (Sussex) <p>You may wish to prepare a short paragraph about yourself to share with your mentor on the day.</p> <p>Informal Poster Session - Posters of ECR research will be displayed at 117 for informal conversations over lunch.</p>
14.00-15.30	<p>Session 2 - Roundtables: Making an impact as STIS ECR researchers</p> <p>Following a dialectical format, this session is organized around smaller roundtable focused conversations on different strands of work and skill development that would help make a positive impact on ECRs' careers. The session is organized around two 45-mins slots so you can move between tables.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Publishing papers and books</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ with input from Les Levidow and Katerina Psarikidou • <u>Funding and Grant Writing</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ with input from Adrian Ely • <u>Collaborating among disciplines and beyond</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ with input from Kieron Flanagan • <u>Surviving Viva</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ with input from Robin Williams • <u>Addressing Inequalities on ECR STIS trajectories</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ with input from Pablo Ayala-Villalobos
15.30-16.00	<p>Coffee Break and networking</p>
16.00-17.30	<p>Session 3: STIS within and beyond academia</p> <p>This panel brings together different STIs ECRs that share their experiences of developing their careers post-PhD within and outside academia.</p> <p>The panel includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Dowrick (Oxford) • Alex Ghionis (Unidir & Sussex) • Josh Moon (SPRU, Sussex) • Valeria Ramirez (Cambridge)

	Panel Chairs: Pablo Ayala Villalobos (Sussex) and Polina Chizhova Wright (Manchester Metropolitan University)
17.30-18.00	Andrew PhD Webster Prize Award Wrap-up and Networking*
18.45-10.00	*Informal self-paid drinks at Brighton Music Hall (127 Kings Road Arches, Brighton BN1 2FN)

VENUE: The summer school will take place at the Jubilee Building located inside the University of Sussex [Falmer campus](#) (B5 on the map). It will be hosted at Rooms 115 and 117 located at the 1st floor of the Jubilee Building.

SPRU and ISSTI 60th Anniversaries

9:30-13:00 (Jubilee Building, SPRU): After the summer school, on Thursday 28th of May, you are invited to join the **Celebratory Discussions for the joint 60th Anniversaries of the Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU, Sussex) and the Institute for the Study for the Science, Technology and Innovation (ISSTI, Edinburgh)**, organised by the University of Sussex and the University of Edinburgh.

