Leading the way to local enterprise

CAMIS: The Final Journey
On November 21st, Representatives of the University, Drs Dawn Robins, Dave Cooper and Emma McGlinley, recently attended the final CAMIS event in Rouen, France. The event was a culmination of four years of partnership, collaboration and research focused on supporting coastal communities across the Channel Region, bringing together 19 partner organisations including local authorities, universities, and specialist institutions. The event in Rouen was an opportunity for the partners to showcase their valuable research, and for the launch of the Integrated Maritime Strategy (IMS) which will be used to guide governance of the Channel in the future.

The University of Chichester has been an active partner within the CAMIS project, and lead partner of two significant research strands contributing a substantial amount of work to the wider project and to the construction of the IMS. Research principally focused on the social and economic regeneration of small coastal communities through the development and exploitation of cluster activity. Specific initiatives considered the role of small ports, marinas and even the Channel Tunnel. A number of outcomes have been produced including the development of the Marina 2020 Vision and a handbook of best practice for port centric activity. The University worked as a force behind the production of the Channel Maritime Portal, a prototype online portal that provides an information point for Channel stakeholders and businesses. It has also supported the development of marine business clusters in Plymouth and Devon.

Dr McGlinley also presented the work on marine clusters to a conference of Local Maritime Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs). The project has been of significant value to the University, and to SEMAL. It has led to the establishment of new partnerships with a range of organisations across the region, raising the profile of the University’s research expertise and generating research that is directly linked to and influencing current UK and European policies, for example the Blue Economy. Additionally, it has strengthened our expertise around stakeholder engagement, and further underpinning the University’s ability to facilitate collaborative working and supporting business development and regeneration.

Dr Cooper, Reader in Management and Economic development at the University highlighted; “Through our work, we have learned a good deal about maritime economies on both sides of the Channel and the similarly faced by small coastal communities. We have also enjoyed working effectively with partners across the project and have made some long-lasting contacts and friendships. It has not always been easy as there are real business culture, and process differences between the two countries but these have been overcome and have contributed to our combined understanding. We have used the experience we have gained to undertake additional funded work on analysing the supply chains for the Sussex and Kent wind farms and also onshore strategy development work for the Cap to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership.”

For the University its work will continue with the fully funded Interreg Channel MOR capitalisation project, further developing the Channel opportunities for Offshore Renewable Energy. The end of the project has been the launch of the Integrated Maritime Strategy (IMS), which sets out 23 Actions and Plans for Delivery to take move the Channel region towards a sustainable and collaborative future. The University has contributed considerably to the development of these Actions, with 7 of the proposed actions capitalising on the work done by SEMAL. Finally, as the project draws to an end, it is important to recognise the value of the project on a national and European scale. The major output of the project, the IMS, will be used to guide future national and European policies, supports the member states in their aim to meet the objectives set out by the EU Blue Growth Strategy and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Further to this, the IMS will support the formation of future funding programmes, including INTERREG V, directly impacting the identification of priorities for the Channel region.

The Research Hub currently supports 2 fulltime researchers and a number of KTP, Grad On, and other work based researchers. The research projects are varied in sector and range and includes:

- INTERREG Wa EU Channel MDR
- Enterprise research
- Shoreham Port Economic Evaluation
- Maintain, Mend & Pass-on (WSSC)
- Kent Off Shore Renewable Energy

CAMIS: The Final Journey

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Special points of interest:

- Channel MDR
- Conference time
- CPO continues to grow
- New Staff
- News from the BIC

NEWS from the BIC
The Wave 2 RGF City Deal Project, a contact recently secured by the University of Chichester through the Coast to Capital CtoC and the Regional Growth Fund in conjunction with the University of Brighton and University of Sussex, is now underway. Amanda Geel and Paul Dallibard joined the University as Business Development Manager and Programme Manager for RGF projects in February, and Dr Lyn Batchelor moved into SEMAL from another of the University’s departments to provide administrative support for the project at the end of April. The project comprises two separate programmes, the Business Start Up Hot House Programme and the Export Hot House Programme. Both are designed to support businesses in the Chichester LEP area, whether they are just starting out or they are established and looking to export their goods and services.

The first of the region’s six Business Start Up Hot House Programmes kicked off on 30 April with a Business Start Up Boot Camp led by Dr Lyn Batchelor, which was attended by individuals starting their own businesses in the Coastal West Sussex region as well as students from the University of Chichester. Participants will be given access to Business Knowhow, and training offers to support women entrepreneurs. The Advisory Board also includes one member from Austria, Turkey, Belgium Spain, Denmark, Italy and Poland. Lyn has been working with the UK Partner, INOVA Consultancy, Sheffield, since 2007 on various female business start-up projects. The WINGS project concludes in 2016 with an event in Milan.

A Round Up of SEMAL Research News

How did it get to May? There has been a lot of action in the department so far this year including new staff, new research projects and new business opportunities. Dr Emma McGlinley has had her contract made permanent and is now a Post Doctoral Research Fellow—very well deserved, congratulations. The INTERREG project CAMIS has finished and the new ChannelMOR project began (see inside for more info). The International English Language department has joined SEMAL—welcome to Sue Lavender and her team. Dr Lyn Batchelor and Lionel Bunton ran a very successful ‘crowd funding’ conference in London. And the BIC has increased in size and has new staff members and a strong business-facing enterprise. The last few months has also seen a well attended research development group meeting on a monthly basis to further research skills and aspirations. On a sadder note, we also said goodbye to our colleague and friend Viv Palmer recently. Viv fought long and hard to beat cancer but succumbed in April. She will be missed. So, looking forward to a long and productive summer, but first the news from the Research Hub... Happy reading....
Conferences—past and future

Conferences—Dr Rob Warwick has had a paper accepted for Developing Leadership Capacity Conference at Lancaster University in July with a paper titled ‘Gaining leadership insights from literature: an exploration of paradoxical processes and how we might make sense of them’. Here Rob explores the possibility of using literature to interpret action learning and as a catalyst for developing new narratives.

In March The Higher Education Enterprise Group (HEEG) hosted their first Crowdfunding in Higher Education conference at London Southbank University. Headlined by Dr Lyn Batchelor and supported by Lionel Bunting this pioneering conference set out a new thematic agenda within the enterprise education arena. This topical area has been around for some time but has not gained as large a profile within academia as it has in the business sector and is an area of focus for further research and development for Dr Lyn Batchelor and Lionel Bunting. The event was attended by over 45 representatives from universities, organisations and businesses in England. Anchored by key speakers from CrowdCube, Apprentice winner Yasmina Sidatotta from the Start Up Loans Company and the University of York who have the first HE crowfunding platform the conference also welcomed speakers and student crowfunding success stories. Duncan Knox of Hubbub, the crowfunding platform that powers many of the new up and coming university branded crowdfundng provision gave a national exclusive statement announcing their partnership with CrowdCube. It’s an exciting time for crowfunding in the UK and indeed the rest of Europe and its expected that the enterprise team at the University of Chichester will bring you more on this subject in the coming months/year as Lyn has secured funding for a second conference.

Over the last year or so Dr Rob Warwick has been working with Peter Burden and the Association of Management Educators and Developers (AMED) on the subject of conscious business, particularly Management Educators and Developers (AMED) working with Pete Burden and the Association of Over the last year or so second conference.

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Research Fun

Trying to decide which journal to publish in?
Google Scholar could help!
If you click on the ‘metrics’ button at the top of the Google Scholar page it brings up a list of the most cited journals in Google Scholar.
The list on the left of the page allows you to filter down by subject area.
(Thanks to Steve Bowman for this)

Channel MOR: Developing business within the off-shore energy sector

In June last year the University of Chichester was approached by the EU Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) to undertake further work that would capitalise on the results of their exemplary CAMIS project. Together with other project partners across the Southern England and Northern France, the University has developed a framework for developing the knowledge and understanding of the opportunities available in the offshore renewable energy sector. It is clear that the Marine Renewable Energy (MRE) sector covering offshore wind, wave and tidal energy generation will play a significant part in the economy of the Channel region over the coming years. Work on the sector has already been undertaken over the last four years by projects funded under the INTERREG IV A programme. These include: CAMIS (of which the University played a major role), 2OM, BEEMS, CHAIN 2, CHANNEL MARINE ACADEMY, DEEDS, MERIC, APC (IVB), MER-INNOVATE, OFELIA, and the ATLANTIC POWER CLUSTER. It is clear from the outcomes of this work that a great deal is left to do. The principal purpose of the Channel MOR project is to promote global MRE supply chain opportunities for SMEs in the Channel region.

Dr Dave Cooper, Dawn Robbins, Lionel Bunting and Steve Ellis, supported by Mark Feast, are leading the project on the two main research work packages; to establish a comprehensive picture of the current MRE sector and markets in the Channel region and to analyse and map the opportunities for developing MRE activities in the Channel area. Working in collaboration with Cornwall Marine Network, Le Havre University, Portsmouth University and the Brittany region, the research team has already completed what is probably the most comprehensive global database of offshore renewable energy sites in the world, and is now working towards populating a supply chain database for businesses that will map their capabilities to specific activities within the offshore renewable energy supply chain. Once completed, this work will be incorporated into a web based portal that will allow businesses, energy operators, innovators and local authorities the opportunity to access the information for their own purpose.

The project, a fully funded EU INTERREG initiative, will run until November 2014 when the final outputs will be launched at a series of events in England and France. Included in these outputs will be the portal, a series of reports highlighting the opportunities for businesses in the Channel area, a short film highlighting the sector and a comprehensive map of training and skills applicable to the sector along the Channel.

The Channel MOR project has highlighted the continued recognition by other knowledge institutions and government authorities of the significant knowledge and expertise that the research team in SEMAL have accumulated over the last few years in the supply of offshore energy.

Mark Feast—Research Assistant

Mark has recently started in the SEMAL department, working as a research assistant on the Channel MOR Project. The project aims to support small medium businesses in the Channel area, for England and France, in accessing marine renewable energy markets and to provide greater networking opportunities. This is Mark’s first research job since completing his Masters in Green Economy from Bournemouth University.

Mark gained his undergraduate degree in Adventure Education at the University of Chichester. Upon finishing this course Mark worked and managed surf schools in Wales and France before returning to education. Mark has several research interests, which include human impact on the environment and the approaches of improving their awareness and behaviour. Mark is on a fixed term contract until November and is undecided whether to continue in education or to get on the road ……..