

UNIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO TEACHING AND LEARNING

APPLICATION FORM

Reference Number (13/2020):

Please refer to the [scheme criteria and guidance](#) when completing your application.

Please save as a PDF file and submit your application to Martin Wise: m.wise@reading.ac.uk

Nominator's details

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Department / Unit:	
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Team Leader's details (This may be the same person as the Nominator)

Name:	Elizabeth Conaghan
Role:	Lecturer
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Team Name / Project Title

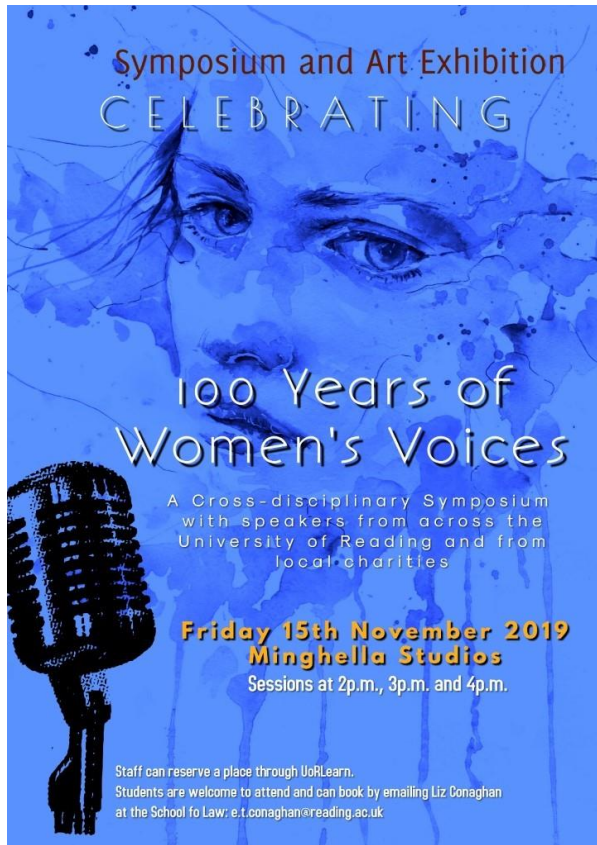
"Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Voices: a Play, a Book and a Symposium"

Previous Funding

Has anyone in your team previously been awarded in these or any other Awards at the University?	Yes
<p>If yes, please give details of date and type of award:</p> <p>Dr Rachel Horton, 2008, School of Law School Pro Bono Team</p> <p>Dr Madeleine Davies, 2018 , 'Celebrating Forgotten Women', and 2019 for 'Second Sight'.</p>	

recruited back-stage and front-of-house student volunteers who used this activity as a contribution to the RED Award.

Most of the cast had no previous acting experience but our director created a company of actors whose performances informed, educated, and inspired. [REDACTED] played the lead roles and both delivered exceptional performances to a packed house.



The Symposium: 15th November 2019

The playwright, Alex Giles, joined speakers from across the University and from the charities, Alana House and Women in Prison, for an afternoon of short 'TED'-style talks. The Symposium was open to all students and staff and consisted of three seminars: 'Past Protagonists', 'Present Challenges', and 'Future Hope'.

The full list of speakers demonstrates our cross-disciplinary approach to the theme of 'equality':

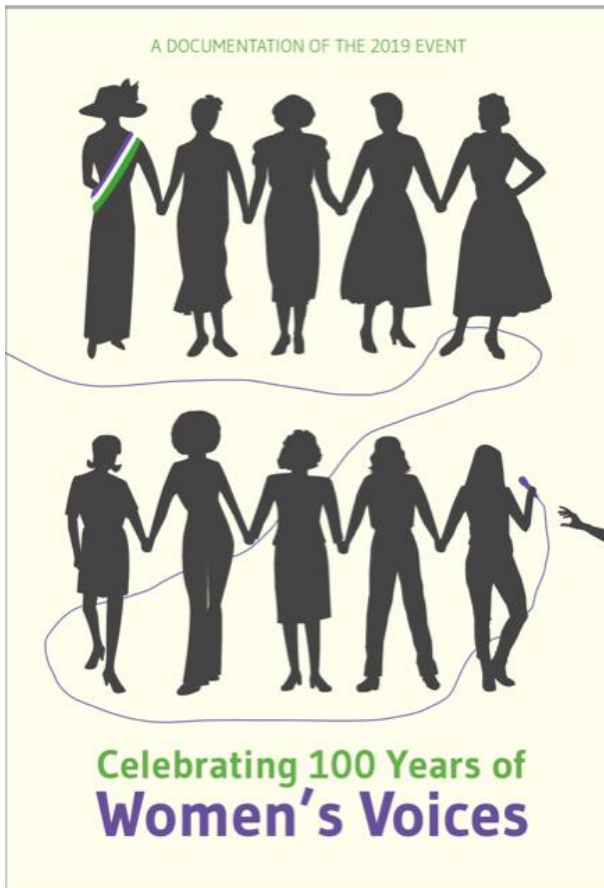
- Professor Rosemary Auchmuty (Law)*
- Professor Thérèse Callus (Law)*
- Professor Claire Collins (HBS)*
- Dr Madeleine Davies (SLL)*
- Professor Marina Della Giusta (SPEIR)*
- Alex Giles (writer and dramatist)*
- Professor Grace James (Law)*
- Professor Helen Osborn (Pharmacy)*
- Sarah Smart (Women in Prison)*
- Suzy Tutchell (IoE)*
- Natausha Van Vliet (Alana House)*

The Art Exhibition: 15th November 2019

The art exhibition, 'The Empowerment of the Female Artist', was curated by **Suzy Tutchell (IoE)** and included the work of staff at the School of Law and students at the Institute of Education.

The Poetry Competition

Anne Thies and [REDACTED] organised a poetry competition on the theme of 'equality' which was open to all members of the University. The entries were celebrated and shared during a reading at the School of Law in January 2020.



The Book

Madeleine Davies and **Liz Conaghan** wanted student involvement to be integral to the design and creation of a commemorative book and recruited **(student name removed)** through the 'Real Jobs' scheme at the Department of Typography. The contributions from each of the events were collated into a beautiful anthology (funded by a consortium of sponsors) that is a lasting testament to "100 Years of

EVIDENCE OF IMPACT, SPECIFICALLY IN RELATION TO THE STUDENT LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Liz Conaghan surveyed students and staff about their experience of being involved in the play, and the comments provided further insight into the value of a shared story; friendships made, confidence gained, and a deeper understanding of issues relating to equality (and a desire to educate others about it). One student noted the "fantastic environment", and the "excitement and passion" of her fellow students. Another said, "I'm so

grateful to have collected such wonderful memories! Truly unforgettable." Yet others remarked, "we formed a real comradery which I believe shone through", and, "this play helped me to understand the impact of the law much better because it took the cases I learn about in textbooks and transferred them into real life enactment."

The play has impacted participants' view of the future as well. One student remarked, "The play has taught me never to give up". Another said that he had learnt, "a great deal" about "how essential it is that we strive for equality in today's society." A colleague remarked that she was, "particularly touched by the way that the young men (and the older ones) were such enthusiastic participants in a play about women and feminism.... It made me feel positive about the future."

The feedback from the other events was also overwhelmingly positive: "I was very excited to participate in the poetry competition... It gave me a channel to express my passion for law in a creative way." One Symposium attendee reflected that it was, "a reminder that Universities can do 'beautiful things'".

DISSEMINATION OF THE OUTCOMES AND IMPACT OF THIS PROJECT

The book allows us to reach a wider audience and it provides students with a material record of their achievements. The book is published in March 2020, will be promoted at the International Gender Research Conference in April 2020, and is included in the UoR CATE submission ('Inspiring Engagement'). A showcase on the events and on the book project is currently being planned for the summer term 2020.

CONCLUSION

Staff and students were integral to every stage of this project. There would have been no play without **Rosemary**'s research and students' participation; there would have been no art exhibition without **Suzy Tutchell** and her IoE students; there would have been no poetry competition without **Anne Thies** and student poets, and no book without the editorial and design skills of **Madeleine Davies** and **(student name removed)**. Working together, staff and students have demonstrated the impact on T&L and student experience that can be achieved through imagination, commitment and goodwill. As **Rosemary Auchmuty** reflects, "This kind of event, which does not 'count' towards the students' final degree, is really what higher education is all about."

Head of School / Service (Please answer all questions and delete as applicable)

Is your Head of School/Service aware of this application?	Yes
Is your Head of School/Service supportive of this application?	Yes