## Towards Pervasive Media Scheme Mechanisms

The feasibility account will support the following activities that range from initial catalysing of new ideas and collaborations through to exploratory feasibility projects.

Troubadours

Troubadours are academics who *catalyse* research by spending significant time working outside of their home discipline in another School, absorbing its culture, contributing their ideas, making new connections and developing new agendas. Troubadour studies will typically last for 3 - 4 months and could involve visiting several schools. We plan to support 6 troubadour studies.

Residencies will perturb existing approaches, introducing a source of creativity and practical ideas and opportunities for public experiences. We plan to support 3 residences.

**This scheme is currently closed**

### Residencies for Artist and Curators

Our second catalysing mechanism involves funding external artists and curators to spend time at Nottingham, working with cross-disciplinary teams to develop new concepts and prototypes for pervasive media experiences. linked to one or more of the themes. Residencies will perturb existing approaches, introducing a source of creativity and practical ideas and present opportunities for public experiences. We plan to support up to 3 residences.

Call 1 will support internal nominations for residences. Each Artist/ Curator will be offered an honorarium of up to **£5,000** to cover accommodation, travel expenses, materials and other additional financial expenses incurred.

## How to apply - Internal nominators should send their nominations by email to Samantha Stapleford by the 22nd March 2010. We hope to be able to contact successful candidates by 1st April 2010.

Applications should include:

1. **Letter of nomination**. Please give details of the artists’ current circumstances including an indication of any other sources of support in the period of the residency and relevant commitments. The letter should also detail which theme the artist links to.
2. **Curriculum Vitae of artist/curator**. Detailing career to date, limited to 2 pages.
3. **A 500-word statement from proposed artist/curator**. This should detail a proposed programme, (which may be abstract and fluid ideas at this stage) and the value of the proposed programme of work. In addition it should explain why a visit to the University of Nottingham is of value to both the artist and the relevant disciplines across the University.

Should the nominator or proposed resident wish to discuss the application informally please contact either the relevant theme leader or Lisa McCabe.

Makefests

These workshop-like events support *early ideas generation* through facilitated gatherings of researchers to explore a theme over several days, undertaking early but practical explorations of a theme or research question, for example running a ‘data session’ to study and discuss data that has already been captured from a previous experience, ‘playing’ with a new tool or technology, or constructing low-tech prototypes of potential experiences. In contrast to more conventional academic workshops, makefests deliberately emphasise open and playful engagement through hands-on, practical activities. They have proven to be a powerful driver of creativity in our current Bridging the Gaps project.

This is an open call, please register your interest and nominate ideas via email to Samantha Stapleford (Samantha.Stapleford@nottingham.ac.uk) between **25th January and 30th April 2010**. Makefests will be run initially between 1st Feb and 20th July 2010.

Should you wish to discuss your ideas informally please contact either Lisa McCabe or the relevant theme leader.

Feasibility projects

Concepts that emerge from troubadours, residencies and makefests are followed up in feasibility studies. These are cross-disciplinary mini-projects to explore new ideas and produce preliminary results (prototype, study or framework) to underpin full proposals by demonstrating feasibility, potential commercial application, and the credibility of the proposers. Each study will involve a cross-disciplinary team and must produce a research proposal as one of its outputs. Funding may cover academic and research associate time, travel, consumables and administrative and technical support. We anticipate funding up to 6 feasibility projects. We have requested 12 person months of researcher time to support the feasibility projects.

Further mechanisms will be employed to widen the impact of the programme:

Sandpit

A sandpit at the mid-point of the programme will take selected seed ideas and teams from the troubadour studies, residencies and makefests and generate a suite of focused feasibility projects. Building on our previous experience, this will be for two-days at an off-site location and be carefully facilitated.

Crossing cultures workshop

We will run a one day workshop dedicated to reflecting on our experience of cross-disciplinary collaborations and disseminating this to key bodies within the University.

Showcase event

A final showcase event will present the results of the programme, especially the outputs of the feasibility studies. It will be a condition of their funding that feasibility projects present at this event. This event will be in part targeted towards potential future external research partners.