

# International Research Culture Conference 2024

## Call for Special Issue Contributions

Following the highly successful publication in August '24 of a special issue drawn from the 2023 IRCC event<sup>i</sup>, the **National Centre for Research Culture** at Warwick has partnered once again with the **Exchanges** interdisciplinary research journal to publish a second volume based on this year's conference.<sup>ii</sup> Speakers and poster presenters are therefore invited to submit papers based on their event contributions, while delegates may consider offering reflective pieces based on reflections from their attendance. It is anticipated two volumes of the special issue will be published during summer 2025.

Expressing an interest is a twostep process.

- (1) Potential contributors should firstly submit an expression of interest via the form below no later than **1/Nov/2024**.
- (2) These will be reviewed by the editorial team, with successful authors formally invited to submit their final manuscripts by the deadlines listed below.<sup>iii</sup>

While papers are once again primarily encouraged within Exchanges' highly popular editorially-reviewed **critical reflections** format, some authors may wish to consider a longer **peer-reviewed article**.<sup>iv</sup> It is **strongly advised these authors** discuss the possibility with the Editor ahead of submission. Additionally, we are looking for volunteers to get involved in the production of the issue as **associate editors**, especially from the early career research community.

## Call for Associate Editors

Additionally, there are opportunities for researchers to support this issue's production by becoming **associate editors**. Since 2019 Exchanges has run a highly successful associate editors programme, as part of its special issue production, and we are keen to continue this with these volumes.<sup>v</sup> Associate editors benefit through hands-on experience working on a research journal, developing their professional networks, while broadening their appreciation of different approaches to scholarly authorship. Each receives training and guidance documentation, as well as ongoing support from the EIC and fellow editor community members.

Associate editors are principally responsible for overseeing the review, copyediting and publication acceptance decisions relating to a small number of papers. All work is conducted remotely, and as such, scholars from institutions around the world are invited to become involved. Associate editors can also publish within the special issue. Training and work on the special issue is anticipated to take place from **December 2024 to August 2025**.

No prior publishing experience is necessary, but good written English, strong communication skills and a positive team working attitude are the most important attributes for prospective editors.

Contact the Chief Editor for more details or to express an interest in joining our associate editor team for this issue.

## Expressions of Interest

Authors should use the following online form to submit their expression of interest, as well as any interest in associate editorship.<sup>vi</sup>

<https://forms.gle/4wRLBoiFJfnyqxN66>

Individuals who are not planning to contribute an article but would still like to find out more about becoming an associate editor should contact the Chief Editor at the address below.

## Deadlines

### *Expressions of Interest*

*Manuscripts (All): Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024*

*Associate Editor: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024*

### *Manuscript Submissions*<sup>vii</sup>

*Peer Reviewed: Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025*

*Critical Reflection: Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025*

All manuscript submissions will be via Exchanges' online submission portal, which will require the registration of a new account for all first-time users.  
<https://exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/about/submissions>

## Contact

For more details on contributing, on becoming an associate editor or any other questions pertaining to Exchanges, please contact Editor-in-Chief, **Dr Gareth J Johnson** ([gareth.johnson@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:gareth.johnson@warwick.ac.uk) or [exchangesjournal@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:exchangesjournal@warwick.ac.uk)). Alternatively, visit the Exchanges webpages.

## Author Guidance

Full author guidance can be found on the Exchanges website, or by consulting with the Chief Editor.<sup>viii</sup> However, some brief guidance follows:

### *Format*

Critical Reflection pieces should be between **1,000-4,000 words**. **Fully peer-reviewed** pieces may be between **4,000-6,000 words**. While scholarly in content, creating a critical reflection piece is intended to be relatively achievable in a short timeframe. Critical reflections typically employ elements of critique, rather than present a simple narrative or illustrative recounting. Manuscripts should therefore aim to outline or introduce a topic, explore any key terminology, acronyms and jargon with which readers may be unfamiliar, before exploring any specific elements. Ideally the pieces should conclude with a critique, personal reflections or insights before a brief conclusion reiterating the key arguments, discussions or outcomes from the text.

Moreover, critical reflections undergo a generally swift editorial-review process helping to ensure a rapid transit to a publication decision, with author revisions normally achieved through a co-productive editorial dialogue.<sup>ix</sup>

Peer-reviewed articles will be subject to external review, and revision, as part of their consideration. Reviewers may recommend that we decline (reject) any papers which do not meet sufficiently scholarly standards.<sup>x</sup> Exchanges operates an editor-mediated, double-anonymised peer-review approach, and authors are encouraged to submit anonymised manuscripts for peer-reviewed contributions.<sup>xi</sup> Conversely, critical reflections do *not* require anonymisation.

### **Readership**

Exchanges is popular among early career and post-graduate researchers, globally across the disciplinary spectrum, along with members of the public with academic interests. As such, authors are encouraged to address their work to people with this expertise level, rather than to senior peer-scholars, generally in a similar narrative voice as was adopted for the IRCC audience. Further advice on structuring effective critical reflections can be found in our podcast episode: [Creating Critical Reflections](#)<sup>xii</sup>, from past critical reflections published by the journal or via the Chief Editor.

### **Images & Illustrations**

Full-colour illustrations, pictures and images are welcome and encouraged in submitted manuscripts, provided accepted copyright practices are followed and source citations provided throughout. Please see our author guidance or speak with the Chief Editor for more on copyright clearance for third-party materials.

### **Manuscript Layout**

While Exchanges provides an outline template for submissions, its use is not required.<sup>xiii</sup> Hence, extensive pre-formatting of manuscripts is not a requirement for publication consideration – the content is most important!

### **References & Citations**

References can and should be included as necessary and while these should adhere to a single style, there is no requirement to use a specific format in your submission. In text citations though should ideally adopt the **(Name, Year)** or **(Name, Year: Page(s))** where specific page numbers are cited. References cited should be included in a list at the end of the manuscript, and *not* embedded in footnotes or endnotes. Where articles, books, websites or other materials have inspired the work but are not directly cited, they may be listed in a separate Bibliography.

**Footnotes should be avoided** throughout, but the use of **endnotes is permitted**. However, any directly cited or utilised sources should appear in the references list. Any extant footnotes will be converted to endnotes during the editorial process.

## About the Exchanges Journal

*Exchanges: The Interdisciplinary Research Journal* (ISSN 2053-9665) is a non-fee charging, (diamond/platinum) open-access, scholar-led, interdisciplinary journal, published by Warwick's Institute of Advanced Study (IAS) since 2013. It attracts articles from scholars and practitioners around the world, which are read by an international and multidisciplinary audience. The journal also has a particular mission to support the development of emerging authors, reviewers and editors within the research community. Past authors also regularly contribute insights and publication advice to its *Exchanges Discourse* podcast series, available via most podcasting platforms.

For more about Exchanges, our mission and activities visit our websites, or get in touch via email.

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## Endnotes

<sup>i</sup> **IRCC '23 Special Issue:** Available at: <http://doi.org/10.31273/eirj.v11i3>

<sup>ii</sup> **Exchanges:** More on Exchanges can be found at: <https://exchanges.warwick.ac.uk> & [https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross\\_fac/ias/exchanges](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/ias/exchanges)

<sup>iii</sup> **Acceptance:** It is normally anticipated all speakers or poster presenters will have their expressions automatically accepted for manuscript submission. Delegate submissions will undergo further scrutiny, before any invitations to submit are offered.

<sup>iv</sup> **Format Requirements:** For more on this topic see: <https://exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/guidance#formats>

<sup>v</sup> **Special Issues & Associate Editors:** [https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross\\_fac/ias/exchanges/contributing/special-issues/](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/ias/exchanges/contributing/special-issues/)

<sup>vi</sup> **Alternative Format:** If you are unable to access this form or require an alternative format, please contact the Chief Editor.

<sup>vii</sup> **Extensions:** Authors requiring an extension to these submission deadlines are encouraged to contact the Chief Editor to discuss the possibility at least a week in advance of the closing dates.

<sup>viii</sup> **Author Guidance:** <https://exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/guidance>

<sup>ix</sup> **Critical Reflection Review:** Editorial review includes an initial scoping consideration by the Chief Editor, to ensure general suitability for the journal, along with a later revision dialogue with the author managed by an assigned editor.

<sup>x</sup> **Decline Rate:** Exchanges currently has a 55% decline rate for manuscripts, although this is proportionally higher for peer-reviewed contributions.

<sup>xi</sup> **Anonymisation:** A guide to ensuring self-citation and manuscript anonymisation can be found here: <https://exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/anonymisedreview>

<sup>xii</sup> **Podcast Episodes:** These are available on Spotify and Apple Podcasts. Or via: <https://exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/podcast>

<sup>xiii</sup> **Submission Template:** Available from our submission gateway. However, its use is not mandated. See: <https://exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/about/submissions>