



The Heritage Council

Call for Expressions of Interest

National Consultation Panel (Ireland) on the subject of *Cultural Heritage and Global Change: a new challenge for Europe*

Call for members

Closing date for applications: **5pm, Thursday 5th April 2012**

Introduction:

As an element of its involvement in the EU *Joint Programme Initiative on Cultural Heritage and Global Change: a new challenge for Europe*, The Heritage Council is seeking applications for membership of an Irish National Consultation Panel. Applications are invited from experts in the area of **tangible, intangible** and **digital** cultural heritage research, and the panel will help to identify research areas, activities, gaps and needs within the Irish cultural heritage research arena.

Panellists will serve for a fixed term from March 2012 until December 2012, although it should be noted that most meetings and associated activities are likely to take place at the beginning of this period, with the first meeting taking place in early April 2012. It is expected that the panel will have a maximum of 12 members, drawn from a range of organisations such as **universities, museums, archives, libraries, industry, SMEs, funding bodies, advocacy groups and heritage agencies** in the Republic of Ireland. Membership will be balanced so that there is an equal spread of expertise covering the tangible, intangible and digital cultural heritage.

Background:

In both its tangible, intangible and digital forms, Europe's cultural heritage plays a fundamental role in creating cultural connections among citizens. A new Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) on "Cultural Heritage and Global Change: a new Challenge for Europe"¹ commenced on 1st October 2011 aiming to define a common vision between the 22 participating countries which will then be implemented through a Strategic Research Agenda (SRA).

As the Irish partner in this JPI, the Heritage Council is contributing to the development of the SRA which is due for completion by December 2012. This will allow Member States

¹ Further details on this JPI can be found at www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu/

and Associated Countries to implement the Joint Programming Initiative by identifying areas where joint public research programmes can respond to major societal challenges and address existing knowledge gaps in the cultural heritage field.

The engagement of stakeholders will ensure the translation of research outputs into practice and policy.

Defining the Strategic Research Agenda (SRA):

The Strategic Research Agenda will be multidisciplinary, combining experimental science with arts and humanities, engineering and technological innovation. For the purposes of this initiative, the following definitions will be used as a starting point to identify tangible, intangible and digital aspects of the SRA:

Tangible cultural heritage:

Historic cities and towns, historic landscapes, archaeological sites, ancient buildings, museum collections, archives and libraries

Intangible cultural heritage:

Cultural encounters with tangible cultural heritage, for example, values, memories, identity, perceptions, representations, expressions and associated knowledge.

Digital cultural heritage:

Digital heritage, interactivity, visualisation, simulation and new forms of media technologies in order to enhance intellectual, sensory and physical access to tangible cultural heritage

To assist in delivering this work, an Expert Group has been appointed². Its task has been to develop a common framework, which every member state will use to identify research gaps and to prioritise research needs. Every member state has therefore now been asked to organise a National Consultation Panel to ensure that information on national research gaps and needs is gathered effectively and to ensure that the resulting Strategic Research Agenda is thorough and comprehensive.

Role of the National Consultation Panel (NCP) members:

Members of the National Consultation Panel will sit on the panel as experts, rather than as representatives of a particular organization or discipline. Members must at all times observe the highest standards of probity, impartiality, integrity.

The Terms of Reference for all National Consultation Panels are provided as **Annex A**.

² The JHEP Expert Group is responsible for assisting Work Package 2 leaders (AHRC, UK) with the development of the Common Framework for discussion on the SRA and facilitating responses from Member States and Associated Countries. It is composed of 2 representatives of the Scientific Committee of the JPI and 2 external experts.

Eligibility:

We welcome applications from **researchers and practitioners** from different types of research organisations (higher education, research institutions, heritage agencies, museums, libraries, archives, industry and SMEs) in order to achieve the level of intellectual expertise, knowledge and interaction envisaged for this work.

The experience and skills required to become a potential member of the NCP are:

- Significant European or national research record or active engagement with interdisciplinary research or scholarship
- Ability to demonstrate expertise and knowledge both within and on the margins of their main subject specialism or discipline
- Experience at articulating research to a range of audiences
- Leadership and management experience
- Proven successful experience at a senior level in a university and/or private/public/not-for-profit organisation within the cultural heritage sector
- Involvement in networking activities on a national or international level

It is essential that candidates should be able to commit the necessary time and attention to the role, and have the full support of their employing organisation in doing so.

NCP members will be required to declare any private, professional or commercial interests that might conflict with the interests of the NCP or which might be perceived by others as creating a conflict of interest.

Further information:

Members travel and accommodation costs will be reimbursed.

How to apply:

Applicants should complete a short Expression of Interest (EoI) (**maximum two sides of A4 in a font size no smaller than 11**).

This should comprise:

- i) an indication of whether you consider your expertise to mainly cover tangible, intangible or digital heritage (state in bold at the top of the page either **TANGIBLE**, **INTANGIBLE** or **DIGITAL**);
- ii) a summary of not more than one side of A4 outlining your reasons for wishing to become a member and how you think you could contribute to the NCP; and

- iii) a CV of not more than one side of A4 outlining your expertise, experience, roles, activities etc of relevance to focus of the JPI and if appropriate key publications or other outputs.

Please send completed Expressions of Interest directly to Eimear O'Connell (eoconnell@heritagecouncil.ie) by no later than 5pm Thursday 5th April 2012

Annex A:



JHEP: National Consultation Panels

Terms of Reference

Background:

The Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) on “Cultural Heritage and Global Change: a new Challenge for Europe” commenced on 1st October 2011 aiming to define a common vision between the 22 participating countries which will then be implemented through a Strategic Research Agenda (SRA). The UK partner in the JPI, the Arts and Humanities Research Council is leading the work to develop the SRA which is due for completion by December 2012. This will allow Member States and Associated Countries to implement the Joint Programming Initiative by providing areas where joint public research programmes respond to major societal challenges. The engagement of stakeholders will ensure the translation of research outputs into practice and policy.

All Member States and Associated Countries have been asked to set up National Consultation Panels to ensure that information on research gaps and needs is gathered effectively and to ensure that the resulting Strategic Research Agenda is thorough and comprehensive.

Primary Purpose/goal:

National Consultation Panels will consist of experts in the area of tangible, intangible and digital cultural heritage and their aim is to help identify research areas, activities, gaps and needs. Members of the National Consultation Panels will sit on the panels as experts, rather than as representatives of a particular organization or discipline. Members must at all times observe the highest standards of probity, impartiality, integrity and objectivity.

Responsibilities:

- To engage with the JHEP³ consortium;
- To be open minded and consider all aspects of cultural heritage (tangible, intangible and digital);

³ JHEP is the title of a “Co-ordination and Support Action” funded by the European Commission in order to implement the vision and proposals of the JPI. Essentially it is the JPI’s ‘working group’.

- To advise the JHEP Steering Committee⁴ member on research areas, activities, gaps and needs;
- To complete the Common Framework templates agreed by the JHEP Expert Group⁵;
- To provide sufficient detailed information as to inform the development of the Strategic Research Agenda;
- To provide the information requested by the Work Package leader (AHRC, UK) according to the timetable provided.

Membership:

The National Consultation Panel will be in operation for a fixed term from December 2011 until December 2012, although most meetings and associated activities by the panel are likely to take place at the beginning of this period. It is envisaged that there will be two initial meeting during the month of April 2012. It is expected that the panel will have a maximum of 12 members, drawn from a range of organisations such as universities, museums, archives, libraries, funding bodies and heritage agencies in order to achieve the level of intellectual expertise, knowledge and interaction envisaged for this work. Members of the JPI Scientific Committee⁶ may also sit on NCPs. Membership will be balanced so that there is an equal spread of expertise covering the tangible, intangible and digital cultural heritage as well as an appropriate level of national coverage. NCPs will also be required to reflect principles of gender and ethnic diversity.

The experience and skills required to become a potential member of the NCP are:

- Significant European or national research record or active engagement with interdisciplinary research or scholarship in the area of cultural heritage
- Ability to demonstrate expertise and knowledge both within and on the margins of their main subject specialism or discipline
- Experience at articulating research to a range of audiences
- Leadership and management experience
- Proven successful experience at a senior level in a university and/or private/public/not for profit organisation within the cultural heritage sector
- Involvement in networking activities on a national or international level

⁴ The JHEP Steering Committee is composed of the Coordinator, the work package leaders and the Executive Board members of the JPI.

⁵ The JHEP Expert Group is responsible for assisting Work Package 2 leaders (AHRC, UK) with the development of the Common Framework and facilitating responses from Member States and Associated Countries. It is composed of 2 representatives of the Scientific Committee and 2 external experts.

⁶ The JPI Scientific Committee includes 12 experts from countries involved in this JPI and abroad, selected by peer review.