S P STUDENT PUBLICATION ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024



SPANC

2024

University of Bristol 12 - 14 April





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Welcome to #SPANC24

Welcome to Bristol for the SPA National Conference! Over the last 11 years, this conference has taken us around the UK, and it is a pleasure to bring our biggest event of the year to the South West of England for the first time ever.

As always, I arrive here incredibly proud of everything our members have achieved this year. Make sure to take every chance throughout the weekend, including at Saturday's National Awards, to celebrate all the hard work you've put in!

This weekend is also a great opportunity to learn more about our industry, meet some fascinating people, and network with other student journalists who may well be colleagues in the years to come... I know that this event was a massive boost for me in my own journey to a career in journalism, and it really pays to make the most of it!

On that note, our AGM on Sunday gives you the chance to shape the future of the SPA. Running for a role is a great way to develop your skills and connections, and I have found the work we do incredibly rewarding – if you've got any questions grab me or another one of the team during the weekend.

Thank you to everyone who has made this event possible – our SPA team, our supporters from across the industry, and, most of all, you!

Matt Ward-Perkins SPA Chair



Become a reporter with MA Broadcast Journalism.

We'll help you hone your craft across TV, radio, podcasting and digital so you can land that dream job. Scan the QR code to see what you could be doing in September.







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Meet your #SPANC24 team

Executive Committee



Chair

Justine Noble Communications Officer

Ella Robinson Training & Opportunities Officer

Jess Walmsley
Events & Conference
Officer

Rory Buccheri Sponsorship Officer

Regional & Host Officers



Milan Perera South West Officer

Isabella Ankerson South East Officer

Jack Walsh Ireland and Northern Ireland Officer

Lowri Lewis Welsh Officer

Joe McFadden North Officer

Ella Woszczyk Host Officer

Trustees



Juliet Rix Richard Brooks Anttoni Numminen Ollie Cole Geri Scott Jem Collins Bree Allegretti

Meet your hosts



Epigram is the University of Bristol's award-winning, independent newspaper, which was established in 1989. Print editions are published monthly and can be found across the University campus. They publish regular content under their eight sections and have recently appeared on BBC Newsnight and collaborated with BBC Points West, following their critical reporting on the recent marking and assessment boycott.



The Croft is Epigram's lifestyle magazine and can be found both online and alongside each Epigram issue. Covering Food, Nightlife, Fashion, Wellbeing and Culture, The Croft acts as an inclusive platform for those entering the creative industry from non-arts educated backgrounds to present their work.



The Bristorian is Bristol University's humanities department's academic magazine. Funded jointly by the humanities department and Bristol University's History Society, the magazine aims to encompass multiple disciplines from across the department, driving new research and investigations in cultural phenomena.



That's What She Said Magazine is a student-led intersectional feminist magazine publishing in both print and online since 2011. With writing and artwork entirely created by University of Bristol students and alumni, they have created a platform that acts as a safe space for Bristol's feminist community, as well as gaining recognition nationally - such as being given a feature in an academic work about artistic self- representation.



La Civetta is a bilingual general interest magazine created by University of Bristol students, covering Italian politics, sport, food, arts, language, and culture. Their online publication aims to reflect the Italian community in Bristol, from individuals making an impact in the city to the issue facing 'Bristalians'. La Civetta consists of a small team working as contributors, designers, and editors.

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Shape your SPA

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is a key part of #SPANC24, where SPA members can make key decisions about the organisation. You can do this by proposing motions on how you want the SPA to run, electing new leaders to make the SPA reflect your priorities, or by simply questioning the SPA's reports and accounts.

We'd highly recommend that you think about running to be on next year's SPA committee at the AGM. It's very simple. Any member can stand, and give a short speech about what they'd do in the role. We then open the floor for members to ask questions, before taking a vote and letting our members decide who they'd like to lead us next year.

Chair: The figurehead of the SPA, serving as the public face of the charity. The Chair oversees all other Executive and Project Officers, and is a role well-suited to someone passionate about team management and leadership.

Conference & Events Officer: Responsible for planning smaller regional events, such as our Regional Awards, and our National Conference. This is a great role for those interested in event planning or project leadership.

Communications Officer: In charge of external and internal comms. This is a role for those who are well-organised, and looking to enhance their social media/copywriting skills.

Training & Opportunities Officer: Develops training/learning opportunities for members throughout the year, including but not limited to events or documentation. Great for those passionate about supporting others and keen to develop skills in content creation/networking.

Sponsorship Officer: Responsible for developing and growing sponsorship opportunities for the SPA. If you love networking and organisation, this role is for you.

Even once #SPANC24 is over, there are still plenty of ways you'll be able to get involved with the running of the SPA in the 2024-25 academic year. We'll be opening applications for our Regional and Project Officer positions this weekend - keep an eye on our socials (@SPAJournalism) for more info, or email chair@spajournalism.com with any questions. We can't wait to have you on board!

Regional Officers

This team works alongside the Exec to provide support and events for publications in their regions across the UK and Republic of Ireland. You will be a dedicated point of contact for our member publications in your region, work on outreach surrounding our Regional Awards - and even lead the charge with arranging our National Conference and Awards, if SPANC finds itself in your region next year!

Project Officers

Project Officers also work alongside the Exec to spearhead outreach and support for our student publications across all our networks. We have three Project Officer positions available, so whether you're interested in getting to grips with the legal side of student media, rallying together past and present members, or designing eye-catching graphics for our socials, our Advocacy, Alumni and Digital Media roles make sure there's a place at the SPA for everyone.



6 reasons to join absw

An association that champions independence and excellence in the reporting of science, medicine, engineering and technology.

Discounted membership

Student membership is just £25 pa, gives you all the benefits of membership, and you can pay this rate for up to two years after graduating.



Meet and engage with senior journalists, editors, and other experienced science writers.

Improve your skills

Take part in our workshops and events for free or at a discounted rate, like the UK Conference of Science Journalists, or join the Early Career Science Writer Network.



4

Public directory

Post your updated bio, your portfolio, and website for other members and editors to find you.



Closed content

Have access to job, awards, and grant announcements, and join closed discussion forums.



Monthly Showcase

Each month, ABSW will promote one of its members work published the month before.



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ardiff.ac.uk/journalism-media-and-culture

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Make it happen here.



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Sa	turday	y		
	9:45	Anson Building trust and quality in an age of information overload	Winston Editors' coffee morning* Join us to meet your fellow editors over coffee and croissants!	Workshop: Finding and applying for journalism jobs no one knows about*
	10:45	In conversation with Hugh Pym Hugh has been reporting on politics, economics and health for over two decades, across the UK's top broadcasters. Most recently, he was a familiar face in the BBC's coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic as the corporation's Health Editor.	Scoring a job in sports journalism From match reports to longer-form writing, learn how to build a career in sports journalism, and make your publication's sport coverage as good as it can be. Panel: Josh Mbu (Reach), James Dowden (Sevilla FC), George Simms (i), Júlia Belas Trindade (The Guardian), Ella Alalade (Freelance)	Cooking up quality food & drink coverage Food & drink coverage can be the best way to your audience's heart find out how to make your work stand out. Panel: Harriet Fitch Little (FT), Nic Robinson (The Grocer), Jungmin Seo (The Caterer)
	11:45	Perfecting podcasts with Tom Curry* Exploring audio for the first time or want to take a current publication podcast to the next level? Let our audio experts give you a handy list of tips for making your output the best it can be.	Turning gossip into news How can a whisper become a top story? Dig into how to get the juiciest scoops with our expert panel. Panel: Bethany Dawson (Politico), Lucy Dunn (The Spectator), Aisha Nozari (The Mirror)	Visualising your stories with infographics Explore how visual storytelling can make your reporting sing, and how you can use data to create graphics that will boost your audience engagement in this interactive workshop with Meike Eijsberg, Infographic Designer at The Telegraph
	12:45	Lunch, Swap Shop and Careers Fair		
	13:40	First class travel journalism Learn from top travel writers about how to score the top travel jobs and put together the ultimate travel pitch. Panel: Shafik Meghji (Freelance), Lyn Hughes (Wanderlust), Ross Clarke (Freelance)	Topping the search charts Make sure your journalism gets the biggest possible audience with insights from our search engine experts. Panel: Becca Carey (Newsquest), Dan Cody (Evening Standard)	Mock press conference with PA Media Academy Build your news reporting skills with an interactive mock press conference, delivered by the team at one of the country's top journalism training institutions.
	14:30	Inside Westminster Insight into the world of political journalism from those who know it best, with advice on how to get a foot in the door. Panel: Noa Hoffman (The Sun), Steph Spyro (The Daily Express), Ava-Santina Evans (PoliticsJOE), Kiran Stacey (The Guardian)	Nailing your newsletters Learn how to get your content into your audience's inbox, and make the most effective newsletter possible. Panel: Hannah Tomes (The Spectator), Joshua Hughes (The Telegraph), Georgina Quach (Financial Times)	PR-fect opportunities PR professionals can be an important resource for any journalist. Our expert panel discusses how to work with PRs to secure exclusive opportunities and inform your reporting. Panel: James Mole (Ex Head of Communications, NH5 England), Priscilla Truong (Portland Communications), Ellie Langford (iNews)
	15:30	The culture club Arts and culture reporting is at the heart of many of our student publications. Hear from top culture reporters about how to craft the best reviews and features you can. Panel: Emily Murray (GamesRadar), Rosemary Waugh (Freelance critic), Dhruva Balram (Freelance)	Digging deep Learn about the ins and outs of investigative reporting, and the skills needed to uncover a top story. Panel: Henry Dyer (The Guardian), Megan Harwood-Baynes (Sky News), Vicky Gayle (Freelance), Nimra Shahid (TBIJ)	Regional journalism: Knowing your patch Regional reporters and editors from across the UK will give you an insight into how to create news about, and for, your unique audiences. Panel: Martin Booth (Bristol 24/7), Josh Sandiford (BBC Midlands)
	16:30	Storytelling in a digital age Get an insight into how to make the most of digital platforms and create stories that can make the broadest impact possible. Panel: Luke Jacobs (The Guardian), Ed Campbell (PoliticsJOE), Megan Wallace (GAY TIMES)	How to get into journalism, especially if you're from a non-traditional background Guardian Senior Editor for Diversity and Development Joseph Harker discusses how to make your mark in the journalism industry, whatever your background or circumstance.	Build your dream story with PA Media Academy Learn how to put together and develop the best stories you can, with advice from the team at leading journalism training centre PA Media Academy.







9:45

How to run your team*

Leading a student publication or section is about more than just the content you produce. In this interactive session you will gain insights into how to lead the team you are working with.

Media law: Staying out of trouble

Writing for alternative audiences

Reporting essentials in a business newsroom with Bloombera

Get answers to your media law questions, and learn the basics of how to avoid running into legal issues in your writing and reporting, with former PA law editor and co-author of McNae's Sian Harrison.

Every audience is unique - dig into alternative careers you can pursue in the world of journalism, and how you can develop your stories in a way that makes the biggest possible

Panel: Emma Taggart (The Times), Christopher Johnson (Morningstar)

Find out what skills you need to be a successful reporter in both a business newsroom and the wider industry with one of the biggest players on the scene.

11:30

10:45

Annual General Meeting and Lunch

In conversation with... Rianna Croxford

Health reporting: From the NHS to the newsroom

Building a freelance career

13:30

Rianna Croxford is a multi-awardwinning investigations correspondent for the BBC, with experience reporting on digital, television and radio outlets around the world

After a turbulent few years for health reporters, our panel discusses what could be next for the specialism.

Panel: Jim Reed (BBC), Rebecca Thomas (The Independent)

Freelancing can be a fantastic way to build your portfolio and develop your skills as a journalist. Learn about how to make it work in a challenging time for the journalism industry.

Panel: Lauren McGaun, (Freelance BBC Producer), Lily Canter, (Freelancing for Journalists), Adam Quareshie (Freelance writer)

In conversation with... Adam Fleming

Finessing your FOIs

Savanta: polling in a General Election year

14:30

As former BBC Chief Political Correspondent and now presenter of the flagship news podcast Newscast, Adam is a familiar face in news, with insights on how to make it in our industry. Freedom of Information requests can be a vital tool to produce news coverage. Learn how to craft a request that will create or help tell your story with The Times' George Greenwood

Join one of the country's top pollsters to discuss how to make the most of polling in this pivotal election year.

Panel: Chris Hopkins (Political Research Director, Savanta), Emma Levin (Associate Director, Savanta)

Just made it in the media

Columns and opinion writing: express yourself Learn how to use your unique perspective to develop opinion

pieces and columns that stand out

How to be a good editor

15:30

Hear from our panel of recent graduates about how to make your first steps in the journalism industry.

Panel: Max Kendix (The Times),

Smith (PA)

Jack Fifield (Bolton News), Jamel

Panel: Mutaz Ahmed (The Baptiste (Freelance)

and make an impact.

Leaders at publications across the media industry discuss how to be an effective editor of your publication or section.

Telegraph), Lateefah Jean

Panel: Chris Stevenson (The Independent), Isabella Silvers, (Hearst), Naomi Larsson Piñeda (Hyphen)

#SPANC24 WorkshopsSaturday

- 10:45-12:45: Your free byline photo*
- 11:45-12:45: Breaking news workshop with News Associates
- 13:40-15:30: Photography with PA Media Academy*
- 15:30-17:30: Pitching workshop with Colin Drury*

Sunday

- 09:30-11:30: The SPA CV Clinic*
- 13:30-15:30: The SPA Copy Clinic*

*These workshops need to be booked in advance. Head to www.spajournalism.com/SPA-events/ to find out more





Getting around Bristol!

Top attractions

- Clifton Suspension Bridge
- Wallace and Gromit mural on Quaker's Lane

Coffee spots

- East Village Café vegetarian & vegan cafe
- Playground Coffee shop and Bar with boardgames and swings!
- Cafe Kino Community cafe and good lunch spot!
- The Beehive Coffee House famous for their milkshakes!

Grabbing a drink The Canteen - affordable drinks and live music

- The Cider Press 32 ciders available
- White Bear cheapest pint!

Nightlife

For clubbing...

- Lakota for Bristol vibes (DnB and jungle mainly you are in Bristol after all - though sometimes house/techno)
- La Rocca for cheesy night out
- Thekla (depends on the night)
- Motion (check lineup and buy tickets before, but has the best DJs for a BIG night out)

Crofters Rights (near Lakota, smaller venue, electronic music again)



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Strand Magazine

The River

The Mancunion

The Student

Roar News

The Glasgow Guardian

Palatinate

Cherwell

Trinity News

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Inside The Box

Silver Hand

Women's Wrongs

Planorama

Lingo Magazine

Take The Wheel

BRAW

People Behind The Headlines

Best Specialist Publication Sponsored by William Reed

Strand Magazine

The Croft

Muse

The Lemon Press

Gender Agenda

Trinity Journal of Literary Translation

The Oxford Scientist

The Economic Tribune

Perspectives

OTwo

Best Design (Newspaper) Sponsored by The Times & Sunday **Times**

The Student

Forge Press

Brig

Felix

The Gaudie

The Badger

The Mancunion

Epigram

The Gryphon





Best Design (Magazine)

The Croft I, Science

RAZZ

That's What She Said

The Oxford Scientist

Venue

Label

Quench

The Standard

TCD Misc.

Best Overall Digital Media Sponsored by News Associates

Strand Magazine

Roar News

The Badger

The Oxford Student

Palatinate

Lingo Magazine

The Orbital Magazine

Quench

The Mancunion

The Gryphon

Best Culture Publication or Section(s)

Strand Magazine

The Saint

The Mancunion

Forge Press

Venue

Lingo Magazine

Quench

OTwo

The Gryphon

Cherwell

Best Project or Initiative

Sponsored by Women in Journalism

The Gaudie - The Gaudie digital archive

Nouse - AlumNouse

The Saint - Diss-Course

The Student - The Student podcast

Roar News - Roar News app

The Beaver - Uncovering the Union

Palatinate - Podcasts by Palatinate

The Oxford Student - The Oxford

Student newsletter

 ${\sf ScienceMind-Women's\ health\ special}$

Cherwell - Carbon-neutral publishing

Best Science Publication or Section

Sponsored by the Association of British Science Writers

Palatinate

The Oxford Scientist

The Mancunion

Concrete

UCL Science Magazine

The Courier

I, Science

Kinesis

ScienceMind

The Glasgow Guardian

Best Website

Sponsored by Bloomberg

Strand Magazine

The Saint

Epigram

Brig

Exeposé

The Mancunion

Best Sport Publication or Section

The Mancunion
Exeposé
The Student
Palatinate
The Badger
York Vision
Concrete
The Standard
Cherwell
The Beaver

Billy Dowling-Reid Award for Outstanding Commitment Sponsored by Newsworks

Orla McAndrew, Nouse
Lucy Jackson, The Student
Joe Harston, Palatinate
Charlie Fenton, Forge Press
Semhar (Semi) Tesfazgy, The Badger
Hannah Auld, Take The Wheel
Freya Deyell, Brig
Fintan Hogan, Roar News
Molly Cantwell, Limerick Voice
Josh Pizzuto-Pomaco & Isabelle
Hampton-Zabotti, The Gaudie

Best Reporter Sponsored by PA Media Academy

Josh Pizzuto-Pomaco, The Gaudie Sam Norman, The Courier Maggie Wilcox, Cherwell Rose Henderson, The Oxford Student Fintan Hogan, Roar News Anna Boyne, Empoword Journalism & Impact Athina Bohner, The Glasgow Guardian Emily Doughty, Palatinate Clara Martinez, The Standard Charlotte Kent, Trinity News

Best Culture Writer

Milan Perera, Epigram
Phoebe Pascoe, The University Times
Akane Hayashi, Strand Magazine
Jeevan Farthing, The Glasgow
Guardian
Anwesh Banerjee, Roar News
Francesca Sylph, The Badger
Tessa Ndjonkou, The University
Observer
Anuj Mishra, Cherwell

Barney Nuttall, Strand Magazine



Rising Star (Best Newcomer) Best Investigation Sponsored by Savanta

Libby Griffiths, The Courier Oliver Adelson, Cherwell Cameron Baillie, The Beaver Simon Ezra Jackson, The Saint Elliot Burrin, Palatinate Luke Alsford, Palatinate Benji Chapman, Epigram Semhar (Semi) Tesfazgy, The Badger Daisy Outram, The Oxford Student Molly Cantwell, Limerick Voice

Best News Story Sponsored by Newsworks

Archie Clarke & Luke Chapman, The Boar

Austin Swaffer, The Saint Josh Pizzuto-Pomaco, The Gaudie Alex Payne, The University Times Elizabeth McBride, Palatinate Cem Kozanoglu, Cherwell Jacob Hartley & Rosina Read, The Mancunion

Jack Beeching, The Beaver Livvy Mason-Myhill, Exeposé Maurizio Kayonjo, The River

Sponsored by Cardiff University

Josh Pizzuto-Pomaco, The Gaudie Maryse Bots & Nick Malizia, The Student Jamie Speka, Exeposé Rose Henderson & Milo Dennison, The Oxford Student Daisy Eastlake & Diana Rajabalinia, Roar News Elliot Burrin, Palatinate Shakthi Thyagarajan, Forge Press Athina Bohner, The Glasgow Guardian Jeevan Farthing & Athina Bohner, The Glasgow Guardian Luke Hewitt, The Mancunion

Best Feature

Gemma Good, Limerick Voice Annie McNamee, Epigram Luke Alsford, Elizabeth McBride & Nicole Ireland, Palatinate Ruby Topalian, Trinity News Anna Boyne, Impact Selina Chen, Cherwell Vanessa Huang, The Beaver Phoebe Pascoe & Hosanna Boulter, The **University Times**



Best InterviewSponsored by the University of Sheffield

Mahaley Wise, The Saint
Carlin Braun, Brig
Phoebe Davies, The Saint
Kaviesh Kinger & Sheila Mutua, The
Beaver
Alex Cooper, The Mancunion
Jeevan Farthing, The Glasgow
Guardian
Constance Roisin, The Glasgow
Guardian
Eden Fall-Bailey, The Boar
Niamh Flanagan, The Glasgow
Guardian
Cynthia Chan, The Badger

Best Science or Tech Piece Sponsored by the Association of British Science Writers

Claire Thomson, The Glasgow
Guardian
Zoya Gul, RUMS Review
Matt Davis, York Vision
Ali Rees, Brig
Maithili Pittea, ScienceMind
Eve Zebedee, The Glasgow
Guardian
Altay Shaw, Kinesis
Lucas Mockeridge, Epigram
Robyn Garner, Jak Wright & Eitan
Ostashinski, Nouse
Elliot Rose, Bath Time Magazine

Best Sports Reporter

Claire Thomson, The Glasgow Guardian James Kinnaird, The Gaudie Arthur Ferridge, The Courier Mia Prince-Kelly, The Student Oliver Baker, The Student Nathan Hassett, Brig Harry Craig, Exeposé Joseph Saunders, Palatinate Sofia Royal, Concrete Skye Slatcher, The Beaver

Best Student Photographer

Ailish O'Leary Austin, The Mancunion Rory Chinn, Trinity News Ciara Tait, Brig Jimena Alvarez, Trinity News Zeeshan Tirmizi, The Badger Emma Carmichael, Roar News Mia Wilson, Quench James Maslin-Bosher, The Gryphon



Best Lifestyle Piece

Charlotte Legrand, Nouse
Libby Griffiths, The Courier
Seven Standen, Empoword Journalism
Selina Chen, Cherwell
Lucy Spencer, The Badger
Hannah Giron Daygo, The College
View
Emoefeoghene (Efé) Imoyin-Omene,
SCAN
Rebecca Symns-Rowley, Forge
Press
Lily Smith, RAZZ

Best Arts or Culture Piece

Kaitlyn Beattie-Zarb, York Vision
Rachel Cronin, Strathclyde
Telegraph
Rosie Nowosielski, The Gryphon
Orla Mahon, The University
Observer
Matthew Stothard, Concrete
Rachael Alvey, Label
Harry Turnbull & Isabella Poderico,
The Badger
Jake Paterson, Epigram
Milan Perera, Epigram
Thomas Gibbs, The Saint

Best Creative Piece

Simon Ezra Jackson, The Saint Rosie Miller, The Saint Eddie Atkinson, The Lemon Press Emma Gallagher, The Beaver Matt Davis, The Lemon Press Ben Scanlan, The Cheese Grater Keziah Cho, The Cheese Grater Zoe Barret, The Boar Sean Hartnett, Cherwell

Best Comment Piece

Scarlett Cracknell, Exeposé
David Wolfe, Trinity News
Ruby Topalian, Trinity News
Nina Miller, The Glasgow Guardian
Emily Brewster, Epigram
Kiran Singh, The University Times
Muhammad Ibrahim, The Beaver
Caitlyn Taft, SCAN
Adam Rainbolt, Trinity News
Cameron Baillie, The Beaver



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We could not put SPANC on every year without the generous support of our sponsors. Without them your ticket price would be more than £100 more, and their support means the SPA will be able to continue for years to come and continue to grow. Thank you to our supporters, we wouldn't be here without you and we're so grateful.





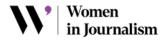








School of Journalism, Media and Culture Ysgol Newyddiaduraeth, y Cyfryngau a Diwylliant











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- Sports journalism
- Digital features and longform journalism



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Stay up to date across the conference by joining our WhatsApp channel, and share your weekend on socials with #SPANC24





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