York AHRC PHoSTEM Workshop, 7th Dec 2012

Organized by IPUP (Institute for the Public Understanding of the Past), hosted by the NRM (National Railway Museum).

- How are changes in society and culture affecting science museums' use of material and visual collections?
- How are museums working with enthusiast – and non-enthusiast – audiences?
- How can engagement with public history enable new approaches?

11:00	Coffee and registration: Delegates for PHoSTEM meet NRM curators at Walker Suite
11.30	Tour with NRM Curators: focus on the challenges of engaging public with the history of engineering; showcasing new programme of popular history methodologies to entertain wider audiences using drama in the Station Hall.
12.15	Lunch
13.00	Welcome to PHoSTEM research themes Tim Boon (Science Museum): PHoSTEM (Public History of Science, Technology and Medicine) Helen Weinstein (IPUP): Themes for this workshop
13.15	Panel One: Involvement and participation I: engagement strategies for heritage participation - Mike Nevell (Salford, Big Dig & Iron Bridge): Overview on getting people involved in the process of industrial heritage, and of enabling engagement through the experience of doing it, uncovering archaeological pasts. - Joe Savage (NRM): Widening audiences, tempting rail travellers to engage through an app designed to entertain and inform. - Aidan Doyle (Newcastle University): Sharing the past with the younger generations, using art to connect primary schools to the industrial pasts of where they live. Respondents from lay research/enthusiast perspectives
14.30	Panel Two: Involvement and participation II: Community perspectives for heritage participation - Richard Evans, (Beamish): The wider goals for participatory practice at Beamish to allow co-curation and co-production of events and exhibitions - Helen Barker (Beamish): The reenactment of the Silkworth strikes & the experience of working with industrial mining pasts about to be beyond living memory - Hazel Edwards (Discovery Museum, Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums (TWAM)): Sharing curatorial responsibility in projects and empowering participation in industrial heritage and social history - Kylea Little (TWAM): Using personal stories, in the form of family histories, to engage audiences in history, archives and museums and working with volunteers to create a sustainable website and online exhibit using these voices - David Stockdale (Ryedale Folk Museum): "Our Museums" experience and where this takes the institutional authorial voice when working with curatorial experts, (ie volunteers, other contributors and the visiting public) in archiving the collections and sharing their skills and knowledge Respondents from lay research/enthusiast perspectives
16.15	Tea

16.45	Panel Three: Prospects and challenges in better understanding the potential of popular history and widening audiences for the history of science - Ludmilla Jordanova (King's College London): The challenges of understanding the materiality of the past and changing frontiers of participation offered by digital technology. - Annika Joy (Science Museum): Audience research into the authorial voice; challenging curatorial practice in order to better engage with audiences - Kalliopi Fouseki (University College London): Challenges with BAME engagement with 'Science', and projects that allow ownership of a past perceived as a 'white' narrative - Mike Wilson (University College Falmouth): The complexity of storytelling and performance to engage lay audiences in the history of science and technology Respondent: Nick Winterbotham (Nick Winterbotham & Associates): The potential for widening participation and 'popularizing' the history of science.
18.30	Wrap up (with refreshments) - Helen Weinstein and Tim Boon to wrap-up and underline the themes to develop and take forward to next workshops
19.15	Close