

THE AWARDS 2021

Most Innovative Teacher of the Year

Institution name	Rhianedd Smith, <i>University of Reading</i>
Submission title or project name	Immersive Experiences for Professional Pathways in University Museums
Nominee/key personnel	
URL	
Submission	<p>Dr Rhianedd Smith is the Director of Academic Learning and Engagement with the University of Reading Museums and Special Collections Services. She designs and teaches a distinctive range of problem-based undergraduate modules embedded in working museums and collections.</p> <p>In 2019-2020 she led a project with students and employers to enhance the collections-based teaching curriculum. Based on employer feedback Rhi focussed on enhancing problem solving amongst the future workforce, by creating models of professional practice.</p> <p>Working with heritage professionals and former students in heritage careers, Rhi created new opportunities to go behind the scenes even after lockdown hit. Rhi redeveloped a third-year exhibition module in collaboration with heritage professionals, resulting in a one-of-a-kind student experience and public engagement opportunity at the Museum of English Rural Life. Rhi engages in advocacy on the committee of University Museums Group UK and has published on the role of university collections in the student experience.</p>