

Strategy 2017-2020

Nissa Finney (Chair) and PGRG Committee, February 2017

2020 VISION of the Population Geography Research Group

The research group aims, by 2020, to consolidate and extend its promotion of population geography and support for population geographers; to be known within the sub discipline, discipline, broader academy and in relevant policy and third sector networks as the leading representative body of population geography in the UK, with international reach; and to promote timely and impactful dialogue on key political issues relating to population geography.

STRATEGY for achieving the research group 2020 vision

To achieve this vision, the Research Group will:

1. Refine the roles and working methods of the RG Committee
2. Continue and develop an active programme of activities to promote population geography and support population geographers
3. Enable specific activities to support early career researchers (including postgraduates) to ensure renewal of the sub-discipline; and interaction of less and more established researchers
4. Develop membership and networks for knowledge exchange
5. Improve communication and engagement with membership, particularly via online platforms
6. Improve communication and engagement beyond population geography
7. Work more closely with the RGS-IBG, and other RGS Research Groups
8. Work more closely with established partners and identify opportunities for new collaborations including with those beyond the academy and beyond the UK
9. Generate income to support the strategy

ACTIONS for implementing strategy, 2017-18

The strategy will be implemented through the following actions:

- Review the Committee positions and their roles; and ways of working and communicating (Strategy point 1) [Lead by Chair]
- Review membership and its definition; review what is gained from membership; establish a membership strategy to enable diverse and growing of membership in terms of location, specialism, career stage and sub-disciplinary interests (Strategy points 3, 4, 8) [Lead by Membership Officer]
- Active engagement in RGS-IBG Annual Conference (Strategy points 2, 3, 6) [Lead by Conference Officer]
- Strategic organisation of co-sponsored sessions with other Research Groups at the RGS-IBG Annual Conference and AAG Population Geography Speciality Group (Strategy points 2, 3, 4, 5, 8) [Lead by Conference Officer]
- Redesign website (Strategy points 4, 5, 6) [Lead by Communications Officer]
- Introduce blog, with the aim of publishing 24 blogs over a 12 month period with contributions from committee members and others, for publication of, for example:
 - Group news and events
 - Comment/response to population geography in the news
 - Research highlights
 - Rapid Response to Official Statistical publications(Strategy points 4, 5, 6) [Lead by Membership Officer with Communications Officer and Early Careers Officer]
- Produce Annual Round-up in July/August, prior to RGS-IBG Annual Conference, for wide circulation (4, 5, 6) [Lead by Membership Officer]
- Organise a PopGRG income-generating event(s), possibly as a pre-meeting to an existing event (RGS-IBG AC, Popfest) or seminar series; possibility of journal special issue (Strategy points 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)
- Consider scheme to financially support conference participation for those with limited funds including early career and late career researchers (Strategy points 3)
- Review the profile and promotion of Research Group prizes and consider introducing an award for early career researchers (Strategy points 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) [Lead by Awards Officer]
- Devise strategy for income generation to support aims and actions, to include membership strategy, income generating event and grant application (Strategy point 9) [Lead by Societies Liaison Officer?]
- Establish more formal dialogues with partner organisations (Strategy points 4, 8) [Lead by Societies Liaison Officer]
- Identify good practice of other RGS-IBG Research Groups (Strategy point 1, 7)