

Working with the project

“Geological Collections Conservation (GeCCo)”

This is a unique opportunity to support the development of tools for collections monitoring and preservation in partnership with Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales and Oxford University.

We are looking for a partner with an interest in the preservation of museum collections.

This partnership project investigates problems caused in museum collection stores by air pollutants and humidity.

Background: Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales looks after 900,000 geological specimens. The museum uses this collection daily to inspire, educate, and research. Storage of collections is to the highest available standards, but the current standards do not tell us much about how minerals react with airborne chemicals. As a result, we do observe damage to some specimens which, in the worst case scenario, can result in minerals and fossils decaying to dust. But, at present, nobody really knows how we can improve our storage because the research has not been undertaken.

This pioneering partnership project will address these gaps in knowledge whilst training the next generation of heritage scientists.

Storage issues will be investigated at National Museum Cardiff (heritage partner). Analytical and development work will be carried out at University of Oxford (academic partner). Transfer of knowledge and any intellectual property arising from the project will be facilitated by the University of Oxford’s legal department.

We are looking for an industrial partner who

- wants to be associated with two high-profile research organisations, the University of Oxford and National Museum Cardiff.
- is willing to support the development of novel technology in exchange for knowledge transfer.
- may be involved in materials storage, experience corrosion issues of their stored materials, or need to undertake regular material condition checks.

Benefits to industrial partners

There are clear business and corporate social responsibility (CSR) benefits from being associated with a national museum and one of the UK’s highest rated universities.

- CSR provides visible signals from which stakeholders infer positive characteristics, thus creating an avenue to increase firm reputation.
- The R&D of new products or services results in new business opportunities.

If you are interested in becoming an industry partner in this project please get in touch with:

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