



TRACE INFO SHEET

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CENTRE FOR TRANSCULTURAL CREATIVITY AND EDUCATION

We are TRACE: a research team that investigates and maps creativity across cultural borders.

On September 18th 2019, TRACE launched a new platform, a space where researchers can find support for their writing. From writing notes, through to 'writing up', this platform connects researchers to communities of support such as libraries, archives, research sites, research groups, as well as showcasing, publishing, and media outlets.

This platform is a resource for all researchers – emerging researchers, continuing researchers, and research facilitators. We extend a warm hand of welcome to individuals and groups that are seeking greater recognition within research culture: makers, graduates, undergraduates, engaged researchers, support staff, practitioners, and citizen investigators.

Role of TRACE at Bath Spa University:

TRACE is one of three University-Wide Strategic Research Centres, tasked with enhancing research activities and profile across and beyond Bath Spa University (BSU).

TRACE has previously led on a review of BSU's approach to **public engagement** with support from BSU's Research Office, funding from Research Council UK, and guidance from the NCCPE (the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement). The Director of TRACE, Professor Bambo Soyinka, Chairs the Universities **Impact** Working Group, and is working closely with Astrid Breel to develop BSU's ongoing approach to writing and reviewing impact case studies.

Externally, TRACE has raised over £1 million from ACE to develop Paper Nations - an incubator for creative writing communities and projects across South West England.

The TRACE platform will continue with TRACE's theme of border crossing, and will build on our research into writing communities and cycles. By helping to incubate, grow and connect a community of support for researchers as writers, the TRACE platform will make writing support for researchers more visible. In addition, the platform will improve opportunities for BSU researchers to engage with citizen researchers, community groups, local councils, archives, libraries, museums, and industry specialists.

Our approach is forward looking - from 2026 all researchers will be required to submit their work to the REF. We want to create the environment now to make this culture shift possible.