

Call for Participation: Special Issue – Queerness as Strength

The marginalisation of LGBTIQ+ people remains a purposeful act of successive governments, institutions and individuals. The outcome has been poorer health outcomes, limited political participation, higher incarceration rates, and increased inequality and violence globally.

However, amidst this crisis LGBTIQ+ people have also created and maintained ways and means of survival. While being forced to the margins and away from the centre, queer theories and practices have emerged that challenge not only our own marginalisation but also consistently *queery* and question why human life is how it is. Whether surviving epidemics, persisting for equality in the law, or resisting assimilation, the power of LGBTIQ+ people is rarely collected in and across higher education disciplines. And, although often erased, a rich and vibrant life lives on in zines, the arts, the development of technologies and medicines, and in the pursuit of joy so each generation lives a life better than the one preceding it. Truly, queerness is a strength of which many should be envious, and it deserves to be in the highest echelons of knowledge as any other discipline or practice.

This special issue aims to collect experiences, thoughts and approaches that apply queerness as a strength across any and all disciplines of practice. Ultimately, this issue aims to offer answers to the question, '*how can the power of queers benefit wider society?*' From medicine to mathematics, to community organising and pedagogies, through to technologies and the arts, queer strengths have always improved how people live, work, connect and persist.

Paper themes may include, but are not limited to:

- Queer informed improvements to methods and methodologies
- Queer approaches to strengthen data collection and analysis
- The application of queer perspectives and experiences into and across disciplines traditionally void of queer strengths
- Commentary and ethnographies on lived/living experience of the queer researcher/practitioner/student
- Experiences written from global majority country citizens
- Indigenous and First Peoples perspectives
- Perspectives of those who live or practice an intersectional queer experience
- In/Justice in research, education and/or other institutions
- Survival, pain, trauma, rejection and/or loss

To further the discourse and propagate related knowledge Monash University has partnered with the University of Warwick's interdisciplinary open-access journal **Exchanges** (exchanges.warwick.ac.uk) to produce a special issue based around these themes. The issue, anticipated for publication in 2025, aims to contain a range of papers from scholars around the globe.

Expressions of Interest

Therefore, we invite initial expressions of interest for articles related to these themes. Expressions should contain the following information:

- Proposed paper title & anticipated format¹
- An outline abstract (50-200 words)
- 4-6 topic keywords or phrases
- Contributors' names, email addresses & associated institutions

An **optional expression of interest form** may be downloaded [[Word](#)] [[PDF](#)].

All submissions of expressions of interest should be sent to Exchanges' Editor-in-Chief (**Dr Gareth J Johnson**) (exchangesjournal@warwick.ac.uk) no later than **Friday 1st March 2024**.

Manuscript Submissions

Following the deadline, we will contact all successful authors with further information on manuscript submissions, including the final deadline, currently anticipated to be **Friday 31st May 2024**. All submissions should be made via Exchanges' online [submission portal](#).

Format Guidance

Papers for the special issue may be submitted under any of Exchanges' [article formats](#) which include both *peer-reviewed* and *editorially reviewed* articles. Authors are strongly encouraged to review our author guidance relating to formats and their requirements before submitting their expression of interest. A formatted template is available to help authors in shaping their manuscript. Additionally, authors may find reviewing Exchanges' policies on authorship, rights retention and conduct ahead of their submission useful:

Author Guidance	exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/guidance
Journal Policies	exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/journal-policies

All manuscripts will undergo a scoping and editorial review process followed by an editor-mediated revision process. Papers submitted for peer-reviewed article consideration will also undergo a lengthier external peer-reviewing and more extension revisions process. All author revisions are normally achieved through a co-productive editorial dialogue.²

¹ For format guidance see: <https://exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/guidance#formats>

² Editorial review includes an initial scoping consideration by the Chief Editor, to ensure general suitability for the issue, along with a later revision dialogue with the author.

Readership

Exchanges is typically read by early career and post-graduate researchers across the disciplinary spectrum, along with members of the public with academic interests. As such, submitted authors are encouraged to address their work to people with this expected degree of expertise, rather than to senior peer-scholars. Additionally, key domain-specific concepts, jargon or terminology will usually require exploring, clarifying and unpicking within the text.

Third-Party Materials & Permissions

Full-colour illustrations, pictures and images are welcome and encouraged in submitted manuscripts, provided accepted copyright practices are followed and source citations provided throughout. Authors are responsible for obtaining any appropriate permissions and clearance fees, alongside clearly crediting the source and rights information of any included items. Please see our author guidance for more on copyright clearance for third-party materials.

References & Citations

References can and should be included as necessary and while these should adhere to a single style, there is no requirement to use a specific format in your submission. In text citations should ideally adopt the **(Name, Year)** or **(Name, Year: Page(s))** format where specific page numbers are cited. Exchanges does permit the use of endnotes, although any directly cited or utilised sources should appear in the references list. Conversely, Exchanges does not use footnotes in its published articles, and any included in submissions will be reformatted as endnotes during the later editorial processes.

About the Exchanges Journal

[*Exchanges: The Interdisciplinary Research Journal*](#) (ISSN [2053-9665](#)) is a non-fee charging, open-access, scholar-led, interdisciplinary journal, published by Warwick's [Institute of Advanced Study](#) (IAS) since 2013. It attracts articles from scholars and practitioners around the world, which are read by an international and multidisciplinary audience. The journal also has a particular mission to support the development of emerging authors, reviewers and editors within the research community. Past authors also regularly contribute insights and publication advice to its companion *Exchanges Discourse* podcast series, available via most podcasting platforms.

Contact & Further Information

For more information, advice or any questions, please visit our website. Alternatively contact the Editor-in-Chief or special issue lead (**Jacob Thomas**). We look forward to reading your submissions.

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