

## Grand Challenge Session: The Future of Research on the Mind

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*The Human Mind Project's Grand Challenges* is an invitation for people across the higher education sector, and beyond, to help shape the future of research on the mind. In the first exercise of its kind to be conducted across the mind and brain sciences, we are involving academics, researchers, and students in thinking about how we can make research on the mind more interdisciplinary and more collaborative. We're running a one month **Public Consultation** followed by a large scale **Grand Challenges** group decision making session at our international conference, **The Human Mind Conference**, in June 2017. From the **Grand Challenges** exercise we will develop a series of recommendations for funders on how they can best support **new styles** of cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary research.

At *Interdisciplinarity & the Mind*, we are running an exploratory exercise to help us understand and articulate some principles and advantages of interdisciplinary research. Please join us in discussing some of the questions you have contributed to our Public Consultation and helping us to define and explore the values that lie behind them.

### **Part one: Developing Questions**

1. Look at the document provided which contains a summary of some of the questions you gave to us before the workshop.
2. How would you change, refine or add to these questions, to make them as relevant as they can be for an attempt to clarify future directions of research on the mind? Discuss the questions in your groups.
3. As a group, choose one question that you feel is best suited to the aims of the Grand Challenges and most crucial for the future of research on the mind.
4. Your group facilitator will present this to the workshop group.

### **Part two: Valuing Research Questions**

1. You will be asked one of the two following questions:

What is your most/least preferred question for *The Human Mind Project's Grand Challenges*? Rank the questions from 1 – 100.

or

Choose two questions which are *similar* in some way that is relevant for *The Human Mind Project's Grand Challenges*, and *different* from another, third question? You will be asked to describe the similarities between the first two questions, and your reasons for their difference from the third.

2. Your group facilitator will collect your answers, as pros and cons, or similarities and differences.
3. As a workshop group, we will attempt to draw out the underlying the values on which your judgements are based.