

**Nomination form UNICollaboration Executive Board Elections 2018**

The candidate should submit this completed form to: exec@unicollaboration.org before Monday 2 April.

The candidates’ names and election statements will be published on the organisation website before the 2018 conference.

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| Candidate’s Name | Tim Lewis |
| Candidate’s institution & country of employment | The Open University, UK. |
| Candidate’s Email | timothy.lewis@open.ac.uk |
| Please state the position you are a candidate for (simply delete the other positions from this list) | Second Research Officer  |
| Candidate’s bio data (200 words maximum)**Tim Lewis** has taught French and German languages, literatures and cultures since 1980 in London, Sheffield, and elsewhere. As founding Director of the Modern Languages Teaching Centre of the University of Sheffield (1993-2001), Tim integrated Tandem language learning into the curriculum and was the UK partner in the *International Email Tandem Network* and successor projects. From 2013-2017 Tim was Director of Postgraduate Studies in the Centre for Research in Education and Educational Technology at the Open University. In this role, he managed up to 80 research students at any one time. Tim regularly teaches research methods, currently supervises 6 research students and leads the Innovation in Learning pathway of the ESRC-funded Grand Union Doctoral Training Partnership, which brings together Oxford, Brunel and the Open University. Tim’s key publications include *Autonomous Language Learning in Tandem* (2003), *Language Learning Strategies in Independent Settings* (2008) and *Online Intercultural Exchange: Policy, Pedagogy, Practice* (2016) and *Learner Autonomy and Web 2.0* (2017). Tim’s current activities include the *Evolve* and *Evaluate* projects. Tim was a founder member of UNIcollaboration. |
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| Candidate’s election statement (300 words maximum) - Please explain why you want to join the board and what you feel you would bring to the position.Having established the format for a highly successful initial [UNIcollaboration Research Methods Seminar](http://anglotic.blogs.uv.es/news-and-events/past/unicollaboration-research-seminar-2017), held in Valencia on 6-7th October 2017, I should like to develop this work as Second Research Officer for UNIcollaboration for another term.Given Unicollaboration’s modest financial means, organizing a research methods seminar was challenging. **Patient liaison** and an **extensive network of contacts** were required of me. Nothing could have been achieved without the ingenuity and sheer hard work of my Valencia colleagues Barry Pennock Speck and Begoña Clavel-Arroitia, with whom I worked closely. I am already doing the same with Marco Cappellini, who will be organizing a second Research Methods Seminar in Aix, in October 2018.The audience for Research Methods Seminars includes: practitioners of online intercultural exchange who wish to learn more about theories, methods and approaches which can assist them in researching their own professional activity; early career researchers seeking to deepen their theoretical knowledge and develop their networks; and PhD students aiming to explore the range of approaches open to them before settling definitively on any given research method or mix of methods.The aim of the seminars is to build a community of practice in telecollaboration research for the future, providing support to colleagues in the field. But, however congenial and useful such events may prove, not everyone can secure the time or funding to attend them. If elected, I will take two further steps towards building a community of researchers in virtual exchange. (1) I’ll set up an online interest group (in Whatsapp) for sharing ideas, expertise and news; (2) Using my **experience in managing research** and my **contacts in the research community**, I’ll organize regular webinars on specific research methods of interest. I’ll use the interest group to gather ideas for events. The webinars will provide continuity between annual face-to-face seminars. |

**Supporters of your Nomination**

(Two members of the organisation should support each nomination for positions of second officer. Please be sure to consult these colleagues before submitting this form with their names and emails.)

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| Name of first UNICollboration member who is supporting your nomination | Dr Malgorzata KurekMalgorzata Kurek [e-signature] |
| Email of first UNICollboration member who is supporting your nomination | gkurka@gmail.com  |
| Name of second UNICollboration member who is supporting your nomination | Professor Ana GimenoUniversidad Politécnica de Valencia, SpainUNIcollaboration membership number: 145 |
| Email of second UNICollboration member who is supporting your nomination | agimeno@upvnet.upv.es |