**AHGBI Visiting International Fellowship 2023**

**Final Report**

**Visiting Researcher: Dr Renée DePalma, University of A Coruña**

**Host: Dr Nicola Bermingham, University of Liverpool**

This fellowship built upon an existing academic collaboration between Dr Renée DePalma and Dr Nicola Bermingham, who have previously worked together on research projects focusing on minority languages and education policy. The AHGBI fellowship provided a structured platform for both scholars to extend their combined research interests and amplify the scope and impact of their joint initiatives in Galician Studies. The fellowship, which is a cooperative endeavour between the University of Liverpool, the University of A Coruña, and the Centre for Galician Studies in Wales based at Bangor University, took place over a two-week period in June 2023.

Specific objectives of the fellowship included the analysis of new interview data concerning language policy in Galicia, the preparation of a monograph proposal, and the dissemination of research findings through the AHGBI Lecture at Bangor University. Additionally, the fellowship aimed to initiate discussions on future collaborative ventures and examine the role of sociolinguistics in Galician Studies Centres.

**Analysis of Interview Data**

One of the major focus areas of the fellowship was the analysis of interview data that was collected in 2023 as part of an ongoing project on language equity in Galician school contexts. The analysis of this data – which will form the basis of a research monograph - will contribute to understanding how language policies are interpreted and implemented by educators in Galicia, thereby bringing valuable insights to the field of sociolinguistics.

**Proposal for a Monograph**

The fellowship enabled Dr Bermingham and Dr DePalma to prepare a proposal for a monograph, which is currently under consideration with a publisher. The book, which takes Galicia as a case study, aims to bridge the academic divide between studies of migrant languages and autochthonous minority languages, advocating for a more comprehensive understanding of multilingualism.

**AHGBI Lecture at Bangor University**

Dr DePalma delivered the AHGBI Lecture at Bangor University, showcasing the documentary film "Axudádeme a cantar", which explores the Galician tradition of singing accompanied by hand-held percussion, an historically feminised art form. Funded by the Council for Galician Culture, the film was co-directed by Dr DePalma along with Carme López (musician and teacher educator), Xulia Feixoo (musician and ethnomusicologist) and filmmakers Alejandro Gándara and Olaia Tubío. The lecture emphasised the documentary's utility as a resource for learning about Galician language and culture, particularly for institutions like the Centre for Galician Studies at Bangor University.

**Future Avenues for Collaboration through Centres for Galician Studies**

Focused discussions took place to outline future avenues for collaboration, emphasising the role of Galician Studies within the research partnership between the University of Liverpool, Bangor University, and the University of A Coruña. These dialogues were instrumental in establishing the groundwork for long-term collaborative projects, including plans for future events and exchanges. The discussion broadened the scope for future international collaborations to strengthen this multidisciplinary network in Galician Studies.

**Acknowledgements**

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Dr Nicola Bermingham (Host)

Dr Renée DePalma (Academic Visitor)

Liverpool, 7 September 2023