

## York Graduate Research School newsletter - October 2022

### Update from the Dean



The 2022/23 academic year has started! Welcome to the hundreds of new PGRs starting your research degrees here at York. You are starting something amazing and life changing. For those of you part-way through, you might have the 'mid-PhD blues' - that is quite normal and, for most of you, the fog will clear and suddenly your ideas will coalesce on the page. This is also a busy time of year for thesis submissions - so congratulations if you are in that happy (and relieved) group!

Even if I had space here, I don't think that I could adequately summarise the tumultuous events of the last few months. So, I am really pleased that YGRS is collaborating with colleagues and the GSA to provide extra funding to help York's PGRs to cope with the cost of living crisis. In September, we announced that PGRs funded wholly or partly by the University and/or UKRI would receive a 10% increase in their stipends on top of previously announced increases. Last week, YGRS contacted self-funded PGRs within their registration period to offer them support to help them meet extra expenses. The University and both student unions are putting in place a range of measures open to all PGRs and students - see the [Cost of Living hub](#) for full details. And we should be making further announcements soon.

At the end of the month, I will be off on my first overseas trip since 2019 (our holiday to the Isle of Wight doesn't really count!). Hopefully, more of you will feel ready to travel to conferences and fieldwork this academic year. For those of you who are self-funded, YGRS has a [conference fund](#) to help with costs - see below.

Finally, October is Black History Month. YGRS is leading a consortium of universities dedicated to equity at doctoral level. Have a look at the [YCEDE pages](#) (more next month on this inspirational project) where we have collated a [list of BHM events](#) happening across Yorkshire universities. There is still much to celebrate and enjoy despite the many 'unprecedented' events happening around us.

Best wishes,  
Kate

### YGRS and University news

#### Cost of living increases to stipends for UKRI and UoY funded PGRs for 2022/23

On 6 September 2022, Professor Kate Arnold wrote to PGRs about the recent UKRI announcements, and how the University will offer support to researchers. [Read her letter](#) and find out about [our wider package of support for students and PGRs](#) facing financial hardship.

#### Apply for the YGRS Conference Fund

Self-funded PhD students can apply for funding to attend research training events when other funding options have been exhausted. Application deadline: 1 December 2022. [Find out more about the YGRS Conference Fund](#).

#### Worried about the impact of Covid-19 on your research programme?

Various contingency measures remain in place to help you deal with any impact that Covid-19 may have had on your research and consequently on progression, submission and examination. [Find out more about the measures.](#)

### **Use the new Library Family Study Room**

The Family Study Room is a dual use space, with half of the room given over for students with children to work and the other for your children to play. It's an ideal space for short study sessions when you need to keep your children with you and occupied. [Find out about the Family Study Room.](#)

### **Using IT at the University of York**

We know the next few weeks will be a busy time for both new and continuing postgraduate researchers, but from printing, to borrowing computers, to registering smart devices, [there are a few things you can do to make IT easier.](#)

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## **Support and wellbeing**

### **YGRS induction resources now available**

For those that couldn't make it to our YGRS induction event - or if you just want a recap - you can now [watch the presentation videos](#) on our induction web page.

### **Continuing PGR? Join our Mentor Scheme**

For continuing researchers (2nd, 3rd, 4th year or PT equivalent), our award-winning Mentor Scheme connects you to a postdoctoral researcher who has been trained to support you in your professional and career development, and offer advice and insight into many aspects of the research process. [Find out more](#) and [apply for a mentor](#).

### **Joan Samuels Scholarship 2022 – Call for Applications**

The Joan Samuels Scholarship offers one award of £1,000 to be paid against University tuition fees for one postgraduate taught student or postgraduate researcher with a disability each academic year. [Find out more.](#)

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## **Researcher development**

### **Come to the York Researcher Festival 2022**

The York Researcher Festival is back! Join us 17-21 October for an opportunity to collectively celebrate the contribution that early career researchers (both postgraduate researchers and postdocs) make to research, culture and community at York. The Festival provides opportunities for researchers to come together across disciplines to share experiences, learn, network and develop new skills. [Book your place.](#)

### **Upcoming researcher training sessions**

Take a look at our Professional Development & Skills Programme and see [upcoming researcher development sessions in October](#) you may be interested in, including an introduction to intellectual property and academic publishing.

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## **Careers**

### **Recruitment Fairs this week**

If you're considering job opportunities in sectors outside academia you might be interested in attending our autumn term recruitment fairs this week. They give you the chance to explore graduate schemes with large employers in a range of work areas and sectors and the chance to meet employers. [Find out about the recruitment fairs.](#)

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## **News from the Graduate Students' Association**

## Communications and Events Coordinator role

The GSA are currently advertising a new part-time [Communications and Events Coordinator](#) role.  
Application deadline: Wednesday 19 October



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### Recent opportunities on the blog:

- [Networking Knowledge - Call for Book Reviewers](#)

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All these news items and more can be found on the [Research Student Community blog](#)

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[www.york.ac.uk/YGRS](http://www.york.ac.uk/YGRS)

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