

## York Graduate Research School newsletter - 23 February 2023

### Update from the Dean



This week, YGRS and GSA co-hosted our regular [PGR Forum](#) which as usual covered a wide range of topics from accommodation costs to humanitarian disasters to frequency of supervision meetings. For me a theme running through everything was around communication - how can we best ensure a two way flow of information and perspectives between PGRs and 'The University'. Our Internal Comms team has been talking to some of you to work out how you want to get information and how we can ensure that you are aware of opportunities and key deadlines. Thanks for your input and hopefully you will notice some changes over the next few months.

Since the last newsletter, a devastating earthquake has hit Syria and Turkey. My deepest sympathies go out to those in our PGR community with friends and relatives in that region. The University's International Student Support team has emailed those of you who have registered Turkey or Syria as your 'home' address, in order to offer support. If you have been affected and did not receive this email, then please [contact the International Student Support team](#).

Finally, would you like to work for YGRS and help change how the University recruits and selects PGRs? We have a couple of [part-time research positions](#) advertised at the moment that might be of interest to those of you looking to expand your experience of social sciences research approaches. These roles are funded as part of the University's work on changing our research culture.

Best wishes,  
Kate

### YGRS and University news

#### Turkey-Syria earthquake: student support

Following the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria, the International Student Support team has contacted students and PGRs from the region to offer them support. Our information on [supporting those affected by global crises](#) outlines the work we do. If you would like to donate (to this or to other humanitarian appeals), you can do so through the [Disasters Emergency Committee](#).

#### PAID OPPORTUNITY: YGRS PGR recruitment project

We have two part time jobs available to work for YGRS as part of our PGR recruitment project. The positions focus on the role of interviews and reference letters in PGR recruitment and selection. Research will be written up as internal reports to inform changes at the University. Application deadline: Thursday 2 March 2023. [Find out more about the paid roles](#).

#### PGR Forum update

The third meeting of the [PGR Forum](#) took place this week. The minutes and the updated action log will be available soon.

## Coming soon: Postgraduate Research Experience Survey

The Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) is a national survey of postgraduate researchers and a chance for you to have your say on your experience at York. We really value your feedback and it does make a difference at both University and departmental level. [Find out about how you can take part in PRES.](#)

## Industrial action 'paused'

You'll find the [latest updates about Industrial action](#) on the website.

## Semesters are coming

From 2023/24, we're changing from three terms in the academic year to two semesters. It means that the start and end dates of the academic year, and the timings of vacations and breaks, will change. [Find out more about semesters](#) and look out for details of our semesters Q&A on Instagram this week.

## The future of sport

This week we are launching the University of York Strategy for Sport and Active Wellbeing, developed in collaboration with our Students' Unions. The strategy outlines our vision for the future of inclusive and engaging sport, physical and wellbeing activity at the University. [Learn more about our objectives and initiatives.](#)

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## Support and wellbeing

### Bursaries to fund short language courses

Many bursaries are available to registered postgraduates, including UK and international students, to cover the costs of a short Languages For All course (depending on the availability of places). [See bursary eligibility and application details.](#) Note that bursary places are limited and are allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

### YGRS Conference Fund

Self-funded PGRs can apply to the [YGRS Conference Fund](#) to attend research training events when other funding options have been exhausted. The closing date for the next round of funding is midnight on Wednesday 1 March 2023.

### Togetherall: 24/7 wellbeing support is changing

There are some changes to student wellbeing support coming soon. We currently provide access to [Togetherall](#) for 24/7 wellbeing support for students but next month this will change to a new provider. More details to come.

### 7 Mar: Lifescrum - agile goal setting for women

Wentworth College is hosting an event for staff and PGRs on how you can use agile- goal setting and menstrual cycle/lunar cycle awareness to support energy based productivity. [Find out more about Lifescrum.](#)

### 17 Mar: Is my work good enough for a PhD?

Apart from occasional feedback from your supervisor, how do you know your work is good enough and that you're on track for a PhD? This free session, delivered by external facilitator Angel Productions, will address this crucial question with a series of videos, with expert contributions and questions/discussion. Email [steve@angelproductions.co.uk](mailto:steve@angelproductions.co.uk) for more details and to receive the Zoom link.

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## Researcher development

### 6 Mar: Promoting your research using social media

Social media is playing an increasingly important role in the academic environment and provides researchers with an opportunity to put themselves and their research forward to the world in an easy and globally accessible way. In this

workshop we will look at promoting yourself and your research online; the issues, the tools and how to evaluate your progress. [Book your place on the Promoting Your Research Using Social Media session](#).

### **7 Mar: Confidence to present in person**

Your academic poster may be beautifully made, but can you present it effectively? In this interactive workshop we discuss and practise some of the delivery skills needed to stand by an academic poster and communicate your work to an audience. [Book your place at the Academic Skills Community workshop](#).

### **27 Mar: How to develop networks for global impact**

[York Environmental Sustainability Institute \(YESI\) is running a series of workshops](#) that may be useful for all PGRs to attend. In this session, learn practical skills to build the depth and breadth of your networks, identify key strengths, biases and gaps. While the session will focus on peatland research network examples, researchers from any field are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

### **Save the date! w/c 19 June 2023 - European Doctoral Summer School**

Organised by the Universities of York, Munster and Maastricht, the [European Doctoral Summer School](#) offers doctoral candidates and postdocs an opportunity to work with colleagues from different institutions, culture and values, in sessions that will enable you to consider how to maximise your strengths, skills, career prospects and self confidence.

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## **Careers**

### **1 Mar: Academic Careers: CVs & Applications**

This session will look at the key elements of an academic CV and how you can present your experience to best effect. [Book your place at the Academic Careers: CVs and Applications session](#)

### **7-9 Mar: Asia Careers Insights Series**

Sign up to the [Asia Careers Insight Series sessions](#) - online employer talks for those interested in working in China and SE Asia.

### **9 Mar: Making the most of your Postdoc**

This session will help you to make the most of the support and resources available to plan your professional and career development as a researcher. All researchers, including postgraduate researchers, are welcome to attend this session. [Book your place on the Making the Most of your Postdoc session](#)

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## **PGR public engagement activities**

### **Coming soon: 3 Minute Thesis 2023**

Our 3 Minute Thesis competition returns for its 10th anniversary! Develop your presentation and research communication skills by applying to be one of 10 York PhD researchers presenting your research in under 3 minutes in front of a live audience. Applications open on Wednesday 1 March - keep an eye on the [3MT web page](#) and the [BRIC Twitter account](#) for updates.

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## **Events and opportunities:**

- [Analyst/Medical Writing job vacancies](#)

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More news and opportunities can be found on the [Research Student Community blog](#)

[YGRS newsletter archive](#)

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

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