York Talks: PhD Research Spotlight Competition

York Talks will return to the University of York on 6 January 2016 to highlight some of our most innovative and challenging research in an accessible series of 15-minute talks. In conjunction with these talks, York PhD students will have the opportunity to compete in a compelling “PhD Research Spotlight” competition.

Find out more about the competition and submit your proposal.

Advice for new starters

In July we asked you ‘What do you wish you’d been told when you started your PhD?’ Here are our top five favourite answers:

1. I got panicked that I was supposed to be 100% on top of things within the first term, whereas in reality everyone is patient and doesn't expect miracles and publications after a month!
2. I would have wished to be told that this is a learning-by-doing process, that it takes time to know how it works, so one needs to be patient.
3. Do not judge your progress by what everyone else is doing.
4. Time passes very quickly. So be on a tight schedule........and find time for things you always wanted to do. Ph.D. offers you just the perfect amount of time for research and leisure.
5. You will be OK. No really, you will.

New Data Management Plan template

The library has developed a simplified DMP template, designed for use by postgraduate research students to help plan out their research data management. It's provided as both a Google document and in Word.

For more details, visit the Planning your data management page.

Still some tickets left for PhD Comics screening and talk!

Jorge Cham’s insightful and hilarious take on Graduate Student life has been entertaining PhD students and academics since 2005. There are a few tickets left for Jorge presenting his new film, ‘The PhD Movie 2; Piled Higher and Deeper’. Jorge will also give a short talk, answer your questions, and be available to meet after the screening.

Wednesday 4 November, 6.30 - 8.30 pm in the Physics Lecture Hall (P/X/001)

Booking is essential. Book your free tickets now.

Research integrity tutorial
There is a new Research Integrity Tutorial (RIT) located in Yorkshare VLE. The RIT is a compulsory part of your course which must be completed before your first Thesis Advisory Panel.

This online tutorial is tailored to the specific needs of PGR students and has been designed to familiarise you with the principles, policies and procedures of research integrity and ethics at the University of York. Upon completion of the online tutorial you will receive a Research Integrity Certificate and this will be recorded on your academic record.

See the Research Integrity Tutorial.

Note: PGR students who have completed the Academic Integrity Tutorial before October 2015 are not required to complete the Research Integrity Tutorial, though you may find it useful for information on integrity and ethics approval.

Research champions roadshows

The University of York has appointed seven ‘Research Champions’ who will help to harness the University’s cross-disciplinary research strengths to best tackle the scientific, social and environmental challenges of our time. The Research Champions are now all in post and they are:

- Karen Bloor - Health and Wellbeing
- Sue Hartley - Environmental Sustainability and Resilience
- Mark Jenner - Culture and Communication
- Thomas Krauss - Technologies for the Future
- John McDermid - Risk, Evidence and Decision Making
- Damian Murphy – Creativity
- Kate Pickett - Justice and Equality

Our research champions are hosting a series of roadshows to give staff an opportunity to ask questions and find out how to get involved. The first is on the Thursday 3 December 2015:

10.00am • Alcuin 056 & 057, Heslington West
2.00pm • Ron Cooke Hub Lecture Theatre 037, Heslington East

To contact the research champions email the Coordinator, Josie Thomas, at research-champions@york.ac.uk.

Competition winner

The winner of the third set of Sony MDR-ZX770BN headphones for best answer to ‘Why does research matter to society?’ in 15 words or fewer is Chelsea Swift:

“Because research reveals the hidden, makes the familiar strange, and challenges the taken for granted.”

Question of the month: What’s your favourite club or society?

Answer this quick question to be entered into a prize draw for one month’s membership of York Sport Village.