

York Graduate Research School newsletter - February 2022

Update from the Dean



A belated 'Happy New Year' to you all! The January newsletter didn't happen because like many workplaces, we had team members, including me, off ill. The tail end of the pandemic seems to be dragging on and many of us are feeling weary.

But, without wanting to be accused of 'toxic positivity', there do seem to be more and more things to look forward to. Travel (even experienced vicariously) is one of my passions and I am pleased that one of my PhD supervisees is now starting to book their field trip in Cambodia, albeit with a bit of trepidation and a robust Health and Safety assessment. Hopefully, they will need a visit from their supervisor this summer!

Not so exotic, but I am off to a workshop in Manchester this month - my first big face-to-face event for two years (my last one got moved online at the last minute). A train trip and a hotel...no longer taken for granted. Hopefully, you will be planning to attend conferences this year. If you are a self-funded PhD researcher you can [apply to the YGRS Conference Fund](#) for funding to attend conferences (next deadline 1 March) - also keep an eye on the [Uni study and work abroad funding pages](#) which features some travel funding options open to PGRs as well as taught students.

Talking of taught students, if you would like to become a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) to boost your CV and earn some extra cash, then you will need to do some [GTA training](#). The Uni offers a really comprehensive programme of teaching workshops for GTAs which can be booked through SkillsForge. Teaching can be both nerve wracking and exhilarating (at least for me) - but I didn't really fully understand my discipline until I started having to teach it. It forced me to break ideas down to their component parts and question the underlying theories.

Right, I am going to sign off for now. This update is being written whilst trying to persuade my kids to have breakfast. Those of you with caring responsibilities or less than ideal working conditions will appreciate the ability to filter out loud noises. I am told that the [Humanities Research Centre](#) (which has bookable hot desks for PGRs in A&H) has zoned areas differing in permitted noise levels - something I need to introduce in my home office area!

Best wishes,
Kate

A new approach to booking study space in the Library

The Library has changed how study space bookings work, based on student feedback.

There is now a blended approach, with some spaces remaining bookable and some not.

- [Find out more about Library study spaces](#)



Skills development in presenting your research

In conjunction with the Learning & Teaching (L&T) conference, the Academic Skills Community (ASC) is offering workshops on Thursday 17 February designed to help you engage with and prepare for the 2022 L&T conference. You will have the opportunity to work closely with experts who will offer advice on creating poster presentations and delivering presentations.

- [Learning & Teaching Conference workshops](#)

Academic Skills Community support for PGRs



The Academic Skills Community can support you as you develop your study and research skills. There are practical guides on academic writing, referencing and maths skills, as well as a variety of workshops and one-to-one appointments.

- [Support from the Academic Skills Community](#)

Workshop: Preparing a funding proposal

The Research Excellence Training Team is hosting a workshop on Thursday 24 February for postgraduate researchers and early careers researchers with little or no experience of developing funding applications.

- [Book your place](#)

Dealing with harassment, stalking and conflict

We have teamed up with the Suzy Lamplugh Trust to create some training to help you think about personal safety, giving you the know-how to assess, manage and reduce risks.

Aimed specifically at postgraduates, the course comes in short, easy-to-watch video segments and focuses on topics such as identifying harassment, stalking awareness, and ways to deal with conflict.

- [Complete the personal safety awareness video course](#)

The graphic is a promotional poster for a video course. At the top left is the University of York logo. To its right is the 'suzy lamplugh trust' logo with the tagline 'LIVE LIFE SAFE'. The main text reads 'A video course to help you understand personal safety'. Below this are four icons with corresponding text: a magnifying glass for 'Assessing risk', a hand with a stop sign for 'What is harassment?', a lightning bolt for 'How to manage conflict', and an eye for 'What is stalking?'. On the right side of the graphic is a photograph of several students walking away from the camera on a university path, some with backpacks and bicycles.

Career planning sessions for PGRs

An 'Understanding your personality' careers session on Tuesday 15 February, run by our dedicated PG Careers Consultant Janice Simpson, is on understanding your personality preferences using the Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI). Understand the impact that different preferences can have in situations such as communication, team work, decision making, planning and organisation and consider the types of work activity and environment that would satisfy your preferences.

- [Understanding your personality careers workshop](#)

PhD Spotlight 2022: the winners

Congratulations to our winners of the PhD Spotlight competition 2022!

The poster competition is part of YorkTalks, a key University research event, and is an opportunity for postgraduate researchers from all disciplines to demonstrate the value of their research to non-specialist audiences.



- [Find out about the PhD Spotlight 2022 winners](#)

Want to teach in your department?

If you want to teach next academic year, now is the time to [contact your department's GTA coordinator](#). There is also an opportunity to [teach with the Maths Skills Centre](#). Application deadline: Friday 4 March

Before you can teach at York, you will need to complete our Introduction to Teaching and Learning course. This allows you to acquire the knowledge and skills to establish yourself as a confident, enthusiastic and effective teacher and is an induction into Higher Education teaching and into working as a Graduate Teaching Assistant at York. The training comprises two weeks of self-study and a face-to-face (or online) seminar.

- [Introduction to teaching and learning](#)

Have a business idea? Apply for Venture One funding

York Venture One provides University of York students, recent alumni and staff with the financial resources to take a business idea from concept through to early stage investment. Designed to facilitate the development of an MVP or the gathering of evidence of market demand, Venture One is a pilot initiative offering between £5,000 to £10,000 as either advance subscription or seed funding.

- [Find out about Venture One funding](#)

PreCURE – Uncover the potential of your research to make a difference

Make a difference by applying your research! Funded by Innovate UK, PreCURE is a 7 week sprint programme for postgraduate researchers. The programme is for PGRs in the middle of your research to find beneficiaries of your research and possible routes to translation. It involves a two-day bootcamp, with individual support from a mentor.

Application deadline: Thursday 10 February

- [Find out about PreCURE](#)

Recent opportunities on the blog:

- [Opportunity: Research placement in Canada](#)
- [Come to the Emerging Researchers' Forum](#)
- [Zinc PhD Innovation Internships 2021-22](#)
- [Medical Statistics Careers Event – 2nd March](#)
- [Flywire international payments](#)

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