

York Graduate Research School newsletter - April 2022

Update from the Dean



The year is rushing by and we're at Easter already! I am just back at work after finally succumbing to Covid-19 - the pay-off from my first 'proper' night out (with gin and dancing!) for over two years. I have no regrets - I needed to feel part of a crowd having fun. But my experience of the virus has put me off going out again for a little while... maybe - I did really enjoy myself!

Whether you agree or disagree - Government guidance has shifted towards 'living with Covid'. And, given the current levels of illness in our campus community, it's now more important than ever to stay at home if you feel unwell and follow the student sickness process. You may self-certify an illness for up to seven days via [e:Vision](#). See full information in the [support and wellbeing](#) section of our revamped YGRS web pages.

Onto more positive updates: Since starting as Dean of YGRS, I've been keen to look for ways to keep all postgraduate researchers in the loop with what we are working on. However, and this is partially a product of the isolation we have all been experiencing during the pandemic, at YGRS we have not always felt like we have a good mechanism to listen to your feedback. And that is important to us so that we can continually work to improve your experience at York. Consequently, I'm especially excited by our new [PGR Forum](#) initiative in collaboration with the GSA. The PGR Forum is a place where you can raise University-level issues via your PGR academic reps and they will be discussed, followed up and acted upon. Please do get involved - more info below. And I should say that the PGR Forum itself will evolve in response to your feedback - we want this to work for you.

I hope many of you are able to take a break over the bank holiday and that the Easter Bunny (if you believe in them) is generous to you. My daughter has tasked me with designing an Easter egg hunt with clues and prizes for her, her brother and their friends - so no pressure!

Best wishes,
Kate

PGR Forum: Make your voice heard

York Graduate Research School (YGRS) and the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) are excited to introduce the new PGR Forum, which will have its inaugural meeting on Wednesday 27 April 2022. This is the first time that YGRS, the GSA and PGR academic reps have been brought together, with the aim of enabling a wider range of PGR views to be heard within the University.

Contact your PGR academic rep by Tuesday 12 April 2022 if there are any areas that you'd like to see discussed at the Forum.



- [Find out more about the new PGR Forum](#)

Join the YCEDE Student Research Network

The Yorkshire Consortium for Equity in Doctoral Education (YCEDE) is a partnership across five universities working to widen access to postgraduate research for UK black, Asian and minority ethnic people. The YCEDE Student Research Network group will be sharing opportunities to enhance research skills, details on paid research internships and targeted PhDs. We are targeting people from black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds to address barriers that lead to under-representation in postgraduate research and the first step is to create this community.

- [YCEDE Student Research Network](#)

Student misconduct: have your say

[Regulation 7](#), the procedure under which student misconduct is managed, is being revised and we would really value feedback from students and staff.

We are particularly looking at areas of accessibility, academic misconduct, sexual misconduct, racial harassment, and online behaviours. **Deadline: Monday 11 April 2022**

- [Have your say on Regulation 7](#)



New resources: Preparing for your viva

A Collaborative Enhancement Project led by the University of South Wales, in partnership with University Alliance, Coventry University, the University of Huddersfield and Sheffield Hallam University, has developed a series of videos and resources to help postgraduate researchers prepare for their viva (oral) examinations. The resources showcase real-life scenarios and possible viva questions.

- [How to Prepare for the Viva Examination](#)

Develop your skills

Take a look at the researcher development section of our website to find out the various areas where we can help you develop your skills. Upcoming sessions include promoting your research using social media and time management.

- [Researcher development](#)

Introduction to Teaching and Learning: booking now open

Introduction to Teaching and Learning training is open for booking for Summer Term. If you're planning to teach as a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) at York, you need to complete this training (once only), delivered by the Academic Practice team.

- [Introduction to teaching and learning](#)

York Learning and Teaching Award

The York Learning and Teaching Award (YLTA) is a part-time course to support Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) develop as a university teacher, which also awards Associate Fellow of the HEA (AFHEA). The deadline for applications for 2022/23 entry is **Thursday 28 April 2022**.

- [York Learning and Teaching Award \(YLTA\)](#)
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Paid GTA opportunities

There are several Graduate Teaching Assistant opportunities open at the moment:

- [Paid opportunities with Access and Outreach](#) Deadline: Tuesday 3 May 2022
 - [The Writing Centre is looking for tutors](#) Deadline: Saturday 30 April 2022
 - [Teach in History](#) Deadline TBC
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Conducting a systematic review as part of your research?

The Centre for Reviews and Dissemination is offering an online Introduction to Systematic Reviews course between 25 April – 6 May 2022. This is an introductory course, aimed at anyone interested in undertaking a systematic review for the first time, or understanding how to critically appraise a systematic review to inform treatment or policy decisions. There is a discounted fee for students of £700.

- [Introduction to Systematic Reviews course](#)
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Free English language classes

Final year undergraduate students in the Language and Linguistic Science department are offering free English language classes, as part of their teacher training modules. The classes will be aimed at English language learners at an Upper-Intermediate / low-Advanced level of proficiency, and focus on a range of language skills including speaking, listening, reading, grammatical accuracy and pronunciation work. (Please note that the focus will not be on academic usage or writing skills.) **Register your interest by Friday 8 April 2022.**

- [Free English language classes](#)
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GSA news

Chill and Chat is a new casual drop-in event open to all postgraduates every two weeks in the Wentworth Graduate Common Room (GCR).

- [GSA chill and chat](#)

The GSA is recruiting a Communications and Events Coordinator to build student engagement through events, activities and greater outreach to the student body.

- [GSA recruitment](#)



Nominate yourself or others to be part of the GSA Sabbatical Officer team for 2022/23.

- [GSA elections](#)
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Recent opportunities on the blog:

- [Cumberland Lodge Fellowship 2022-24](#)
 - [Call for PhD applications](#)
 - [Maintain good IT security](#)
 - [Presentation Skills and Proposal Writing](#)
 - [Pint of Science is back](#)
 - [Veganism and Vegetarianism as Social Movement and Social Change](#)
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All these news items and more can be found on the [Research Student Community blog](#)

www.york.ac.uk/YGRS

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