

York Graduate Research School newsletter - 11 January 2023

Update from the Dean



Happy New Year to one and all!

I hope that you had a relaxing and disease-free break. In the spirit of Charles Dickens, scarlet fever was making the rounds of my daughter's school. But so far, my family has avoided the many bugs in circulation. At the uni, we are asking people to stay at home if they are feeling unwell in order to protect our community.

I am really looking forward to graduation next week and the inauguration of our new chancellor Dr Heather Melville OBE. Heather has been working with YGRS over the last couple of years via the [YCEDE project](#) which aims to widen access to postgraduate research for people from diverse ethnic backgrounds. Linked to this is our [YGRS PhD scholarship scheme](#) which offers funding for UK black, Asian and minority ethnic applicants. Please forward the link to eligible friends, colleagues and any students that you might be teaching this year who are interested in joining our PGR community at York.

Finally, if you are a GTA then get in touch and [complete the GTA Training Needs Survey](#). Let us know how the uni can support you to develop your teaching skills. Teaching seems to come naturally to some people - I confess that I am not one of them. This term, I am going to be giving lectures to first year undergrads for the first time in ages. My main fear is forgetting my 'lines' in front of 200 people! Anyway - good luck and thank you to all of you working on the frontline of teaching. And if you have any tips for newbies or returners then pass them on!

Best wishes,
Kate

YGRS and University news

Feeling unwell? Please stay at home

In a large community, we need to be vigilant about infectious illnesses and you may have seen in the news the prevalence of Covid, flu and Strep A at the moment. If you feel unwell, please stay at home. See our [information on infectious illnesses](#) or get advice from the [NHS website](#).

TODAY: YorkTalks and the PhD Spotlight competition

From The Mandalorian to insect biotech; from phobia treatments to the Ukrainian Cossack. [Join us at YorkTalks 2023 today](#) (11 January) in the Ron Cooke Hub for a series of free short talks highlighting the breadth and depth of the fascinating research underway at York. You can also check out the work of fellow postgraduate researchers in the [PhD Spotlight competition](#). Our 10 finalists have created interactive displays where you can learn more about their research, and you can vote for your favourite to win the People's Choice award!

Your chance to welcome the new Chancellor

Congratulations to all postgraduate researchers who are graduating next week. All PGRs have the opportunity to [welcome new Chancellor, Dr Heather Melville OBE](#), at her inauguration ceremony on Wednesday 18 January - [reserve your place at our Inauguration Day](#).

Support and wellbeing

Reminder: New PGRs book your place at induction

Are you a new PGR or just fancy a refresher on the support that's available to you at York? Come to the YGRS induction event on Wednesday 25 January! [Book your place at induction](#). Don't forget you can also [apply for a buddy](#) to help you settle into research life at York.

30 Jan: Thriving and surviving your PhD journey

Meet fellow PGRs and ask questions about PhD life, work and expectations in the next session of the peer-led 'Thrive and Survive in your PhD' programme. A panel of current PhD students and postdocs will share their experiences, offer tips and strategies for addressing common challenges to the PhD journey. Come along! [Book your place](#).

NEW: Languages Cafe

If you're looking for global opportunities in York this year then there are several chances to practise your language skills and learn about different cultures. [Online International Conversation Afternoons \(ICA\)](#) take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays or come along to the first meeting of the [Languages Cafe](#) today (11 January).

Reminder: Cost of living support

We know that the cost of living is a major concern at the moment. Check our [cost of living hub](#) for all the ways the University is supporting students, including the Student Support Fund.

Researcher development

23 Jan: Promoting your research using social media

In this online workshop, we will look at promoting yourself and your research online; the issues, the tools and how to evaluate your progress. Evaluate your own online profile and learn strategies to create your own online presence. [Book your place](#).

24 Jan: Copyright for researchers

This session is aimed at researchers from any discipline who are preparing material for a thesis or scholarly publication. Participants in this online session will explore the legal terms and licences which permit the re-use of third party materials, consider strategies for requesting additional permissions and review the licences available for releasing your own material. [Book your place](#).

25 Jan: Preparing for your viva

This session for final year PhD researchers focuses on how to prepare for the viva and the viva process. We examine the requirements of the viva for both you and the University, how your viva will progress and how you can prepare, with tips for giving better answers first time around and dealing with awkward questions. [Book your place](#).

26 Jan: What is Open Research and why does it matter?

A session examining what open research means and how it benefits research across a range of disciplines. We'll look at various methods that can help open up the research lifecycle, how open research is supported at York, and where further help and guidance can be found. [Book your place](#).

ACU Summer School 2023: applications now open

Taking place in July 2023, the [Association of Commonwealth Universities \(ACU\) Summer School](#) is a fully-funded opportunity for postgraduates to learn about the political, social and economic forces that shaped 20th Century South African politics, including apartheid, with their peers from across other ACU Universities. Application deadline: Tuesday 31 January.

Careers

18 Jan: Careers outside academia: Exploring options

This workshop is for researchers from all disciplines who want to consider the many career choices available to them outside of academia. This could include both research roles and non-research roles.

[Book your place.](#)

18 Jan: Career planning: Understanding yourself and your options

Explore your skills, values, strengths and motivations at this careers workshop and consider how these might impact your career choice. Review PhD graduate destination data and understand the range of opportunities open to graduates in different sectors. You will also explore ways to generate and explore career ideas for yourself. [Book your place.](#)

Global Partnerships casual worker opportunity: Apply now

The Global Partnerships team is seeking a postgraduate researcher to assist with research and general support in a range of areas relating to the University's international engagement. Application deadline: Tuesday 31 January 2023.

[Find out about the paid role.](#)

Teaching

Interested in teaching?

Most Graduate Teaching Assistants secure work in their departments in roles such as teaching seminars or lab demonstrations. Now is the time to [contact your departmental Graduate Teaching Assistant Coordinator](#) about teaching next academic year.

REMINDER: tell us about your training needs

A reminder for existing GTAs to [complete the GTA Training Needs Survey](#). Deadline: Tuesday 31 January

Events and opportunities:

- Win up to £150 Amazon vouchers with our [UoY Communications Survey](#)
- Win up to £100 Amazon vouchers with the [Save the Student National Student Accommodation Survey 2023](#)
- [Bike Doctor dates 2023](#)

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

[YGRS newsletter archive](#)

www.york.ac.uk/YGRS

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