York Graduate Research School newsletter - 18 May 2023

Update from the Dean

This week, I have been at the Research Culture Working Group - a group of people passionate about trying to make York's research environment collaborative, supportive and inclusive. Thank you to those who contributed to the Research Culture focus groups - we are turning all of the suggestions into a big plan for the University…

During that meeting we discussed the stress that many PGRs feel around careers. The reality is that most of you won’t become career academics - which is fabulous, in my opinion, as we want our brightest and best to go out into the world and have impact. I had a chat with Janice Simpson, York’s PGR careers consultant, about what our PGRs do after graduation. Good news - over 90% of our former PGRs found a job very quickly and mainly one that used their PhD experience. If you are thinking about the future, listen to our podcast ‘What do you actually do’ to find out more about jobs in a range of sectors. I love the example of Nicholas Gliserman who did a PhD in History and is now a historical consultant for video games. See also the sessions being run at our European Doctoral Summer School in June on sustainable careers.

Nominations for Yorkshire Asian Young Achievers awards (YAYAs) have opened and the University is a proud sponsor. It recognises the efforts of young people of South Asian heritage in Yorkshire who have broken through traditional barriers or overcome other disadvantages. YCEDE is keen to help nominate York PGRs for this award so, if you are interested either for yourself or a colleague, email info@ycede.ac.uk.

Best wishes,
Kate

YGRS and University news

5 June: PGR Forum extra meeting: Students’ Union merger
An extra PGR Forum will be held 10am-12pm on Monday 5 June to discuss the proposed Students’ Union merger. If you are a PGR rep you'll automatically be invited to the meeting. If you're not a PGR rep but would be interested in attending please contact academic-quality-pgr@york.ac.uk and we’ll add you to the online meeting invitation.

Come to the 10th anniversary of Three Minute Thesis!
The 11 finalists have been selected and are undertaking training for the live York 3MT final event on Wednesday 14 June. Come along to find out about the fascinating research that fellow PGRs are doing in just three minutes! We will be joined by past winners to hear about their 3MT journey and you’ll get to vote for your favourite in 2023. Get your free York 3MT final ticket.

Nominations open for Yorkshire Asian Young Achievers Awards (YAYAs)
Know someone of South Asian heritage who has overcome barriers to success? Nominate them for a Yorkshire Asian Young Achievers Award.
Support and wellbeing

Student Support Fund
Are you getting all the support you’re entitled to? We increased the amount of money available for student assistance funding this academic year so, if you’re struggling, please submit an application. The Student Support Fund helps both home and international students - including postgraduate researchers - who are experiencing unexpected financial difficulty due to an unforeseen change in their circumstances. Check what support you may be able to apply for by looking at our cost of living hub.

Researcher development

European Summer School 2023 bookings open
With the theme of ‘Sustainability in research, career and leadership’, the European Doctoral Summer School in June offers PhD candidates the chance to consider how to maximise your strengths, skills, career prospects and self confidence. Take part in interactive sessions with researchers across three universities (Munster, Maastricht and York) and demonstrate your commitment to professional development, citizenship and leadership.

23 May: What is Open Research and why does it matter?
Come to an overview of open research practices and principles, including: what open research means and how it benefits research across a range of disciplines; various methods which can help open up the research lifecycle; and how open research is supported at York.

24 May: Networking and collaboration - how can it help your research?
Research councils and funding bodies increasingly expect researchers to work in cognate subject disciplines to enable a cross-fertilisation of ideas and expertise. This networking and collaboration session will look at how to network effectively and set up successful collaborations.

24 May: Introduction to Intellectual Property (IP) and commercialisation support
This Introduction to Intellectual Property (IP) course provides a brief overview of what IP is and how it can be used to benefit your research. Understand how IP and commercialisation processes can be used to increase your research impact, develop new funding opportunities and strengthen your grant applications.

25 May: Copyright for researchers
This Copyright for researchers workshop is aimed at researchers who are preparing material for a thesis or scholarly publication. 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.

31 May: Managing research obstacles: staying on track your way
Every experience of a PhD varies and it’s easy to think that you’re struggling whilst everyone else seems to have it together. This Managing research obstacles session (part of our Thrive and Survive in your PhD series) will help dispel that myth and identify ways we might approach our research and work commitments differently.

Careers

Job opportunity: Graduate Engagement Leads
The Library Open Research team is currently recruiting for three part-time roles for PhD candidates at York. Successful applicants will be able to gain experience organising and delivering training and events, expand their professional networks through collaborative working, and help shape research culture here at York. Find out more and apply by Wednesday 24 May.
Teaching

York Learning and Teaching Award (YLTA) – deadline extended
Are you interested in pursuing a career in Higher Education? A small number of York Learning and Teaching Award (YLTA) places are available on this year’s course on a first-come-first served basis to applicants who meet the essential criteria. Find out more about the extended YLTA application window.

7 June: Practice teaching workshop for GTAs
Join the Academic Practice team on 7 June for a supportive workshop to help you develop teaching skills, learn from peers and receive personal feedback. Register your interest by midday Wednesday 24 May.

Current teaching opportunities
Check Handshake and see our current teaching opportunities information.

PGR public engagement activities

NEW: Communicate your research development day
Come to BRIC’s Communicate your research development day on Wednesday 19 July to explore ways of effectively disseminating and communicating your work. The day will focus on how to prepare a presentation, getting published in peer-reviewed journals, and public engagement of research.

News from the Graduate Students’ Association

GSA Events and Communications Coordinator job opportunity
The GSA is recruiting two Events and Communications Coordinators on a part-time basis. Apply by Thursday 25 May.

FREE YUSU ‘fruit and root’ bags
YUSU is giving away FREE fruit and veg bags to help ease cost of living pressures. Book your free veg bag.

Events and opportunities:

● Come to the Pint of Science Festival

More news and opportunities can be found on the Research Student Community blog

YGRS newsletter archive

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