York Graduate Research School newsletter - 27 July 2023

Update from the Dean
Last week, I had the honour and pleasure to participate in the spectacular that is graduation. Lots of PGRs were graduating and, this week, one of my PhD supervisees passed his viva with minor corrections which was another cause for celebration. Big milestones in the lives of all PGRs and their supervisors, and at YGRS we are trying to make sure that York also promotes and celebrates PGR success in all its forms (see below). So, if you have anything that you want to share with the PGR community then please email ygrs@yorkac.uk. For example, my eye was caught by this post about the work of a PhD researcher in Psychology on the benefits of good quality sleep for health and wellbeing.

A big issue that has been raised with YGRS by current PGRs, PGR applicants and supervisors is accommodation. While the University is working hard to expand access to accommodation, this is mainly single bedrooms with shared facilities. We know that the average PGR is over 30 and often has a partner and/or children. At our PGR Forum, we heard that some have experienced issues with private landlords who refuse to rent to ‘students’ because they don’t understand the differences between undergrads and PGRs. Please can you volunteer some time to help the Student Hub Housing Adviser, Stephen Cameron, in creating a guide to PGRs for landlords (see below)?

Finally, can you help a new PGR to feel more settled and connected to the research community in York? Starting a research degree and moving to a new city or even country is a huge step for anyone. I certainly remember the start of my PhD in Brisbane and wondering what the $%?! I had let myself in for….! So, please think about volunteering to be a PGR buddy - - a great opportunity to meet someone new and enhance our community.

Best wishes,
Kate

YGRS and University news

Preparing a journal-style thesis
We have updated our thesis formatting guidance to include journal-style theses which is a document that incorporates one or more chapters in a format suitable for publication in a peer-reviewed title alongside a supporting commentary. Talk to your supervisor about what forms of thesis are possible in your department and see our guidance on preparing a journal-style thesis, including examining issues of copyright.

Consultation: Review of the Research Data Management Policy
The University’s Research Data Management Policy is undergoing a review. Please give your feedback about the University’s Research Data Management Policy.

Latest from the PGR Forum
The minutes and actions from the latest PGR Forum are now available. You’ll need to log in with your York username and password to view.
Changes to First Bus routes and fares
First Bus has introduced fare increases. Discount codes are available for all staff and students to use on weekly and monthly tickets across routes to and from the University. Read details about the fare increases and how to access discounts.

Support and wellbeing

PGR accommodation guide for landlords - call for PGR input
As suggested in the PGR Forum, the Student Hub Housing Adviser, Stephen Cameron, is creating a guide for landlords in the city on how PGRs differ from taught students in order to help you secure accommodation in York. But we need your input! Email ygrs@york.ac.uk if you’re willing to join a small focus group on the issue.

Become a PGR Buddy!
Help us to welcome new PGRs to York by volunteering as part of our PGR Buddy scheme. We’re looking for current (or recently completed) PGRs, who can introduce new PGRs to life as a researcher at York. Find out more about the scheme and apply to volunteer. Application deadline: 25 August 2023

Researcher development

A new guide to Research Data Management
The Open Research team is pleased to share a new guide to Research Data Management, an accessible guide to help University of York researchers navigate the practicalities of managing and sharing their research data.

EDGE: Environmental Doctoral Group in Education
Are you a PhD student or early career researcher working on climate, environmental or sustainability education? You are welcome to join EDGE. They meet monthly online to share ideas and discuss issues associated with researching environmental education and communication. For more information, contact esay@york.ac.uk.

Careers

YGRS Equity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Project Assistant
We are looking to appoint a project assistant who will work to support the Project Manager and the Dean of York Graduate Research School to help deliver fundamental equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) changes at an institutional level. Application deadline: 16 August 2023

News from the Graduate Students’ Association

GSA PGR internship opportunity to improve PGR representation
The Graduate Students Association (GSA), in association with YuFund, invites you to apply for a unique 11 week internship to research and make recommendations on how to improve the representation of PGRs at York. As they work towards the creation of a new union, the GSA wants to explore and implement effective platforms that empower PGRs to represent their own views and needs. The post is open to job share. Application deadline: 13 August 2023

GSA Postgraduate Experience Survey 2023
Give your feedback on your university experience and be in with the chance to win a cash prize. The GSA is holding a survey to help them plan ongoing representation, campaigns and support. Complete the GSA 2023 survey.
This week: GSA Awards Night
Celebrate student and staff achievements at the GSA Awards Night tomorrow (28 July).

Celebrating our PGRs

High-quality sleep promotes resilience to depression and anxiety: Emma Sullivan in University news
Researcher creates city map from diary of 18th Century York woman: Rachel Feldberg in University news
Hyper-femininity can be subversive and empowering – just ask Barbie: Daisy McManaman in The Conversation
Mission Impossible: Dead Reckoning – a modern spy film that knows the value of old tech: Catherine Edwards in The Conversation
Gwen John: often dismissed as a timid recluse, this unique and uncompromising artist painted relentlessly on her own terms: Eliza Goodpasture in The Conversation

Events and opportunities:

- British Library Doctoral Open Day: Digital Collections and Resources

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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