

The University of York's inaugural **Researcher Festival** is an opportunity for us to collectively celebrate the contribution that early career researchers (PG researchers and postdocs) make to the research, culture and community at York. Week one focuses on the collaborations, relationships and issues that affect research and incorporates the UK National Postdoc Conference being hosted by the University of Liverpool and N8 Universities. Week two explores the skills, professional development and mindset that support researchers in developing their careers. The festival provides opportunities for researchers to come together across disciplines to share experiences, learn, network and develop new skills. The primary audience for the festival is researchers (including PG Researchers) but all who are interested are warmly invited and welcome to attend.

The Researcher Festival is coordinated by the RET Team. If you need to contact us please email us at: rett@york.ac.uk



Researcher Festival

20 September - 1 October 2021

Week 1	Morning	Afternoon
20 September	<p style="text-align: center;">11:00 - 12:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Celebrating Successes - Exploring Diverse Careers in the Postdoc Afterlife</p> <p>We all know that Postdocs wear many different hats, and possess a wide range of essential and valuable skills; however, for a lot of Postdocs it often feels like academic research is the only way, and that 'success' can only be found within academia.</p> <p>For this session, we invite 5 former Postdocs with a wide range of experience to come and tell us their stories, discuss the ups and downs of their careers, and what they see as 'successes'. Attendees will be able to ask questions, either through pre-submission or live, and find out how each of the panellists got to where they are today, and their advice/tips on what happens in the Postdoc afterlife. The session will be predominantly a moderated Q&A discussion, starting from 11am and finishing no later than 12.30pm.</p> <p>❖ Live presentation with an expert panel ❖ The use of interactive tools to contribute to the conversations ❖ Ask questions and get answers from subject matter experts during a live Q&A session ❖ Connect with others who may have similar experiences</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Registration: This is an externally facilitated event so please register via the Postdoc Appreciation Week website and also to access additional on-demand content.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12:30 - 14:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Interpersonal Dynamics: How to Balance Relationships in a Hierarchical Setting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr Jan Schmidt and Dr Iva Ognjanovic (University of Münster, Germany) & the RET Team</p> <p>Communication is strongly influenced by the setting where it takes place. In hierarchical environments one communication partner might feel intimidated by the other person's status and "power". Understanding the interpersonal dynamics and finding appropriate tools for successful communication are two keys to avoiding misunderstanding and conflicts. Event for all researchers including postgraduate researchers.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Book to attend through the Learning Management System (staff) or SkillsForge (PGRs)</p>
21 September	<p style="text-align: center;">11:00 - 12:00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Opportunities and Challenges of Interdisciplinary Research</p> <p style="text-align: center;">York Postgraduate Interdisciplinary Forum (YPIF)</p> <p>Ever since a stone age tribe realised that one of their number was a gifted flint knapper and let them off hunting duties, the benefits and costs of specialists have been apparent. Specialists understand and can use accumulated knowledge; have rare physical and intellectual skills; and use algorithms to solve problems that defeat most of us. But there are problems. Particular cultures (national, industrial, educational) see the world, make assumptions, and set salience in very different ways by using specialist language and habitual modes of thinking that can create fractures in our society.</p> <p>YPIF would like to help turn this into a strength by providing a fora for early career researchers at York (including postdocs) to describe their work using everyday language, to unpack assumptions and to become anthropologists in deciphering each other's academic culture. We would be very pleased for you to join us.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Register for this meeting: https://york-ac-uk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJElcOqprz4uGt1_Ucv5kTFiCk_kmoBoOTz4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">**After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the joining instructions. Please bookmark this information for ease of access on the day.**</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13:00 - 14:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Introduction to Sustainable Research</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Joanne Morris (Environmental Policy Officer at Stockholm Environment Institute, Department of Environment and Geography)</p> <p>The University is committed to making its activities more sustainable, including reducing emissions on campus and producing research for how industry and policy can become more sustainable, but what about making the research we do more sustainable? Carbon footprint calculators provide insights on our individual lifestyle emissions from travel, energy and water use, and material consumption. Beyond climate action, sustainability includes considering ecosystem health and social wellbeing. In this session we will discuss and share ideas on how to apply sustainability thinking to our individual research practice</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Register for this meeting: https://york-ac-uk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlqc-qsqjMqHNIQY2VQoPa4gJSX0z1PTO-C</p> <p style="text-align: center;">**After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the joining instructions. Please bookmark this information for ease of access on the day.**</p>

22 September	<p style="text-align: center;">11:00 - 12:30 The Power of Mentoring to Support Research Dr Karen Clegg (Research Excellence Training Team, University of York)</p> <p>Most large organisations and many Fellowship schemes include mentoring and opportunities to network. This session explores the power of mentoring and relationship building in helping you develop and enhance your career as a researcher. Together we will explore the basic principles of mentoring, the value for both parties (mentors and mentees) and the added bonus of having someone 'on your bench' who will actively and selflessly identify opportunities that will enable you to grow. The session will include input from researchers about their experiences. Event for all researchers including postgraduate researchers.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Book to attend through the Learning Management System (staff) or SkillsForge (PGRs)</p>	
23 September	<p style="text-align: center;">11:00 - 12:30 I'm a Researcher - How do I Develop a Teaching and Civic Profile?</p> <p>Dr Glenn Hurst is Chair of the University Learning and Teaching Forum, Associate Professor of Chemistry Education and a National Teaching Fellow. Dr Helen Bedford is a Senior Lecturer in Midwifery and Department of Health Sciences. Dr Jed Meers is a Lecturer in the York Law School and Dr Aimee Little, a Lecturer in Archaeology. In this session each of the experienced researchers/academics will share their experiences and hints and tips on how to get teaching experience, the training they understood and the opportunities that support evidence of civic responsibility. Chaired by Karen Clegg, RET Team.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Register for this meeting: https://york-ac-uk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwpfu2sqjgsHNDO4pVyu-KX46RKKdvlepX4 **After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the joining instructions. Please bookmark this information for ease of access on the day.**</p>	
24 September	<p style="text-align: center;">10:00 - 12:00 York Graduate Research School Central Induction (for PG Researchers)</p> <p>The induction is for all new PG Researchers and those who want a refresher of the professional support available at York. Graduate Administrators and supervisory teams are also warmly invited. Find out how the University will support you, discover opportunities you can take advantage of and meet some of our existing doctoral researchers.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Register via Eventbrite.</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">9:15 - 17:00 UK National Postdoc Conference 2021 (NPDC21) hosted by the University of Liverpool</p> <p>Opening with a keynote from Professor Dame Ottoline Leyser, CEO of UKRI and with input from Professor Julia Buckingham, President of Universities UK plus a host of bite sized sessions and a panel exploring Collaborative Research Practices this FREE ONLINE conference is open to all postdoc and early career researchers from all disciplines and provides an opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ meet and network ❖ hear about key initiatives and direction of travel across the national research agenda ❖ harness your career prospects by participating in bite-sized development activities. <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Registration: This is an externally facilitated conference so please go to the online programme to book your sessions.</p>	
Week 2	Morning	Afternoon
27 September	<p style="text-align: center;">11:00 - 12:00 Thriving in Uncertainty Andy Holladay (People and Organisational Development, University of York)</p> <p>There will always be times where situations don't turn out as we expect, things don't go to plan or seem scary. When in challenging and difficult situations, whether physical, mental or emotional, fear and anxiety kick in. For the right</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13:30 - 15:00 Goal Setting: Making your goals motivating and achievable Caryn Douglas (Director of Caeledro Learning and Development)</p> <p>Where are you now? Where do you want to be in one week, one month or one year? We will look at how to make your goals truly motivating, how to build-in success, how to work towards them in your own rhythm, and how to use goal</p>

	<p>reasons we may focus on the wrong factors. This 1 hour webinar explores 4 key lessons for thriving. By exploring how we think and judge ourselves - sometimes as an imposter - where we focus our attention and how we approach situations will help you to know the things that you can control and so deliver your best performance in whatever challenging and uncertain situation you may face. For each of these lessons there are tools and tips as to how you can thrive within uncertainty and build your resilience.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Register for this meeting: https://york-ac-uk.zoom.us/join/92837446012 <small>**After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the joining instructions. Please bookmark this information for ease of access on the day.**</small></p>	<p>setting within a wider practice of reflective learning.</p> <p>By the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Consider the role personal values have in motivating us to achieve goals ❖ Situate goal-setting within the context of reflective practice and learning ❖ Use the WOOP technique to create fully formed goals ❖ Applied an understanding of their own working rhythms to avoid self-sabotage. <p>-----</p> <p>Book to attend through the Learning Management System (staff) or SkillsForge (PGRs)</p>
<p>28 September</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">09:30 - 11:00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Networking and Collaboration: How can it help your research? Dr Francina Clayton (Research Excellence Training Team, University of York)</p> <p>Traditionally researchers have worked either alone or in small research teams. Research councils and funding bodies, however, increasingly expect researchers to work in cognate subject disciplines to enable a cross-fertilisation of ideas and expertise. But how do you network effectively and set up successful collaborations? This session will look at how you network and make the most of the opportunities you have. Event for all researchers including postgraduate researchers.</p> <p>-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Book to attend through the Learning Management System (staff) or SkillsForge (PGRs)</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">11:15 - 12:00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Women in Research Network Dr Lorna Warnock (Equality & Diversity Coordinator - Gender Equality)</p> <p>The Women in Research Network is open to women of all backgrounds and this includes people who identify as trans women or non-binary. We recognise that women's experiences, while often common or similar, are different depending on their background, heritage and life experiences.</p> <p>This session will provide an introduction to the Women in Research Network, how the network came about and what this interdisciplinary network could do to support your research and career progression. Importantly, we will discuss how you can join and contribute your ideas and experience to the network to support others.</p> <p>Meet some of our existing members and hear why they value being part of the network and let us know the topics that you would like to see addressed in our future programme of training and events.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Register for this meeting: https://york-ac-uk.zoom.us/join/92837446012 <small>**After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the joining instructions. Please bookmark this information for ease of access on the day.**</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">11:00 - 12:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">University of York Research Themes and Champions: Who, What, Why and How to Get Involved</p> <p>The University's Research Champions will outline what they do, why they do it and how researchers can get involved. With live input from Professors: Keith Allen - Culture and Communications ❖ Nicholas Pleace - Justice and Equality ❖ Rachel Cowgill - Creativity ❖ Mark Leake and Dan Watts - Technologies for the Future ❖ Jane Hill - Environmental Sustainability and Resilience ❖ Richard Friend - Risk, Evidence and Decision Making ❖ Joy Adamson - Health and Wellbeing</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Register for this meeting: https://york-ac-uk.zoom.us/join/92837446012 <small>**After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the joining instructions. Please bookmark this information for ease of access on the day.**</small></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">13:00 - 14:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Queer Voices on Research, Networking and Support at York Facilitated by members of the LGBTI+ Matters Staff network: Hannah Smith, Interim Director of Student Careers and Systems, Liz-Wands Murray, HoDs office manager and PG Researcher, Dr Hannah Roche, Senior Lecturer in 20th Century Literature and Culture. Dr Derek Wann, Senior Lecturer in Physical Chemistry. Chaired by Professor Rachel Cowgill, Professor of Music and Research Champion for Creativity</p> <p>Being a researcher can be isolating, and has been especially so over the last year. As LGBTI+ people, we may be no strangers to isolation and may have developed resources in our lives for coping in crisis situations. At the same time, we might have relied on coming together physically to find our community and engage in scholarship, support and activism. The pandemic has meant that many of us may have felt cut off from the queer families we have found for ourselves and from our 'safe spaces' both on and off campus – some may have been locked down in homes where we might not be accepted or, worse still, experience abuse. Starting out as an LGBTI+ postgraduate or postdoctoral researcher in these circumstances, in a new context and perhaps a new country, it can be hard to connect with others. The University of York's LGBTI+ Matters staff network and student groups are open and welcoming. This session provides an opportunity to meet convenors and members of the LGBTI+ Matters staff network and hear about the work of LGBTI+ members of the research community at York. All are welcome.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Register for this meeting: https://york-ac-uk.zoom.us/j/92837446012?pwd=K05sQnQzdUU0OUhCTXpLMENpWFcwUT09 <small>**After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the joining instructions. Please bookmark this information for ease of access on the day.**</small></p>
<p>29 September</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">11:00 - 12:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Effective Project Management Dr Dominika Butler (Research Excellence Training Team, University of York)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13:00 - 14:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Making the Most of your Postdoc Dr Karen Clegg and Dr Francina Clayton (Research Excellence Training Team, University of York)</p>

	<p>You are responsible for managing your research/PhD project but may not know the best way to go about this. You may be about to begin a new project and want to know more about the fundamentals in the project life cycle and how to be successful from defining to completing. This session introduces researchers to the essentials of successfully managing a research project. Event for all researchers including postgraduate researchers.</p> <p>As a way of supporting you during the COVID-19 pandemic, the RET Team have revised the 'Effective Project Management' workshop to include practical tips on how to adapt, adjust and mitigate risk to your research at these difficult times.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Book to attend through the Learning Management System (staff) or SkillsForge (PGRs)</p>	<p>This session will help you to make the most of the support and resources available to plan your professional and career development as a researcher. All researchers, including postgraduate researchers, are welcome to attend this session. Whether you are considering a career in academia or other sectors this session will help you to identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The value of gaining experience beyond your own research ❖ The variety of opportunities available ❖ Opportunities that connect with your interests and career plans ❖ Factors to consider when planning opportunities <p>-----</p> <p>Book to attend through the Learning Management System (staff) or SkillsForge (P GRs)</p>
<p>30 September</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">11:00 - 13:00 Promoting Your Research using Social Media Dr Francina Clayton and Stewart Barker (Research Excellence Training Team, University of York)</p> <p>Social media is playing an increasingly important role in the academic environment and provides researchers with an opportunity to put themselves and their research forward to the world in an easy and globally accessible way. In this workshop we will look at promoting yourself and your research online; the issues, the tools and how to evaluate your progress. This session will give you a chance to evaluate your own online profile and learn strategies to create your own online presence at little or no cost. Event for all researchers including postgraduate researchers.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Book to attend through the Learning Management System (staff) or SkillsForge (PGRs)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13:00 - 14:30 Looking After your Mental Health in Academia Liz Wands-Murray (Health Sciences, University of York) and Jelena O'Reilly (Education)</p> <p>Dr Jelena O'Reilly completed her PhD at York in 2019 and is now an Associate Lecturer in Psychology in Education at York. She hosts an Academia & Mental Health blog. Liz Wands-Murray is completing her PhD and is the HoDs Office Manager in Health Sciences. Both have facilitated discussions and developed resources to support researchers' mental health. In this session they explore the issues faced by researchers and identify some practical tips to maintain wellbeing.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Book to attend through the Learning Management System (staff) or SkillsForge (PGRs)</p>
<p>1 October</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">11:00 - 12:30 Research in Partnership: Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) Cherry Warburton and Rukmal Abeysekera (Research and Enterprise, University of York)</p> <p>Working in collaboration with external stakeholders enables researchers and academics to develop real-world applications for research and tangible knowledge exchange (and tap into funding). In this session the University's Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) Team will give an overview of Innovate UK funded KTPs and the opportunities they present for collaboration with industry and business partners. There will also be opportunity to hear about other services from the Research and Enterprise Directorate.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Register for this meeting: https://york-ac-uk.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUlC0yrrTkoEtAzvHF64l13gnY8IKseVCF7 **After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the joining instructions. Please bookmark this information for ease of access on the day.**</p>	