Research Active Staff Network Funding 2012-16 Review
October 2016

Summary
Between 2012-16 the LDC Research Staff Network Funding, managed and supported by Sandy Sparks, supported 30 Research Staff Network initiatives by awarding c.£48.5K of which c.£36K was spent by research active staff network leads. Twelve networks have continued for more than one year, including two networks running for four years (see below).

Applications for network funding were received from the following:
- Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies
- CAL
- Centre for the study of Safety and Well-Being, CLL, Social Sciences (joint funding)
- CES
- CLL
- CPE
- Health Economics
- Institute of Education
- Italian Studies
- Physics
- Psychology
- SARO/External Affairs
- SMLC (2)
- Sociology
- Statistics
- WMG (5)
- WMS (5)
The projects funded encouraged inter-disciplinary and collaborative working across the University and in many cases supported networks which fostered links with external partners or other universities both locally, nationally and in some cases internationally.

Eleven networks (receiving £11,430 between them) attracted 52 external collaborators/contributors, including eleven from outside of the UK.

- University of Sanctuary movement
- Columbia University, New York, USA
- Malmö University, Sweden
- Monash University
- National Institute of Regional and Spatial Analysis at Maynooth University, Ireland
- Dundalk Institute of Technology, Ireland
- Radio France
- State University of Maringa, Brazil
- University of Pisa, Italy
- Visiting scholar from Canada
- Birkbeck, University of London
- Birmingham Asylum and Refugee Association
- Cancer Research UK London Research Institute, London
- Cardiff University
- Centre for Transnational Development and Collaboration
- Counterpoint Arts
- Coventry City Council
- Coventry City of Sanctuary
- Coventry Ethnic Minority Action Partnership (CEMAP)
- Coventry Law Centre
- Coventry local radio
- Coventry Peace House
- Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre
- Coventry University (Centre for Peace, Trust and Social Relations),
- Durham University
- Edinburgh University
- Goldsmiths, University of London
- Hillfields Watch
- Institute of Health Informatics (IHI), University College London
- Kings, London
- Leading Britain’s Conversation (LBC) Radio
- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM)
- Loughborough University
- Mannheim University, Germany
- Middlesex University
- Open University (Dept of Geography)
- Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh
- Research Methodology Advice Group
- School of Education, University of Stirling
- Sheffield Hallam University
- Tate Modern
- UK Administrative Data Service (coordinating body for the Administrative Data Research Network)
- University Hospitals Birmingham
- University of Aston
- University of Birmingham,
- University of Bristol
- University of Edinburgh (Centre for Cell Biology)
- University of Oxford
- University of Reading
- University of Sheffield
- University of Staffordshire.
- Wellcome Trust
The LDC network funding has created over 3636 opportunities for researchers to engage in peer led personal and career development activities which include:

- Journal/book clubs
- Networking lunches / programmes of regular meetings
- Subject specialist seminars / Special interest workshops including cross-faculty collaborations on a specific theme
- Conferences
- Researcher forums
- Career development training
- Collaborative public lectures
- Online IT support and training for collaboration
- Individual start-up events
- Events or meetings or consolidation of existing networks or build on pilot events

This equates to a little under £10 per researcher opportunity.

20 of the 30 project proposals and subsequent projects/networks were submitted or run by women, ensuring that the LDC Research Active Staff Network Funding remains an important provider of opportunities for the University in their drive to encourage the development of women in research. The Network Fund continues to contribute towards the University’s Athena Swan Award. Other important areas of focus for the network funding have been:

- Athena Swan (with female lead or participant focus) = 67%
- Inter-disciplinary for collaborative aim = 70%
- The network supported collegiality in the department/faculty = 57%
- The network included a public engagement focus or activity = 17%
- PhD – the network encouraged engagement with PhD students to support researcher development = 20%
- Equality and Diversity focus or relevance = 10%

Research active staff felt that, in addition to increased subject knowledge, the LDC funding had provided a number of personal and career development benefits:

- Increased opportunity for networking and collaborations in the future
- Reduced feeling of isolation and developed a sense of community
- Career development through starting or leading a network
- Opportunity for not yet independent research staff to obtain funding to pilot an initiative
- Practice sharing via the research staff forum and between the network leads
- Opportunity to highlight and showcase their research
- Share best practice, develop skills and receive training through increased liaison with LDC and other University support departments

“Sharing ideas, interests and agendas can only strengthen research.” Dr. Penny Smith, Education Researcher Network

“[The network is a] conduit for information for enabling research and creating supportive research environments.” Dr. Vannessa Goodship, WMG Researcher Forum
Researchers also recognised the benefits of receiving Network Funding as Network Leads/Organising Committee members. They most commonly talk about the opportunities to develop skills in:

- Event management
- Administration
- Project management and time management
- Leadership and leading
- Strategic and long term planning – in relation to thematic meetings or seminars
- Persuasion and influence when requesting for input from junior and senior researchers
- Making connections with academics outside of usual network – expanding personal networks
- Opportunities to chair or lead meetings
- Confidence in leading and being authoritative in order to keep to time
- Successful assertive behaviour

Siew Wan Hee, a member of the organising committee Medical and Statistics Book and Journal Club reported “the club offered me the chance to practice my chairing skills - keeping meetings to an hour and also steering discussions…especially when they get quite heated!” She attributed the organising, running and attendance at the journal club as a contributing factor in gaining the confidence and skills to successfully apply for a promotion.

The organising committee of the Experimental & Theoretical Perspectives Network reported that, as a result of organising the network meetings, they were able to practise and improve their event management and administrative skills. They also identified that when costing events, the time element for organising and administering events should not be undervalued – something they would seek to cost fully in future bids.

**Supporting Researcher Networks – Suggestions from Researchers**

During the evaluation process Researchers were offered with the opportunity to provide feedback on future training provision.

Researchers reported they would like additional support with the following:

- Measuring impact (of research and of network funding)
- Public engagement activities – including working with school children, from primary to 6th form
- Dealing with the media (handling questions, emails, enquiries)
- Presenting on TV – media training
- Staff engagement activities to encourage attendance and widen discussions with other members of the University population
- Engaging with other network leads.
- Support with administrative duties (training in) – i.e. chairing, event management.
- Introduction to leadership
- Project management
- Time management
- Strategic planning
- Managing funding and costings
Four Year Review the LDC Research Active Staff Networks

The following section provides a breakdown of the impact and outputs of each Research Active Staff Network funded between 2012-2013 and 2015-16. A summary of activity and the known impacts and outputs are listed for each network. Where individual members have provided personal impact feedback this is also listed.

Health Economics Journal Club Network  
Achana Dritsaki & Khan  
Health Economics  
Repeated Funding (3 cycles) - £2480 (2013-14/2014-15/2015-16)

SUMMARY  
The Health Economics Journal club has run 25 meetings in a 3-year period with attendance averaging 20 researchers per meeting. The club provides an opportunity for researchers to discuss, debate and learn from peers and critically to begin generating collaborative research proposals. The journal club has provided researchers with an opportunity to meet with new staff and foster good relations between the Clinical Trials Unit team, the Population Evidence & Technologies team and WMS more widely.

The Health Economics Journal Club and Network strengthens networks within Warwick. Since 2013, attendance has steadily increased drawing researchers together from Warwick Evidence, Economics, Statistics, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Population Evidence and Technology and the Clinical Trials Unit. This cross unit/centre/department activity contributes to the University’s aim to overcome silos of research and encouraging sharing and collaboration across disciplines.

The Journal Club now invites external speakers to attend the meetings fostering improved collaborative relations with colleagues at the Universities of Bristol, Oxford, Monash, Sheffield, Coventry, University Hospitals Birmingham, and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

IMPACT EVIDENCE  
The following examples provide evidence of the impact the journal club has in encouraging and supporting researchers to submit articles for publication. The examples below are attributable in full or in part to discussions at the journal club meetings and in particular to the constructive feedback, opportunity to network and to debate topics.

Journal Articles  
1. Mapping between the Roland Morris Questionnaire and Generic Preference-Based Measures  
Kamran A. Khan (1), Jason Madan (1), Stavros Petrou (1), Sarah E. Lamb (1,2)  
1Warwick Clinical Trials Unit, Division of Health Sciences, Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick, Coventry, UK;  
2Medical Science Division, Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
2. Preferred reporting items for studies mapping onto preference-based outcome measures: The MAPS statement
Stavros Petrou1, Oliver Rivero-Arias2, Helen Dakin3, Louise Longworth4, Mark Oppe5, Robert Froud1,6 and Alastair Gray3
1 Warwick Clinical Trials Unit, Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick
2 National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit, Nuffield Department of Population Health, University of Oxford
3 Health Economics Research Centre, Nuffield Department of Population Health, University of Oxford
4 Health Economics Research Group, Brunel University London
5 EuroQol Research Foundation
6 Norges Helsehøyskole, Campus Kristiania

Joshua Pink1, Ben Parker2, Stavros Petrou2.
1 Warwick Evidence, Division of Health Sciences, Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL, UK.
2 Warwick Clinical Trials Unit, Division of Health Sciences, Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick, Coventry, UK.

4. Evaluation of Offender Liaison and Diversion Trial Schemes
Celia Taylor1, Richard Lilford1 et al. in collaboration with RAND Europe
1 Population Evidence and Technologies, Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick, Gibbet Hill Road, Coventry, CV4 7AL, UK.

5. Indirect impact of childhood pneumococcal conjugate vaccines on invasive pneumococcal disease: a systematic review and meta-analysis
Tinevimbo Shiria, Samik Dattab, Jason Madana, Alexander Tsertsvadzec, Pamela Roylec, Matt J. Keelingb, Noel McCarthy and Stavros Petroua
1 Warwick Clinical Trials Unit, Division of Health Sciences, Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick, Gibbet Hill Road, Coventry, CV4 7AL, UK.
2 WIDER group, Warwick Mathematics Institute, University of Warwick, Gibbet Hill Road, Coventry CV4 7AL, UK.
6. Use of baseline health–related quality of life data to inform trial-based economic evaluations of interventions delivered in emergency or critical care settings: a systematic literature review

Melina Dritsaki1, Felix Achana2, James Mason2,3, Stavros Petrou2
1 Oxford Clinical Trials Research Unit, Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences, University of Oxford, Oxford, OX3 7LD, UK
2 Clinical Trials Unit, Division of Health Sciences, Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV8 7AL, UK.
3 Warwick Evidence, Division of Health Sciences, Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL, UK.

Working paper

7. Can care staff accurately assess health–related quality of life of care home residents?
Ben Parker1, Jason Madan1, Stavros Petrou1 and Martin Underwood1
1 Clinical Trials Unit, Division of Health Sciences, Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV8 7AL, UK.

Individual impact

“I presented work from my PhD thesis at the Health Economics Journal Club in October 2014. It was well received and the feedback from attendees was helpful in drafting a manuscript for publication. I subsequently applied for and received funding from Warwick Medical School (£750) and was published in a peer-reviewed open access journal.” Felix Achana, Research Fellow and Journal Club Organiser

The published work can be found at https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-016-3334-0

“I recently presented work on “Estimating the economic burden of pregnancy related complications” at the journal club meeting on 21st July 2016. This ongoing work uses data from large routinely collected electronic health records and involves collaboration with colleagues from the University of Nottingham and Liverpool John Moores University. This presentation generated lots of interest and discussion among journal club attendees. In particular, Hendy (Hendramoorthy Maheswaran), a clinical research fellow with the Population, Evidence and Technologies Group within Warwick Medical School provided useful suggestions regarding different angles to be taken to answer clinically relevant questions. As a result, we have plans to look at opportunities to apply for external funding/grant to support this line of research.” Felix Achana, Research Fellow and Journal Club Organiser
Medical and Statistics Book and Journal Club  
Hee & Hamborg  
Warwick Medical School  
Repeated Funding (4 cycles) - £3172  

SUMMARY
The Medical and Statistics Book and Journal club has run c.31 meetings in a 4-year period with attendance averaging 13 researchers per meeting. The club is open to all Research Staff but is of particular interest to those in medical statistics. The book club provides an opportunity to share learning and experiences in a relaxed environment followed by lunch. Researchers who attend report that it is “...a great place to discuss topics of statistical interest with colleagues from across WMS. Meetings are always stimulating, engaging and lively.”

The club also supports more junior members of the research community providing an inclusive ethos for PhD students  
“I am a PhD student and felt fully included in all the discussions. It also gave me a chance to practice discussing/delivering a topic to a group of academics and diagnostic test accuracy ties directly into my PhD methods so was very useful.”

“I brought my PhD student along when we did the PROMs special edition. I know she found it interesting …and also brought her into contact with more statisticians than just me.”

“…colleagues have commented that the meetings provided an excellent forum to discuss fundamental statistical methods for medical statisticians and how these relate to their day-to-day work.”

The journal club provides opportunities for researchers to take leadership roles in a safe and supportive environment, building confidence and offering opportunities for skill development not normally offered in an early career researcher position. Members of the club are offered the opportunity to ask more experienced researchers questions and discuss topics on job/practice-specific, e.g. how to design a trial/study, how to analyse the data (appropriate methods) and interpretation of results. Funding from the LDC network fund is used to purchase e-book access for discussion at monthly meetings, therefore an indirect benefit of the journal club is the increased access to specialist e-books and online access to journal articles for all researchers at the University not just those who attend the journal club.

“I’ve found the book and journal club very useful – as a minimum it’s helped keep me connected with other statisticians around the medical school. I keep copies of all of our papers as they tend to be good papers to refer to for specific concepts too….Journal club also helped with a timely refresher on survival analysis really useful as it occurred just as I was expecting a great deal survival analyses to come up for me.” Helen Parsons

The organising committee identified that personally they were able to develop leadership skills in managing meetings, event and project management and also in influence and
persuasion. In 2015-16, the organising committee of the Medical and Statistics Book and Journal Club found it very challenging to make time to organise the club due to other work commitments. As a result, the founding members will hand over the running of the club to another enthusiastic colleague. It is hoped that this new team will be able to bring a new network of contacts to the club and also widen the audience to include researchers from outside WMS including psychology, bioinformatics and WMG. This recognition from the original team to plan for succession and willingness to hand the running of the club to a new team ensures the club remains relevant and vibrant to the researchers who value its continuation.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
In October 2014, the Journal Club provided feedback and comments to the FDA in relation to draft guidance on “Rare diseases: common issues in drug development” after discussions with researchers at a lunchtime meeting.

Siew Wan Hee, a member of the organising committee stated “the club offered me the chance to practice my chairing skills - keeping meetings to an hour and also steering discussions…especially when they get quite heated!”. She attributed the organising, running and attendance at the journal club as a contributing factor in gaining the confidence and skills to successfully apply for a promotion.

The benefits of the journal club to members include the opportunities to discuss potential projects and new methodologies. As a result, researchers are able to make recommendations to non-academic organisations such as the Food Standards Agency, for example:

“Learning about propensity analysis at your journal club led to me putting that into a recommendation in a report to the Food Standards Agency on methods to use modern datasets in investigating outbreaks of foodborne disease, titled ‘Exploring the joint analysis of routine data and pathogen genomic datasets in the investigation of outbreaks of GI infection’. The report will be available on their website after internal review.

Essentially getting control information by traditional methods to compare risks between cases and the underlying population is increasingly difficult. In contrast companies doing on-line data gathering are rapid and inexpensive but recruit populations that match the cases (in terms of age group etc.) poorly. Substantial oversampling with propensity analysis was one solution recommended to reduce bias and allow the use of this approach.”
Noel McCarthy

Helen Parsons notes that the journal club has allowed her to be aware of the issues relating to particular evaluating techniques used in a NIHR HTA grant, titled “Evaluating the Effects of Community Treatment Orders (CTOs) in England Using the Mental Health Minimum Dataset (ENCORE)” which received funding for a 24-month project (01/01/2016 to 31/12/2017). “I wrote the propensity score section in response to reviewers’ comments prior to it being discussed in journal club. The rest of the team have not come across it before, so it’s been useful to bring up some issues raised to me in the journal club forum. It’s also helped me identify papers to share with the rest of the study team to discuss the pros and cons of propensity scores.”

“The format of the journal club in reviewing and discussing papers and book chapters, with each chapter being led by a different member of the group, is beneficial to members in the preparation of teaching. I used (the book Introduction to meta-analysis by Borenstein, M., Hedges, L. V., Higgins, J. P. T., and Rothstein, H. R.) to prepare a workshop “Introduction to Meta analysis” at UHCW. I’ve also used knowledge from this book to perform meta analysis [in my own work].”

As a result, Peter Kimani reported the successful submission and publication of Shyamalan et al. Assessment of structures at risk during wrist arthroscopy: a cadaveric study and systematic review, in press, doi: 10.1177/1753193416641061 and they expect submission of a second meta-analysis based paper in 2016-17. Peter also reported that by “having to lead a chapter in the Survival analysis book I also learnt how to perform sample size calculation for time to event data.”

“The journal club has helped to develop me as a researcher – not just through the topics and methods covered but also essential skills such as networking, problem solving, presenting research and has helped to expand my research network at the medical school and beyond.” – PhD Researcher

“The statistics book and journal club have covered topics which have been directly relevant to my PhD. …[it] has helped to improve the quality of my research and enables me to identify potential problems in future diagnostic projects.” – PhD Researcher

“The journal club has also given me the opportunity to present a topic (measures for accuracy for binary tests) to the group which helped to clarify the essential definitions/formula needed for assessing diagnostic accuracy and gave me practice at delivering presentations – a skill essential for me to convey my research at conferences, PhD upgrades, vivas etc. I have also found the book and journal club a valuable place to network and discuss research with more experienced statisticians, which has helped me to problem solve during the course of my PhD.” – PhD Researcher
WMG Researcher Forum
Goodship, Hazra, Middleton, Awang-Ngah
Warwick Manufacturing Group (WMG)
Repeated Funding (4 cycles) - £6376

SUMMARY
The WMG Researcher Forum has run in excess of 40 events or meetings in a 4-year period with attendance ranging from 15 to 40 researchers per meeting. The forum is open to all Researchers within WMG including PhD and EngD researchers. Funding has contributed to running a mix of breakfast meetings, lunchtime events, mentoring and coaching of research staff, Athena Swan related female support sessions and internal researcher-led events. The forum membership has grown steadily since the first meeting. The aim of the Forum continues to be to encourage interdisciplinary knowledge sharing and development support through networking of WMG research staff across WMG teams and buildings.

The Forum is a platform for communication which would not otherwise exist, a safe environment for sharing views and challenging conventions, and encourages diversity in research. The Forum is used to inform and communicate with WMG management on current researcher issues (providing a researcher voice). The Forum also facilitates new collaborations for research proposals and papers. Information is shared for best practice purposes. Guests from outside WMG and both industry and admin staff have been involved, enabling the knowledge of the academic process as well as the research itself to be shared and understood. Presenting work in a more informal setting has also been a positive experience for the speakers. WMG management continue to be very supportive of the networks activities which provide a useful communication route for both sides. It also ties into wider University activity such as AthenaSWAN and the University Staff Research Forum.

“The LDC funding has not only underpinned our monthly community event (the WMG Researcher Forum) at a time when the department and therefore research related researchers are expanding rapidly, but has also given us a firm foundation on which to build a number of other related developmental activities to the benefits of all our contract research staff and beyond.” Dr Vannessa Goodship, WMG

Succession planning for the future of the Forum has included bringing through young leaders from another WMG Forum spin off activity ‘Future Leaders Board’, into departmentally recognised co-ordinator roles. This allows more junior members of the researcher community to develop their leadership and management skills as well as ensuring a continued pipeline of potential organising committee members for the WMG Researcher Forum through organisation and chairing activities.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
I was invited as a speaker in January 2014 to an external strategic leadership programme for academic staff. The development of the WMG Forum was presented as a case study as part of a wider training in mentoring. It received excellent feedback and I was invited to speak again in 2015. Dr V Goodship
Members of staff involved in the WMG lateral mentoring pilot were all (independently) nominated in the first WMG STAR awards by their colleagues.

Discourse Studies in the Social Sciences including Discourse Analysis Network Event
Wharton
Centre for Applied Linguistics
Repeated Funding (3 cycles) - £1290

SUMMARY
The annual Discourse Analysis Network event has been run three times attracting over 162 researchers to share their knowledge and understanding of discourse analysis and discourse studies. The events are open to all researchers at the University. Delegates have included both research staff and PhD students.

The Centre for Applied Linguistics aims to become a hub for discourse research in social sciences. The LDC funded conferences and events have directly contributed to achieving this aim. Most recently CAL has noted an increase in the number of PhD students from other departments attending research methods workshops as advised by their supervisors who have attended Discourse Analysis Network events.

As a result of the continued funding for Discourse Analysis Network events the organising committee reported that researchers were now better informed to make decisions when setting up a corpus-based social science project and some of the interdisciplinary links which are possible. They also reported that they were introduced to a new, freely available, collocations analysis tool which will be useful in project analysis for some researchers within CAL.

In response to the increasing interest in discourse research across social science at Warwick, CAL staff are now teaching corpus methods to students in the ESRC funded Doctoral Training Centre. Aligned with this, we have negotiated a university-wide trial of the corpus software SketchEngine (www.thesketchengine.co.uk) and will offer training in its use.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
A direct output of the Discourse Analysis Network event in 2014 was the creation of a website hosting the presenter slides and videos. The presentations are now available as an open access resource raising the profile of CAL as a hub of expertise and the University more widely.

The Discourse Analysis Network event has provided opportunities for researchers to make connections with an ESRC funded centre at Lancaster University. Researchers came together to present their work at the 2015 conference which resulted in researchers within CAL further developing their expertise in corpus based research and has given others,
particularly in social sciences, ideas of how to incorporate this methodological strand in their research.

Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) Support Network and Research Methodology Advice Group
Biggerstaff
WMS
Repeated Funding (2 cycles) - £1969
(2014-15/2015-16)

SUMMARY
The IPA network has run 11 meetings/workshops since 2014. Approximately 140 participants attended workshops and seminar sessions with visiting guest speakers and experts from universities across the UK. From a small group of researchers and PhD students interested in supporting one another the IPA network at WMS developed into a lively group and rapidly went from strength to strength with over 50 researchers on the IPA@WMS email list. The funding received from LDC helped to support this development.

In between workshop events, the group holds regular meetings where researchers are encouraged and supported to develop their skills in using IPA, network members troubleshoot any issues they may be encountering with data analysis, share in debating current developments, discuss ideas. The IPA at WMS support network contact list has ‘regular’ participants including colleagues from other departments e.g. Psychology, WBS and WMG, and externally with attendees, both researchers and doctoral students, from other universities including: Universities of Aston, Birmingham, Bristol, Coventry, Derby, Edgehill, Edinburgh, Gloucester, Leicester, Worcester. It has also been welcomed by researchers who say “I am so pleased to have found out about this group. It has reduced the isolation and made available a forum to share and learn about IPA.”

The group now collaborates with the qualitative and mixed methods interest group (QMIG). In June 2016 both groups worked together to run a collaborative event ‘Pluralism in Qualitative Research: An Introductory Workshop’. The workshop was facilitated by two external academics Nollaig Frost and Deborah Rodriguez, from Middlesex University.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
Deborah Biggerstaff has become the named Midlands lead for the national and international IPA network http://www.ipa.bbk.ac.uk/. The network currently stands at over 2,500 members signed up to the discussion forum, thus the group’s external visibility is now considerably enhanced. WMS IPA members state that becoming a Midlands Hub University lead is “Fantastic for networking across institutions”.

“I am receiving enquiries from new members (manyexternals) who have heard about the group and want to attend”

The collaborative event with QMIG has resulted in collaborative grant proposals with researchers at Middlesex University.

The group has also contributed to a fellowship application to Kidney Research UK being submitted.

Interest from researchers and doctoral students has increased steadily from 2014 with enquiries from Canada, Luxembourg and Australia, leading to an increase in requests for DBs research papers on IPA. Deborah now provides mentoring to an experienced academic at Dundalk Institute of Technology, Ireland on IPA and jointly supervises an experienced clinician with Coventry University and University Hospital Coventry and Warwick.

The group provides opportunities for collaboration with other universities including welcoming guest speakers - Dr Michael Larkin, from University of Birmingham, Dr Rachel Shaw, University of Aston and Prof. Jonathan Smith, Birkbeck, University of London.

The group has also provided a positive forum for junior members of the research community to learn and gain confidence.

“Just to let you know that I passed my PhD yesterday (minor corrections). It was a really positive experience, both examiners supportive of IPA (and the external thought my sample was large.... I was ready to defend the ‘small’ sample size!). Thank-you for all your support over the last few years, both yourself and the IPA group are mentioned in my acknowledgment section. It really has made a massive difference to me.... thanks” and “Brilliant to engage in non-judgemental discussion where ideas can be presented without fear.”

“Thank you for facilitating the Midland IPA seminar and coordinating another great session - we talked about the presentations and subsequent discussions all the way back to Cheltenham - so much so we did not hear the satnav and took a wrong turning! Although I have only just ‘found’ the seminars I already know that they are, and will be, of great support and interest to my research and professional development. Having an opportunity to meet with others from differing disciplines, research experience and interests, in a mutually supportive environment, and feeling able to participate freely in discussions reaffirms for me the necessity and credibility of adopting a qualitative approach to better understand the human condition - music to my ears”.

“Many thanks for once again organising a stimulating meeting that covered many topics (& the nice lunch)! This particular group stands out from others that I attend as it always feels like a safe environment to bring those ‘stupid’ questions without fear of judgement... and is particularly impressive that it manages to engage early IPA-ers, those of us with a little more experience, as well as yourself with an unparalleled depth and breadth of knowledge! The group’s interdisciplinarity demonstrates the reach of the approach, appealing to not
only psychologists, but also social workers, nurses, educationalists, sociologists and counsellors. Similarly, the distances travelled by some attendees underscores the need for a West Midlands group. I look forward to our next meeting!”

Borders, Race, Ethnicity and Migration (BREM)
Wadia, Squire & Jones
Centre for the study of Safety and Well-Being, CLL, Social Sciences
Repeated Funding (2 cycles) - £2009
2014-15/2015-16

SUMMARY
A comprehensive and inclusive network resulting in an active mailing list of 124+ members, 9 events/workshops/lectures and the involvement of c.250 researchers, staff, students involved in attending, organising and speaking at events, workshops and meetings in two years. The BREM network continues to establish links and agreements with Coventry University’s Centre for Peace, Trust and Social Relations, a number of third sector and statutory organisations and works in collaboration with other networks within Warwick with an interested in borders, race, ethnicity and migration. The network has a website listing past and future events, a resource bank of current research and contact list of researchers with an interest in BREM http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/bremnetwork/. This site contributes to the network objective to raise the profile of the University as a centre for excellence in BREM through showcasing internationally renowned research, new research on racism, ethnicity and migration, and promoting international research on gender, migration and ethnic relations. BREM members are establishing new connections with University research networks/centres in order to share knowledge and skills and a foundation on which joint papers, external funding applications and invited presentations can be organised. The networks further interdisciplinary by bringing together scholars from the faculties of Social Science, Arts and Humanities, Science and WMS to develop research and importantly research-led teaching activity.

The network attracts speakers and contributors from outside of Warwick including:
- Malmö University, Sweden
- Coventry City Council,
- Coventry City of Sanctuary,
- Coventry Ethnic Minority Action Partnership,
- Coventry Law Centre,
- Coventry University (Centre for Peace, Trust and Social Relations),
- Open University (Dept. of Geography)
- Kings, London
- Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh
- Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre
- Centre for Transnational Development and Collaboration
- Birmingham Asylum and Refugee Association
- Coventry Peace House
- Hill fields Watch
- Goldsmiths, University of London
IMAPCT EVIDENCE
Community engagement activities in 2014-15 and the establishment of links with the Coventry Ethnic Minority Action Partnership (CEMAP), BREM members in Sociology and CLL in collaboration with CEMAP led to the application to the ESRC for a collaborative PhD studentship in February 2016. The application was successful and the collaboration was awarded a 4-year studentship. A candidate was recruited and started her 4-year programme of studies in October 2016.

BREM is working with the University’s academic registrar’s office with a view to shaping the University’s scholarships for refugees’ programme.

BREM has received an invitation to host a touring exhibition on migration at Warwick in 2016-17 subject to funding. A second invitation was received to contribute to the University’s collaboration with the Tate Modern, with two convenors acting as part of a group (with the Open University, Loughborough University and Counterpoint Arts) that will programme a week of activities in the Tate Exchange, focused on migration.

The networking is influencing local and national migration and equality-diversity policy agendas by working with colleagues in third and public sector organisations (e.g. contribution to the University of Sanctuary movement and to the Tate Modern exchange project).

The network has increased inter-department collaboration by establishing a pool of scholars in the University who may be asked to act as (joint) supervisors or internal examiners for PGR students working in the fields of ‘race’/ethnicity, migration/borders.

Several BREM members appear regularly in local and national media debates and speak on migrations, multiculturalism, racism and other BREM topics at the invitations of Coventry local radio, Leading Britain’s Conversation (LBC) and Radio France.

Qualitative and Mixed Methods Interest Group (QMIG)
Tierney, Grove, Johnson
WMS
Repeat Funding (2 cycles) £1433
2014-15/2015-16

SUMMARY
This interest group is open to all members of staff and PhD students across the University with an interest in qualitative and mixed methods research. Ten meetings attended by 15-25 people per meetings have been held over the 2 years of funding. This has enabled staff to meet with researchers from across the University with an interest in qualitative and mixed methods research. Group members have shared their research interests and as the group matures, it is anticipated, this will lead to collaborations on research proposals. This group has also enabled less experienced researchers to learn from colleagues who have more expertise in conducting qualitative/mixed methods projects.
“The LDC funding has allowed us to bring together colleagues from across the University to develop skills and to promote the pursuit of excellence in research. It has enabled us to invite speakers who introduce topics of relevance, to which group members might not otherwise be exposed. The number of people who are part of the group has increased during the past year, with 90 people on the mailing list, both staff and PhD students. Feedback following our events suggests that those attending have benefitted from the opportunity to think about how they conduct their research and to share experiences or problems, in a collegiate, supportive environment.” Dr Stephanie Tierney, Warwick Medical School.

The network has provided members of staff throughout the University with a safe environment to explore and discuss qualitative and mixed methods research. Feedback from those who are part of the group has been favourable.

“Just want to say a sincere thank you for organising this group and the helpful meetings. It is great for someone like me (who isn't particularly familiar with qualitative and mixed methods research) to know that there are a group of colleagues whom I could turn to and meetings that I could join to learn more about these methods in a friendly environment!”

“Thank you for opening up these meetings to staff outside the Medical School - I really enjoyed the meeting I attended and will certainly try to attend others, if available. So please keep me on your mailing list!”

Staff members responsible for running QMIG identified that personally they had developed leadership skills in chairing meetings, event and project management and also in influencing and persuading. One of these organisers (Dr Stephanie Tierney) also reported that attending a Leadership course in 2015 allowed her to promote the group to other researchers. As a result of the Leadership course, she has collaborated with a colleague on a research proposal that they are planning to submit for funding.

Members of QMIG state that the most useful elements of these meetings are:
- Being able to use information as part of teaching
- Sharing ideas with colleagues or PhD students
- Including information covered in a funding application
- Providing novel ways for thinking about current data
- Meeting up with a presenter afterwards and talking about joint projects

IMPACT EVIDENCE
“I have been working at Warwick since Feb '15 and these are meetings that I really look forward to and learn a lot from. Research work can be quite isolating so it is a good opportunity to say hi to colleagues, and I think they are really well organised and on broad and interesting topics. They are one of my favourite things about working here, so thank you very much for organising them as for an ECR they have been really useful to get to know people; see new methods and ideas; and stimulate discussion.”
The group now collaborates with the Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) Support Network and Research Methodology Advice Group. In June 2016 both groups worked together to run a collaborative event ‘Pluralism in Qualitative Research: An Introductory Workshop’. The workshop was facilitated by two external academics Nollaig Frost and Deborah Rodriguez, from Middlesex University. Twenty-five researchers attended and reported that the session provided a sound background to pluralism and also provoked constructive conversations about the use of this methodology in future projects.

Feedback from participants included:

“…I knew very little about pluralism before this, so it’s opened up a whole world of possibilities, which I will definitely bear in mind when designing future projects.”

“…it introduced me to the basics of pluralism and allowed me to take some time to reflect on how it might apply to my own research.”

“…I found this workshop allowed me to be more confident in using qualitative research [to] its full potential through a pluralistic framework.”

Researching human fatigue in the workplace
Payne & Strauss
WMG & WMS
Repeated Funding (2 cycles) - £1336
2012-13/2013-14

SUMMARY
The interdisciplinary network brings together researchers from multiple disciplines interested in fatigue at work, performance, and recovery. The group work towards creating a multidisciplinary understanding of this complex topic, inform and supplement research, and aim to foster cross-departmental collaborations by linking people from difference departments, on a bi-monthly basis. Eleven meetings, including one symposium, have been organised over a 2-year period attracting over 40 members.

https://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/community/networks/fatigue/

Organising committee members for the group identified that personally they were able to develop skills in organising group meetings, creating supportive environments for academic discussion and debate, webpage creation, advertising events, and managing a budget. They also recognised the need for skills in creativity when identifying activities for discussion and planning meeting agendas. Their academic contacts grew through the network, both internally with colleagues in multiple departments, and externally with academics in other universities. These have all been maintained over time through joint applications, conference attendance, and via social media connections (e.g. Twitter, Linked in). Notably Dr Strauss submitted a funding application with one of the external speakers after moving to another University. It provided the organising committee members with confidence in their research interests and further avenues with which to pursue these in the future.
External speakers included Professor Sabine Sonnentag from the University of Mannheim, Germany, and also Professor Andy Smith from Cardiff University.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
The network has collaborated with the Health Psychology at Warwick Network, working on designing a pilot study (involving Psychology, WMG and WBS), including data collection, with a view to completing a funding application.

The group has created a secure online space for sharing practice, resources, ideas and papers for members.

Karoline wrote 2016 “I have recently written a grant application (in France) with one of the prominent researchers we invited for a talk as part of the network”. 28 October 2016 “…won the funding from the French and German research councils, with a total project cost of €490.959. Even though by now nobody involved still works at Warwick, I would consider this a network funding success.”

Big Data Network
Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies
Uprichard
Single year funding - £859
2015-16

SUMMARY
Increasingly, big data is social data (e.g. health, cities, administrative data, employment, education, social media, etc.), therefore, social scientists urgently need to engage with issues in this area. This network aims to bring together colleagues across the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences to explore big data from a range of perspectives. The big data network held two events in 2015-16 with c.140 attendees.

The big data social data conference held on 10 December 2015 was attended by 100 participants from all faculties. Five speakers from (4 external and 1 internal) provided insights into the use of and research into big data from

- National Institute of Regional and Spatial Analysis at Maynooth University, Ireland
- Institute of Health Informatics (IHI), University College London
- UK Administrative Data Service (coordinating body for the Administrative Data Research Network)
- Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies, University of Warwick
- School of Education, University of Stirling

The speaker sessions were filmed and made available via the Faculty of Social Science (FSS) and Q-Step Centre websites.
http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/q-step/newsevents/eventslist/fssbd/
Big data network lunch, 1 June 2016, provided opportunities for 40 big data researchers from Social Sciences, Maths, Statistics and Computing, who attended the event to engage with other colleagues working in similar areas, to explore possibilities for collaborative links and to share ideas. A number of attendees also submitted one-page slides summarising their research and these were displayed at the event.

http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/q-step/newsevents/faculty_of_social/

**IMPACT EVIDENCE**
The network has

- contributed to the University’s strategic engagement with Big Data by making big data more visible within the Social Sciences at Warwick.
- created an email list of colleagues across the University willing and interested in engaging with Big Data and Social Science
- developed a webpage to feature on the FSS website to make the FSS big data events more visible to everyone – including hosting big data presentations and speaker sessions on an open access basis
- created a database of contacts for a network of colleagues across the FSS and other departments
- continued to have ongoing conversations to link into the Alan Turing Institute (ATI)
- been written in (but not costed) as a partner on a bid led by Dept of Statistics
- been mentioned in a bid to DFID in May 2016 – unfortunately the bid was unsuccessful
- had involvement in the High Performance Computing at Warwick Internal Review group

Finally, an organising member is currently working on a collaborative bid (Warwick, UN, ESRC) where, if successful, the network will be included.

**WMG Journal Clubs**

Donzella, Goodship, Burrows, Dixon.

WMG, Physics and Chemistry

First round of funding - £958

2015-16

**SUMMARY**
The WMG Journal club ran three meetings with 75 researchers attending in total. Feedback on the meeting has been that they were engaging and interesting.

Participants learnt about:

- how to write a good journal paper
- the different areas of expertise within WMG, Physics and Chemistry
- how to present scientific work in front of a mixed background audience
IMPACT EVIDENCE
As a result of the journal club several areas of collaboration have been discovered and discussed among participants. Different material characterization methods have been discussed and specialist capabilities of departments have been showcased (e.g. the 3xD simulator at WMG)

Experimental & Theoretical Perspectives Network 2013-14
Gostner & Meadows
WMS
Single funding - £970
2015-16

SUMMARY
The Experimental and Theoretical Perspectives Network organised a workshop event attended by 65 delegates from across Chemistry, Institute of Advanced Study, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Warwick Medical School, Physics and Complexity Science and attracted external speakers from research centres such as:

- Columbia University, New York, USA
- Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology, University of Edinburgh, Scotland
- Cancer Research UK London Research Institute, London, UK
- Durham University, UK

The event brought together researchers in seemingly disparate fields from across the University to discuss a common subject and to provide a forum for informal discussions between senior researchers and ECRs to discuss collaborative opportunities.

The organising committee reported that as a result of organising this event they were able to practise and improve their event management and administrative skills. They also identified that, when costing events, the time element for organising and administering events should not be undervalued – something they would seek to cost fully in future bids.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
Involvement in this event led to two researchers becoming scientific organisers of the first British Microtubule meeting in 2015 in Edinburgh.

The event was live tweeted on Twitter to allow academics to follow and comment in real time.
Google Plus (G+) Community Focusing on Language, Teaching & Research
Mackinnon
School of Language and Cultures
First round funding - £912
2014-15

SUMMARY
A project linking with the University’s strategic partner Monash running two lunchtime learning meetings for 25 researchers, from languages (including linguistics), education and psychology, to gain a better understanding of technologies available to work effectively with colleagues at Monash. The meetings provided opportunities for researchers to gain an insight into the most innovative and effective use of technology when collaborating with partner and external organisations.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
- The outputs from the project are a recognition of the challenges faced when working in an interdisciplinary field

- A paper on sustainable open language teaching (SOLT) has been published by ALSIC https://alsic.revues.org/2908 and a copy is available in WRAP.

- Monwar provided the virtual space and technical support to enhance connections with Monash University

- A G+ portal remains available to provide useful facilitation of conversations, familiarisation and connections. Interactions at the time of the project were curated https://storify.com/WarwickLanguage/monwar-network but a key staff member at Monash has now left.

Research led Education Network
Thornby
CPE
2015-16
First round funding £379

SUMMARY
A journal club and research seminar series within Centre for Professional Education (CPE) intended to be a development opportunity for teaching staff in CPE who are not currently research-active but who must remain research-informed in order to maintain the academic credibility of the PGCE teacher training programme.

The network held four journal club meetings and a seminar with an external speaker from University of Staffordshire. Approximately 20 staff attended at least one of the journal club sessions and all attendees were given an opportunity to speak and contribute to group discussion.
Attendance was initially limited to the PGCE Secondary team for the first journal club, but as the series gathered momentum it attracted interest from the PGCE Primary team and other colleagues across CPE.

The network provided staff with:
- the opportunity to update their own knowledge about practitioner research and the latest developments in pedagogy
- the skills to undertake such research themselves in the future
- the confidence to take first step on the journey to developing former school teachers into more rounded professionals within academia
- the opportunity to dispel myths about pedagogy and learning theories common in teacher education
- help with managing scholarly activity and embedding research within a teaching-intensive workload
- the confidence to challenge the teaching methods for teacher training at CPE

IMPACT EVIDENCE
The network has increased staff engagement with scholarly study, which in turn makes the department’s teaching more robust and research-informed.

Several members of the network have, as a result of the Network, signed up for postgraduate courses in order to become more qualified within their discipline.

The PGCE Secondary team voted unanimously to change the way it teaches certain topics to be more like the journal club format – i.e. directed readings with open discussion and questioning, rather than current didactic approach

“The network is continuing 2016/7 and has three sessions in the diary booked this side of Xmas.”
Public Engagement Practitioner (PEP) Network
Barons
Statistics
2013-14
Single funding - £321

SUMMARY
The network has met on four occasions to meet and share good practice and engagement opportunities. Members of the network were encouraged to demonstrate critique and discuss a wide variety of public engagement practices. Twenty-seven individuals from 4 departments, with 4 active organisers, have had the opportunity to present or showcase their PE performance/activities or to listen to presentations about PE.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
Network members have participated in Warwick and external events, including Warwick’s stand at the Big Bang Fair.

A Warwick Webgroup has been set up for the purposes of disseminating details of upcoming opportunities and allowing group members to volunteer to participate. http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/statistics/staff/academic-research/barons/pep

PEP members contributed articles on the Big Bang Fair to their departmental newsletters, raising awareness of the event and the public engagement opportunities to a wider audience of academic and non-academic staff.

Physics Researcher Event and Network
Burrows & Walker
Physics
Repeat funding (2 cycles) - £569
2012-13/2013-14

SUMMARY
An LDC funded physics researcher event in 2012-13 resulted in the physics researcher network in 2013-14. In addition to the event in 2012-13, the network ran three events bringing together between 5 and 20 (50:50 gender split) researchers to learn about research being carried out within the department, the opportunities and facilities available to researchers within physics and more widely at the University. Researchers were given the opportunity to present their research and to practice their communication skills in a safe environment. The diversity of research themes allowed researchers to discover subjects not directly connected with their research but which could aid their career development.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
A presentation on x-ray facilities at the University resulted in an enquiry from a researcher on the potential to use the x-ray facility for their research.
Computing Morality: Bi-weekly Reading Group
Ludvig & Sanborn
Psychology
First round funding - £202
2015-16

SUMMARY
A bi-weekly multi-disciplinary reading group drawing on the fields of Psychology, Philosophy, Neuroscience, Computer Science and Economics. The group of 12-15 researchers met seven times to discuss published research and for an external seminar from an expert in the field from Oxford. The group had representation from the departments of Psychology, Philosophy, Statistics and WBS.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
The seminar series was used to assess new opportunities for research in understanding moral decision making and has led to experimental research being conducted by PGT and PGR students. These projects are collaborations between research staff who attended these meetings, including Elliot Ludvig (Psychology), Adam Sanborn (Psychology), and James Smith (Statistics). The aim of these projects is to produce pilot data for external grant applications.

CLL Research Staff Network
Merrill
CLL
Single round funding £490
2013-14

SUMMARY
The CLL Research Network ran 7 meetings with attendance averaging 10 researchers per meeting. The network encouraged integration and research relationships following departmental changes, the opportunity to explore collaborative funding ideas, and for researchers to discuss, debate and learn from peers. One external speaker from Canada attended the group meeting with other speakers from CLL and SWELL (Centre for study of safety and wellbeing).

IMPACT EVIDENCE
A direct result of the network meetings has been the ability to contribute to the Centre’s future research strategy and now plan to integrate more with SWELL.
Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) Network
Raath
WMG
Single round funding - £495
2014/15

SUMMARY
The LCA network ran a series of 7 monthly lunchtime meetings open to all research staff across the University. The meetings were attended by c.10 researchers. The meetings included software training, Q&A sessions and resulted in a better understanding of LCA by network members in a safe and friendly environment.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
The output of this network has been the ability of members to make cost effective and efficiency savings when purchasing software extensions relating to LCA. The software training provided to the network members has increased the LCA capability within WMG.

Division of Microbiology and Infectious Disease Network
Mitchell
WMS
Single year funding - £560
2013-14

SUMMARY
Aim was to strengthen and explore collaborative and funding opportunities in one event. Fifteen staff presented at the event where links were developed with Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) and ideas for joint ventures and ongoing networking were discussed.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
As a result of this event a joint research manuscript was submitted and accepted for publication in 2015 in Scientific Reports (Nature Publishing Group). There continues to be an ongoing dialogue between researchers at Warwick and Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, however, the 2014/2015 WMS Review has slowed progress after a significant number of relevant WMS academic staff left the University.

The network funding contributed to forging internal links and discussions between WMS and the Department of Chemistry that developed away from the initial academic focus. Two further publications have been published, one of which was used as supporting evidence for a successful ERC Investigator Award in late 2014.
Women in Science (WIS) network, event and seasonal workshops
Wride, Dawson & Ruane
Engineering and Life Sciences
Repeated Funding (3 cycles) £1696
2013-14/2014-15/2015-16

SUMMARY
Women in Science (WIS) was started in 2010 by a group of MOAC students with the aim to encourage more women to remain in science. Initially this was a two-day symposium open to postgraduate students. By 2016, the two-day event had transformed to become a network of researchers interested in overcoming and recognising the barriers to gender equality in academia – expanding from the original focus of the science domain. The network runs an annual symposium event and a series of seasonal workshops. WIS now works across departments collaborating with the Institute of Advance Learning (IATL) to support an event focusing on science through the medium of art, music, performance and creative speaking. The event was a success, bringing academics and staff from many departments across the University together as well as postgraduate students and a number of high school students from local schools. WIS continues to work collaboratively with departments and groups across the University including LDC, Student Careers and Skill, the Working Parents Group and also with the E&D network in order to support the University’s Athena Swan submissions to become an Athena Swan Silver award holder.

In 2015-16 the network membership stood at over 100 members including staff and students, from across 19 departments/groups of the University. Between 2013 and 2016 WIS had organised or collaborated on more than 15 events covering topics such as:

- Knowing your career strengths
- Unconscious bias
- Taboo subjects (in recruiting women)
- Network identity
- Enterprise for researchers
- Imposter syndrome
- Gender (in)equality

Those who attended the meetings reported that they “lessen the feelings of isolation, and being just me that feels like this all the time”

The continued funding of WIS has allowed a much stronger network to emerge. Expressions of Interest in joining the WIS committee has allowed the potential for future sustainability of the network beyond current members’ time at Warwick.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
This network is continuing for 2016/17, as it will be led by post-graduate students, funding for the events will be from another University department.
**Interdisciplinary Network: Minorities Within the Military and international conference**  
‘Minorities in Armies: Ethnicity, Race, Alienage’  
Pretelli and Panzanella  
Italian Studies  
Single year funding - £600  
2014-15

**SUMMARY**  
An interdisciplinary conference jointly organised by an ECR and PhD student. The event provided an opportunity for a PhD researcher to organise an international conference and raise the profile of the department of History and the School of Modern Languages with the support of a more experienced member of research staff.

Presenters for the conference provided opportunities for researchers from  
• State University of Maringa, Brazil  
• University of Pisa, Italy  
• University of Reading  
• Goldsmiths, University of London  
• Edinburgh University  
• Sheffield Hallam University  
• University of Warwick to present their research.

The conference provided a learning opportunity for the organising committee to gain expertise in event and project management in addition to increasing their subject knowledge.

**IMPACT EVIDENCE**  
Not known
Network for Early Career Researchers Within WMS
Taylor-Phillips, Dritsaki, Johnson, Holden, Karasouli, Hee
WMS
Repeated Funding (3 cycles) - £1265
2012-13/2013-14/2014-15

SUMMARY
A network, led by six female organisers providing a succession of leadership, for Early Career Researchers meeting four times per year to share ideas, knowledge, skills and to build a community of early career researchers within WMS. Activities have included CV support and advice lunchtime sessions, networking lunches and media training. Members of the network share knowledge of other Departmental and University networks / committees including the Women in Academia Network, WMS Welfare Strategy Group and other academic networks including the Health Economics Journal Club and WMS Medical Statistics Book & Journal Club. Members of the network are given the opportunity to share knowledge relating to calls for papers and funding opportunities.

Over three years the regular meetings have attracted c.20-25 researchers per event, with a profile amongst senior academics. The network also ran a 2-day writing retreat allowing researchers to work on current writing projects (papers, funding submissions, fellowship applications) in a supportive and distraction-free environment.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
The impact from the Early Career Research Network over the course of its funding has included both direct and indirect impacts. Warwick Medical School has seen the value of this ECR group and has now taken over providing the funding.

Two members of the organising committee have been awarded personal fellowships, and their work on the committee formed part of the background to these applications.

In 2013 Dr Taylor-Phillips as the network lead devised a strategy to further support Warwick Medical School ECRs in their career development, with considerable input from network members and from network meetings. This was adopted as the Division of Health Sciences strategy, and used as the basis for a whole medical school strategy. This led to three important changes within the division:

1. Initiation of a fund for all early career researchers to attend one conference or training event each year for up to £1000
2. A commitment to make a mentor available for every early career researcher, and encourage them to take the opportunity
3. An undertaking to committing half a day per week for each ECR to work on their own personal development, such as developing new skills or writing a fellowship application.

Website links:
The Division of Health Sciences policy
http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/staffintranet/staffresources/ecr/opportunities_for_ecrs_within_health_sciences_final_2012.doc
Conclusion

In the time this network has been running supported by the Learning and Development Centre, the ECR researcher network has facilitated the start of specific ECR-relevant support for researchers in Warwick Medical School with formal presentations and informal networking; it has helped popularise the Mentoring Scheme at WMS; and it has connected ECRs with insights, tips, skills and opportunities they require to be successful in academia. The ECR group has continued to grow and change according to the needs of ECRs, benefitting ECRs within WMS as they progress throughout their career (and helping them to do so in a realistic and achievable way).

Horizon 2020 Workshop
Price
Sociology
Single year funding £262
2013-14

SUMMARY
The workshop aimed to bring together researchers from across the University to consider how their research interests might be used to assess the themes and priorities in Horizon 2020. Thirteen researchers attended the workshop introduced by Prof Stuart Croft. The information and skills learned from the event have been operationalised in one large collaborative grant proposal led by the network organiser.

The format of the event was seen as successful and the organising committee see value in using it for encouraging early-stage project discussions from other funding bodies.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
Not Known
Education Research Network (ERN)
Smith, Arweck, Cullen, Sutcliffe
Centre for Education Studies (formerly Inst of Education)
Repeated Funding (3 cycles) - £1355
2012-13/2013-14/2014-15

An informal network running c.15 lunchtime networking events with attendance by 15 researchers on average. The events were organised by the Research Development Manager and members of the ERN. The network was set up in 2012 and ran for 2 years before a restructure of the Institute of Education led to a new group taking over in 2014.

The network has offered participants a forum to share their research findings, build on their knowledge of research methods, and learn about best practice across different disciplines. The lunchtime sessions have offered skills development training in interdisciplinary working, REF and research impact. In addition to the network provided researchers with a social network for formal and informal discussions.

IMPACT EVIDENCE
Not known

Human Hip Group Seminar
WMG
Turley
Single round funding £438
2012-13

SUMMARY
An introductory seminar which allowed a research agenda to be scoped from a broad range of contributors and research areas to support the strong clinical practice in the Coventry and Warwickshire region. As a result, a Global Research Priority (GRP) Science and Technology for Health Network application has been submitted.
Note: organising member has moved to work at Tesla Motors San Francisco Bay.

Public Engagement Staff Network
Miles
SARO/External Affairs
Single round funding - £1000
2013-14

Funding for ‘mini summits’ to support discussion and collaboration on public engagement initiatives. Two successful events held, with 60 and 120 attendees (approx. half were RAS)
NOTE: Organiser has now left the University – Part B end of funding report never returned
Global Nineteen Century at Warwick  
Hooper and Loh  
SMLC - Hispanic Studies  
2015-16  
Waiting for Part B end of funding report

WMG Network workshop  
Ahanathapillai  
Single year funding - £1330  
2012-13  
No further details available. Lead left the University of Warwick

UK Data Management workshop  
Haastrup  
Single funding - £2057  
Politics & International Studies  
2012-13  
No further details available. Lead left the University of Warwick

WBS Research Staff Network  
Dahlmann Frederik  
WBS  
Single funding - £269  
2012-13  
No further details available