

### Opportunities from the Learning & Development Centre

The Researcher workshop programme from Jan - July 2010 is available online and in pdf format at:  
[www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/earlycareerres/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/earlycareerres/)

#### Development: Researcher Website

Just to update you that we are in the process of developing and designing a 1st stop shop for Research staff. The initial meeting was held on 16 March, 12 delegates attended with representation from the Research staff forum, Research staff, Research Support Services, Library and MOAC. Thank you also to those who sent in ideas and recommendations for the 1st stop shop website.

#### March Workshops feedback:

##### Making an Impact in Job Applications - held 4 March

"The course was useful. Engaging speaker with pleasant manner. The optimism/positive message about job prospects"  
"How to write/improve a covering letter"

##### Making Successful Grant Applications - held 10 & 17 March

"Definitely be useful in my career development, where my passion is"  
"Understanding the differences between different funding bodies"  
"Will apply the knowledge (including FeC and critical analysis) when I write my next grant proposal"  
"Informative, great presentation, healthy interaction between group and presenter, knowledgeable facilitator"

##### Introduction to Research Ethics at Warwick - held 18 March

"Has given me a broader perspective on ethics in research"  
"Summary of the University procedures and useful discussion"

#### April Workshops (free to attend):

- **Practical Project Management** - 23 April, 9.15am - 4.45pm  
<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/projpr/>  
Only 2 places left.

#### May Workshops (free to attend):

- **The Enterprising Researcher** - 6 May, 12 - 4.30pm  
[www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/entres/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/entres/)  
The aim of this workshop is to identify the skills, strategies and techniques you can use to become an even more enterprising researcher and help you with your next grant application.
- **Dealing with People in Difficult Situations**  
- 11 May, 12 - 4.30pm  
[www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/difficultrp/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/difficultrp/)  
This workshop session will review tips and techniques for handling difficult situations and conversations and look at tools for dealing with conflict.
- **Practical Networking** - 17 May, 10am - 1pm  
[www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/pracnetworking/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/pracnetworking/)  
The workshop session will offer a selection of techniques and methods that participants will be able to apply usefully at conferences and in other environments.
- **Interview Success** - 18 May, 12 - 2.30pm  
[www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/interviewsuc/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/interviewsuc/)  
This workshop aims to help understand the interview process, including assessing what interview panels are looking for, and how to predict questions. It will cover preparation, interview format and tackling difficult questions.

- **From Innovation to Invention** - 25 May, 12 - 2.30pm  
[www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/innovinven/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/innovinven/)  
This workshop will examine how commercial exploitation of academic research can be used to generate impact and improve funding chances, some of the routes and terminology used in the commercialisation process, and some of the key criteria which need to be considered to aid success.

#### Funding opportunity for researchers:

For further information about individual or departmental funding opportunities, please see [www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/funding/researchers/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/funding/researchers/)

Roberts' funding given to Research Staff during March:

- Dr. Steven Martin – Warwick Medical School, £1300, Organisation of a Research Methods Workshop on 'Realist Synthesis and Health Science Research', summer 2010
- Dr Judith Purkis – Institute of Clinical Education, £560, 2 day course on Roter Interaction Analysis Systems (RAIS) – in-depth tool for consultation research & analysis, 12-13 April 2010
- Dr. Felicity Boardman – Health Science Research Institute, £776, Mixed Methods International Conference, 7–11 July 2010

All of the staff that have received Roberts' funding have agreed to share best practice with other Research staff.

#### Focus on:

The Arts Faculty's Post Doctoral Researchers and Teaching Staff Programme and the Early Career Researcher Group supported by Roberts' funding. **Prof Karen O'Brien commented:**

*The Arts Faculty created a series of events and funding opportunities for postdoc in 2009-10, advertised through an email circular and a dedicated webpage of the Arts Faculty. The webpage also contains information about further funding and training opportunities and is regularly updated. The events included career development sessions on: organising conferences, academic careers, non-academic careers, the UK higher education funding and research environment and (still to come) a project development workshop with an experienced publisher. The funding opportunities created were for project development (£600) and for career networking opportunities (£150), and criteria were established and advertised. This was allocated in two rounds, with three academic evaluators independently scoring applications. Decisions on the second round are still awaited, but it is likely that around 15 post docs will benefit from the funding and all will provide exit reports. We also established an "Early Career Researchers Group" with a small amount of hospitality funding. This is run by the post docs themselves and meets three times per term.*

*We feel that devolved, Arts Faculty funding for post docs from the Roberts fund enables us to meet their needs in a targeted and effective way.*

[www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/postdocs/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/postdocs/)

## Further opportunities within Warwick

### Annual Review 2010

The second cycle of the University's annual review scheme has commenced, with annual review meetings taking place between January and the end of April 2010. Please use this as an opportunity to think about your development needs.

[www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/annualreview/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/annualreview/)

### Focus on:

#### Windows on Research – WoR

The Window on Research seminar series, run over the Spring Term in the Library's Wolfson Research Exchange, highlighted some of the innovative research taking place at Warwick. The sessions offer a platform for researchers from all disciplines to share and discuss research ideas and experiences. Sessions have included an overview of Warwick's eRA portal by Research Support Services (to be rerun later this year in response to demand), non-destructive testing in physics, and an exploratory session titled 'What if...?', which gave researchers an opportunity to network informally, and share ideas and possibilities for future collaborations.

Seminar presenters have given us great feedback about the opportunities that our programme provides:

*'the session is particularly useful in making connections with people working in related fields in other departments.'*

And these feelings have been reiterated by the participants:

*'It is so great for researchers to have a forum to exchange their ideas.'*

The Summer Term series, beginning in week 2, promises to be just as popular and stimulating. Sessions already in place include post-doctoral research on injured army veterans, an introduction to Roberts' Funding, and how to apply qualitative methods to health research.

Sessions are open to all staff and research students. They are held over lunchtime, and coffee, tea and light refreshments are also served.

More information about our upcoming sessions, to book a place or find further details about presenting at one of our sessions please see our website:

[go.warwick.ac.uk/researchexchange/wor](http://go.warwick.ac.uk/researchexchange/wor)

## Opportunities outside Warwick

**Vitae** - For a list of the courses running that are relevant to researchers please see [www.vitae.ac.uk/events](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/events).

**Using Web 2.0 to Enhance Research and Collaboration - Web 2.0 courses at the University of Sheffield**

**28 June 2010** [http://www.shef.ac.uk/scharr/shortcourseunit/courses\\_new/webpart1.html](http://www.shef.ac.uk/scharr/shortcourseunit/courses_new/webpart1.html)

**7 July 2010** [http://cms.shef.ac.uk/scharr/shortcourseunit/courses\\_new/webpart2.html](http://cms.shef.ac.uk/scharr/shortcourseunit/courses_new/webpart2.html)

**SCHARR launches new systematic review courses.** [www.shef.ac.uk/scharr/shortcourseunit](http://www.shef.ac.uk/scharr/shortcourseunit)

- General Systematic Review Course and Beginners and Intermediate Workshops in Qualitative Evidence Synthesis  
'The SCHARR systematic review course: practical skills for undertaking reviews' delivered between 23 June and 25 June 2010
- If you have no prior familiarity with Qualitative Evidence Synthesis (qualitative systematic reviews) there is a repeat of the ESQUIRE course 7th - 9th September 2010: [www.shef.ac.uk/scharr/shortcourseunit/courses\\_new/esquiresept10.html](http://www.shef.ac.uk/scharr/shortcourseunit/courses_new/esquiresept10.html)
- Issues and Challenges for Qualitative Research in Evidence Synthesis (InCQuiRES) - 9 September 2010:  
[www.shef.ac.uk/scharr/shortcourseunit/courses\\_new/incquiresept10.html](http://www.shef.ac.uk/scharr/shortcourseunit/courses_new/incquiresept10.html)

## Useful information and links

### JSPS London - Short-Term Award - call for Applications

The Short-Term Award provides the opportunity for pre and post doctoral UK researchers and European and North American researchers based in the UK to visit Japan for 1 to 12 months to undertake co-operative research with leading research groups at Japanese Universities and Institutions. Successful applicants are asked to start their fellowship between November 2010 and the end of March 2011.

The closing date for applications is 17:30 on Tuesday 1 June 2010  
For further information see: [www.jspso.org/funding/fellow\\_short.html](http://www.jspso.org/funding/fellow_short.html)

## Useful information and links - cont'd...

**The Materials Entrepreneur, Taking your Innovation Forward, Monday 19 April 2010. Institute of Materials, Minerals & Mining, London.**

For Research staff looking to commercialize their Intellectual Property. 16 free bursary places to give away for the conference. Relevant to anyone in science and engineering. For further information see: [www.iom3.org/events/entrepreneur](http://www.iom3.org/events/entrepreneur)

**Times Higher Education (THE) Postgraduate Offer** - FREE 3-month trial subscription!

Subscribe via this link [www.subscription.co.uk/the/EA38](http://www.subscription.co.uk/the/EA38) or call 01858 438805 quoting EA38.

### Public Engagement.

'RCUK believes that engaging the public can enhance the quality and impact of research by widening horizons and providing enhanced career progression opportunities. The RCUK Public Engagement with Research (PER) programme is committed to recognising and responding to public views, inspiring the next generation of researchers and supporting researchers in their public engagement activities. The three new publications are:

- *RCUK Public Engagement with Research Strategy*  
Outlines RCUK aims, objectives and priorities going forward
- *Engaging Young People with Cutting Edge Research: a guide for researchers and teachers*  
Highlights opportunities and support for researchers and schools to work together
- *What's in it for me? The benefits of public engagement for researchers*  
Gives examples of the benefits experienced by researchers across the UK from engaging the public in their research.  
[www.rcuk.ac.uk/per/bestprac.htm](http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/per/bestprac.htm)

### Peer review: A guide for researchers.

Sets out the processes involved in peer review for both grant applications and publications. It also looks at the issues that have been raised in a series of recent reports on the costs of the system, and how effective and fair it is. [www.rin.ac.uk/peer-review-guide](http://www.rin.ac.uk/peer-review-guide)

### IN-Place Graduate Internship Programme.

The Universities of Warwick and Birmingham are working in partnership to provide a new graduate internship programme. The programme, sponsored by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) provides paid internship placements for an initial 4-week period. It offers employers and graduates the opportunity to work together to bring fresh talent into the workplace and kick-start careers. This is also open to Research staff. [www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/careers/in-place/](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/careers/in-place/)

## Other UOW useful information and links

University of Warwick Chemistry website - [www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/chemistry/chemintra/postdoc](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/chemistry/chemintra/postdoc)

Warwick Pioneers - [www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/pioneers](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/pioneers)

### Contact:

Sandy Sparks, Learning and Development Advisor, [sandy.sparks@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:sandy.sparks@warwick.ac.uk) x74121

Val Bentick, Researcher Programme Administrator, [v.bentick@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:v.bentick@warwick.ac.uk) x24698