

FOR RESEARCH ACTIVE STAFF

FEBRUARY 2014 E-NEWSLETTER

SUPPORT OVERVIEW

From April 2013 our remit continues to include learning and development support for all Research Active Staff at Warwick.

To focus effectively on staff development opportunities for Research Active Staff the five main areas of support will be:

- ⇒ **Career Development**
- ⇒ **Enterprise & Entrepreneurship**
- ⇒ **Equality & Diversity**
- ⇒ **Leadership**
- ⇒ **Skills**

Please contact Sandy Sparks:
Sandra.Sparks@warwick.ac.uk with any queries or to discuss your needs.

Visit the website for Research Active Staff (below) for information on current support.

Learning & Development

Research Active Staff

About



Current Development Opportunities



Events and News



Resource Bank



Funding Opportunities



The Research Community at Warwick



Your Employment at Warwick



FAQs

Women in Science and the Media Communication and Personal Impact Training for Early Career Female Scientists

30 July–1 August 2014

Cumberland Lodge, Windsor
and BBC Broadcasting House

This innovative course uses science media to help postdoctoral academics improve their ability to communicate with different audiences, from other researchers and grant reviewers to journalists and members of the public. It focuses on the barriers facing female scientists in their careers and how developing effective presentation skills and personal impact can help.

Funding to cover course delivery costs for ten University of Warwick researchers are available on application via the registration page.

For more information please visit: <http://bit.ly/womenscscis>

In addition, the **British Science Association has a Media Fellowship scheme**, which offers development opportunities by placing researchers in media organisations such as the BBC, the Guardian and The Times. **The application deadline is 16 March.** For more information visit: <http://www.britishscienceassociation.org/science-society/media-fellowships>

NEW THIS MONTH:

Event News:

- ⇒ Workshop dates for the Spring & Summer Terms
- ⇒ Science and Media opportunities

Support Update:

- ⇒ PIIRUS
- ⇒ Connecting Cultures GRP
- ⇒ News from the networks

FOCUS ON: PIIRUS & GLOBAL RESEARCH PRIORITIES (GRP'S)

Piirus: Gain collaborators and expand your academic horizons

Have you found it difficult to find collaborators for a new research project, struggled with developing a new methodology or wondered if there was anyone who had the same ideas as you? If you answered yes to any of these questions then it's just possible that Piirus, a new online tool designed to help you as a researcher overcome these common challenges, could be what you are looking for.

So what is Piirus? (the name is neologism in case you wondered!)

Initially developed for Warwick researchers, Piirus invites you to create a short, online profile about your collaboration interests, research field and methodologies and then matches you with other researchers with similar interests.

Not another profile site! Isn't this just academia.edu?

We get frustrated with the number of sites we need to maintain our profile on too. That's why we've kept Piirus light touch and simple. We're convinced that the 3 minutes it takes to create your profile and be matched with other researchers is worth the return. Let's face it, the 750 researchers currently active on Piirus in Warwick and Monash can't all be wrong!

So what is it that's unique?

While Academia, ResearchGate and your own departmental pages showcases your research and publications, Piirus is here to support you right at the earliest stages of the research process when you are forming ideas and seeking colleagues to share, expand and describe the research challenge with you. As research active staff you know that this can take you to the edge of your research field and your known networks. How do you find these collaborators easily and efficiently? Piirus is the answer.

What have Warwick researchers said about Piirus?

'It is particularly good for finding unexpected collaborators ...To be able to search across different universities and internationally as well to find people you're perhaps not aware of.' **Charlotte Mathieson,** Postdoctoral Research Fellow, IAS, Warwick.

'Piirus allows us to quickly determine who is using which techniques. It took us a while to realise that the group in Physics had the equipment they had, whereas if we had used Piirus, it would have been much quicker to type in the term and find them.' **Ian Hancox,** Postdoctoral Researcher in research group of Prof Tim Jones, Department of Chemistry, Warwick

How do I sign up to Piirus? It's quick, easy and free.

Step 1: Login - Simply go to www.piirus.com and login with your Warwick username and password.

Step 2: Create a profile - Set up a profile by summarising your research interests, research methods and methodology using the keywords suggested or completely new ones.

Step 3: Match – You will get a suggested list of potential collaborators based on your research interests; you can email them or add to your favourites list. Not quite right? You can search too by methodology, research field, interests and name.

Join today at www.piirus.com - Email at: hello@piirus.com

Follow us on Twitter @piirus_com

Update on the Connecting Cultures GRP

Connecting Cultures forms part of the University's Global Research Priorities programme and aims to bring together researchers from a range of disciplines around the broad theme of culture. The *Connecting Cultures* GRP is organised into several sub-themes (Cultural Value;

Cultures of Translation; Memory and Culture; Postcolonial Studies; Religion, Rights & Social Justice and Health and Culture).

You can read more about these and find out about existing collaborators at:

<http://go.warwick.ac.uk/connectingcultures>. We are actively seeking to develop these sub-themes and to work with researchers across the University, in order to support collaborations which transcend departmental and faculty boundaries.

The *Connecting Cultures* GRP can offer financial and organisational support to colleagues who want to develop new or existing collaborations. We are also keen to support the impact activities of colleagues whose research interests match the aims and focus of the GRP. Our current collaborators come from a range of disciplines and faculties, and many of the sub-themes are involved in organising conferences and other intellectual activities. Each of the sub-themes would welcome new collaborators to take part in these initiatives and to play a role in the development of the university's wider research community.

If you are interested in getting involved with the *Connecting Cultures* GRP, please contact Dr Jennifer Burns, Academic Lead by email (j.e.burns@warwick.ac.uk) You can also follow *Connecting Cultures* on Twitter @grpcultures



CONNECTING CULTURES

EVENTS AT WARWICK

Reminder—Research Staff Forum

The next meeting will be held on **25 February 2014 at 12-2pm** in the Research Exchange (buffet lunch included). Contact your department representative to raise an issue, or consider attending yourself.

Email L.Lavender@warwick.ac.uk for more information or to book a place.

Establishing Yourself: Productivity and People 28 February 2014— 9.30am to 4.30pm Vitae Midlands Hub Regional Pilot at Warwick

This course is aimed at research staff who aspire to become PIs or project team leaders and will cover the theme of being more productive and working more effectively with others through inclusion of specific training on:

- ⇒ Research Management: including time and task prioritisation skills
- ⇒ Working with Others: taking in information and communicating arguments effectively and cultural understanding
- ⇒ Taking the next step to become a professional effective researcher

For further information, or to book a place please visit:

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/establishing-yourself-productivity-and-people-for-research-staff-tickets-9749020583>

Demystifying the Promotion Process 13 March 2014, 12-3pm

This event will provide presentations from ‘experts’ on the promotion process plus Q&A sessions and lunch.

The seminar will take place in the MOAC Seminar Room (top floor of Senate House), for more details see: http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/insite/news/intnews2/promotion_process_2014

Research Ethics and Practice: 15–17 April 2014

CH973 Research Ethics and Practice will explore these issues through taught sessions, practical exercises, an assessed project and the opportunity to participate in the oversight of research ethics at the University.

PhD and post doctoral researchers in the Sciences and related disciplines are welcome to attend. The course can also be taken as a module for the Post Graduate Certificate in Transferable Skills in Science . For further details and to sign up visit: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/pioneers/pgcts/modules/#ethics>

LDC EVENTS

**** A number of new events have been added for the summer term ****
Please note that most of these events will not be repeated so book now: a new programme of development events is being devised for 2014/15.

Please select the course title from the list below to link to the booking site (if viewing the newsletter online) or visit the Programme of Events for Research Active Staff for details on all these events: http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/events_news/ras_events/

12 February 2014 *POSTPONED TO 4 June*
Academic Writing: Dissemination for Impact

27 February 2014
Statistics Seminar: Methods to Analyse Correlated Data

13 March 2014 *new date*
Statistics Seminar: Presenting Data

18 March 2014
Career Development: Creating a Digital Footprint

20 & 21 March 2014 / 26 & 27 June 2014
Academic Writing Away Days

1 May 2014 *new date*
Career Development: Writing a Short CV

6 May 2014
Publishing World Changing Research

8 May 2014 *new date*
Career Development: Practise Interviews

14 May 2014 *new date*
Academic Writing: Training Yourself to be a Prolific Writer

5 June 2014 *new date*
Career Development: Preparing CVs for non-research/non-academic jobs

NEWS FROM THE NETWORKS

Health Economics Journal Club

This new monthly network aims to bring together academics and research staff of all levels with an interest in economic evaluation, health technology appraisal, public health, health econometrics, modelling, mental health economics and more. It is a friendly and relaxed atmosphere where participants have the opportunity to discuss, critically appraise and reflect on the theme under discussion. The Journal Club will build up educational networking and promotion of health economics activity within the university and beyond.

The next meeting is on 26 February 2014, 11.00am

Room AO42, Medical School. Discussion theme: State preference studies. Those joining the club will receive monthly reminders about the meetings. For more information please contact Melina Dritsaki: M.S.Dritsaki@warwick.ac.uk

WMS Book & Journal Club

The Medical Statistics Book and Journal Club aims to offer an environment for researchers in medical statistics to discuss, debate and learn from their peers.

The next meeting is on 25 February, 11.00am

"Experimental designs". For further details visit:
<http://www.warwick.ac.uk/wmsbookclub>

Public Engagement Practitioners Network

This **new** network is for members of staff who engage in activities with unselected members of the public purely so those members of the public can enjoy and understand an academic subject or research outputs. The group will meet to share good practice and discuss questions such as 'How do I draw and keep a crowd at a festival?' and 'When I talk to all-comers about a technical subject, how do I make it accessible without dumbing down to the point of inaccuracy?' If you engage with the public in this way, please join the network: information on upcoming activities will be available soon. To join the network, visit:

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/statistics/staff/academic-research/barons/pepapplication>

Social Science and Discourse Analysis Research Network

The most recent network funding will support a two-day conference on **20-21 March, Room A1.11, Social Sciences Building.**
Discourse Studies in the Social Sciences: Towards a Dialogue Between Theory and Analysis.

An event designed to bring together discourse theorists and discourse analysts from within and outside Warwick. Confirmed external speakers include Jonathan Potter and Yannis Stavrakakis, with presenters from Law, Sociology, WBS and CAL at Warwick.

All presentations will be plenary format with plenty of opportunity for discussion ... further details to follow soon on the website.

Research Active Staff Networks

Applications are now CLOSED

All Funding is now allocated.

Research Staff Networks continue to develop active and innovative programmes of events.

So far this year, LDC funding has been granted to thirteen networks and a showcase event, meaning that all the £13,000 made available for the current year has been allocated.

We look forward to advertising, supporting and reporting on the continuing activities of all the networks currently funded.

If you would like to discuss network activities please contact Sandy Sparks:

Sandy.Sparks@warwick.ac.uk

For further information about the networks please visit: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/community/networks/>

Open Access support and funding available

OA support

If your department would like to know more about OA, please contact openaccessfund@warwick.ac.uk to ask the OA Officer, Helen Albrow for further information and/or a visit to your Department. Policy and other OA information can be found at: go.warwick.ac.uk/lib-researchers/authors

Funding

There is funding still available to support RCUK-funded outputs (journal articles and conference proceedings). For further details visit: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/library/staff/research/open-access-at-warwick>

Funding is allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, subject to RCUK OA Policy compliance.

Learn more about OA and WRAP

13 February 12-2pm, Wolfson Research Exchange

This session will discuss current OA policies and issues, along with information on WRAP. Places are limited, to book please email: openaccessfund@warwick.ac.uk