Opportunities from the Learning & Development Centre

Learning and Development Centre opportunities for training and development are for contracted Warwick staff.

Information on training and development opportunities for students can be found on the Student Careers and Skills website at:
http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/skills

The current Researcher workshop programme is available online and in pdf format at:
www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/earlycareerres/

Other learning & development opportunities that may be applicable to Research Staff are on the general programme:
www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/calendar/

Developments:

LDC – Early Career Research (ECR) staff plans for the next 12 months
In April, LDC met with the DVC & PVC for Research, to agree a strategic direction for plans to support the development of ECR staff to the end of Roberts' funding in July 2011. The suggestions and views of researchers expressed through the research staff forum and through individual and group conversations with researchers featured strongly in the discussion.
The agreed priorities for Roberts' funded activity to July 2011 are outlined below.

Firstly we agreed to develop the skills development programme for ECR staff around the following key themes:
* Research Skills
* Enterprise Skills
* Personal Effectiveness
* Leadership & Management Development
* Career Development (via Asaf Federman based in Careers)

Another focus will be providing enhanced information to ECR staff, to enable them to make informed choices. This will also allow LDC to continue to promote LDC offerings and resources available, allow us to engage effectively with ECR staff and other service departments, promote greater sharing of best practice and increase communication and feedback. Examples of this work include the monthly e-newsletter, e-portfolio and 1st stop shop website.

Roberts' funding for individuals and departments will continue, as before.

Focus Groups in June
The Researcher programme for the next academic year 2010/2011 is being developed and focus groups will be held in June to obtain information on what the researcher programme should contain. We need to know essential learning / skills training so it is anchored in what staff/ post docs/ supervisors and sponsors tell us they need.

Focus groups will be taking place on the following three dates:
15 June, 17 June and 22 June in the Research Exchange Room 1 from 12 – 2pm (lunch included). It would be great to have your involvement and input into the Research programme for next year.

Have your say - get involved!
If you are keen to be involved and want to attend a focus group please contact me. If you are unable to attend but would like to send in some ideas, please email sandy.sparks@warwick.ac.uk

May Workshops feedback:

The Enterprising Researcher – 6 May
"What it means to be enterprising in an academic context"
"Put the learning into my current research project and plan for future research"

Making & Defending your point – 10 May
"Providing a framework and defining elements such as argument structure and tips for presenting better"

Dealing with People in Difficult Situations – 11 May
"Some practical advice on how to have difficult conversations"

Practical Networking – 17 May
"Practical application" "Pitching ideas"

Interview Success – 18 May
"Use the information for preparing for interviews"
"Talking with others to discuss potential interview questions"

June Workshops (free to attend):

- **Project Management 2 for Research Staff -** 2 June, 9.15 – 4.45pm
  www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/projrptwo/
  A progression / the next level, following on from the first project management workshop session.
  What you will get out of it:
  - A more in-depth understanding of what is required in order to manage projects where people other than yourself are involved
  - A technique for establishing critical path
  - A thorough understanding of the 9 key plans for project management and the risks associated with each
  - 5 key tools for change management
  - Tools and techniques for managing people in projects

- **Looking beyond Academia –** 8 June, 12 – 2.30pm
  www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/beyondac/
  What you will get out of the session:
  - Understand how to "sell" your skills and experience to non academic employers
  - Develop a better knowledge of the non academic labour market
  - Being able to research career options using a range of resources
  - Knowing where to source vacancies

Opportunities from the Learning & Development Centre – cont'd

Funding opportunity for researchers:

Roberts' funding – individual applications approved:
Matthew Neufeld - Arranging a one-day Colloquium on 'The Useable Past in Seventeenth-Century England' on 23 October in the Wolfson Exchange.

For further information about individual or departmental funding opportunities, please see www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/funding/researchers/

There is a Window On Research session about Roberts' funding on 1 June.

Sessions taking place that are Roberts' funded include:

Public Lecture by Prof. Bruce Moran (University of Nevada)
1 & 2 July
Organised by Elaine Leong, History of Medicine
Thanks to Roberts' Funding, Professor Moran will lead two sessions designed for research staff.

1. **Alchemy and the History of Science (and medicine): Historiography and Controversy**
    Thursday 1 July, 3:00-5:00 pm
    Graduate/Early Career Seminar
    Bruce Moran (University of Nevada, Reno)
    Humanities Room 0.05

2. **Sky Islands, Cultural Practices, and the Reputation of Alchemy in Early Modern Europe**
    Friday 2 July, 5:00 pm
    Keynote Lecture
    Bruce Moran (University of Nevada, Reno)
    Wolfson Research Exchange

www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/chm/events/earlymodern/
Both events are free and open to all staff and students.
Please email Siobhan Watts at s.watts@warwick.ac.uk to register (for catering purposes). Professor Moran has assigned some background readings for the grad student/early career seminar which will be available through Siobhan closer to the time.

'Translating Theatre: Migrating Text(s)' Conference
12 June with Annunziata Videtta, Italian Department
Venue: CAPITAL Centre, Milburn House
Organisers: Annunziata Videtta, Cristina Marinetti, Alessandra De Martino Cappuccio

All welcome to attend and University of Warwick research staff especially welcome! To register for the conference please contact Kerry Drakeley: K.J.Drakeley@warwick.ac.uk
The provisional programme and registration form can be found at: www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/
Registration fee: waged £25 and unwaged £15 (including refreshments and lunch).

Interface 2010: Humanities & Technology Conference
15 - 16 July
Organised by Silvester Czanner, WMG
Venue: International Digital Lab, University of Warwick
www.interface2010.org.uk/
Primarily meant for new researchers who wish to collaborate.

Focus on: Library Support for Research Staff by Jenny Delasalle, Academic Support Manager (Research)

The Library is a great source of help for your research. Not only have we got the fantastic Wolfson Research Exchange where you can hold events and work collaboratively using the latest video conferencing and other equipment but we also have lots of expertise to offer through our website, training sessions and one-to-one appointments. Librarians are experts at using our collection of specialist online resources to find the most up-to-date and relevant research in your field. Our Academic Support team also offers advice on reference management, including using EndNote Web software and we can help you to understand citation measurements, as well as the basics of copyright and publishing initiatives like Open Access. Keep an eye out for our Window on Research sessions and training sessions in your department. To find out more, please visit the library's web-pages for research support: http://go.warwick.ac.uk/lib-researchers

If you have ideas for how the Library can support your research, you can contact Jenny at: j.delasalle@warwick.ac.uk.
Alternatively, get in touch with the wider team, please see our contact details at: http://go.warwick.ac.uk/lib-ascontacts

Further opportunities within Warwick

Windows on Research – WoR
go.warwick.ac.uk/researchexchange/wor

Upcoming sessions:

*   **Roberts' Funding -** 1 June, 12pm
*   **Promising Patents and Successful Spinouts: making an impact with your research -** 9 June, 12.30pm
*   **Journal publication and bibliometrics -** 10 June, 12pm
*   **Modern Records Centre resources - an untapped seam...?** - 24 June, 12.30pm
*   **My Profile -** 29 June, 12.30pm

IT courses on eg. SPSS / Nvivo8 / End Note / Sitebuilder etc
www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/its/servicessupport/training/calendar
The IT Services Training Team can provide free training courses to groups of ten or more delegates, when conducted during standard working hours. Training is available in any of the non-chargeable courses published in the Course Catalogue. This service is subject to the availability of training resources at the time of booking. For further information contact The Training Team on ext 75276. For a full list of courses please go to:
www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/its/servicessupport/training/

Opportunities outside Warwick

Vitae - Information for Research staff, see http://vitae.ac.uk/researchers/1269/Research-staff.html

Some courses that may be useful to Research Staff are:

- Women in SET - 22 September, Loughborough University
  www.vitae.ac.uk/policy-practice/916-231251/Women-in-SET-Loughborough-University-.html

- Project Management in the Real World for Research Staff – 15 November
  http://www.vitae.ac.uk/policy-practice/916-205141/Project-Management-in-the-Real-World--for-Research-Staff.html

Feedback from an attendee of a recent external workshop:

UK Council for Graduate Education (UKCGE): Research Ethics Workshop: Research Ethics "Toolkit" for Research Supervisors and Research Managers - 13 May, National Railway Museum Conference Centre, York
By Kate Hughes, Project Director - Research Governance Warwick Medical School

"The workshop was focussed around the essentials of a toolkit for the development and delivery of training in ethics – an essential component of research governance. The context for research governance and ethics in the UK is that it is in a state of continuous change, involving a complex of policies, laws, initiatives and values, and there is recognisable resistance, for example, to the perceived burdensome bureaucracy and concerns about academic freedom.
Training in this field should have its basis in the promotion of good research governance and recognising the inherent complexities, it should dissolve misconceptions and aid participants in navigating conflicting priorities. This means developing awareness of issues in tandem with practical knowledge of processes and the substance of research ethics as a field. Risk is also an important component in research.
Basic topics for training should include: consent; risk management and harm avoidance; confidentiality; disclosure (prior and subsequent); conflicts of interest; regulated materials (e.g. human tissue); publication ethics; internet use; categories of misconduct (fabrication, falsification, plagiarism); questionable research practices; collaborative working; use of funding; intellectual property and knowledge transfer; supervision; peer review systems and publication; research dissemination and communication. A diversity of training delivery modes was recommended, with a key focus being given to participants working through case studies, either individually or in groups."

Useful information and links

- **School of Advanced Study courses** - www.sas.ac.uk/fileadmin/documents/events/sas_eventsbrochure_april_august_2010_01.pdf
  see p63/64 for the more research relevant course (courses very much humanities and soc studies focussed)

- **Research Excellence Framework (REF)**
  consultation outcomes – www.hefce.ac.uk/pubs/circlets/2010/cl04_10/
  information - www.hefce.ac.uk/research/ref/

- **Statutory right to training time launched 6 April 2010** – The University's policy on right to time off for training has been agreed and will be published shortly. In essence, under the Employment Rights Act 1996, eligible employees will be able to formally request time away from their core duties to undertake training which will help them develop specific skills relevant to their job.

  Look out for the University's policy. A quick overview of the legislation can be found at:
  www.direct.gov.uk/en/Employment/Employees/Timeoffandholidays/DG_183635

- RCUK Statement of Expectations Regarding Researcher Development
  www.rcuk.ac.uk/rescareer/rcdu/training.htm see Statement of Expectations

  The RCUK statement is intended to inform you of the attached statement of expectations regarding researcher development that has been agreed by all seven Research Councils, namely:
  "Recover funds to support researcher development from all funders of research and research students"

- New CIHE report "Absorbing Research" about the impact of research and business collaborations
  http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/news/100520.htm

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