

If you have news or information that you want included in the monthly e-newsletter for research staff, for example events you are organising or want promoting, or that your network or group is doing, please contact **Sandy** (sandy.sparks@warwick.ac.uk x74121)

Opportunities from the Learning & Development Centre

Learning & Development Centre opportunities for training and development are for contracted Warwick Research Staff.

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers>

The LDC Research Staff Development Programme is available on the website: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/#rp>

Workshops

Workshop	Date
Presenting your research to different audiences	15 June
Teambuilding / Belbin	21 June
Two Day Writing Camp (publications)	22 & 23 June
Looking Beyond Academia	28 June
Funding Council Priorities and Schemes - Social Science Faculty	30 June
Presenting your research to different audiences	5 July
Presenting your research to different audiences	14 July
Two Day Writing Camp (publications or bid writing)	7 & 8 September
Academic Writing Programme - Workshop 1	20 October
Academic Writing Programme - Workshop 2	3 November
Academic Writing Programme - Workshop 3	17 November

If there are any bespoke workshops for departments or groups of research staff that you are interested in, please contact Sandy to discuss (sandy.sparks@warwick.ac.uk x 74121)

The Researcher Programme for Sept - Dec 2011 is being developed, please let Sandy know your ideas and development needs.

Academic Writing Programme.

The programme aims to support Post Doc /Early Career Researchers who wish to develop writing strategies to generate publications from active research.

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/acawrite/>

Booking is available for the following Academic Writing offerings:

- *One to One sessions*

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/acawrite/booking/>

- *Workshops*

Workshop 1 - **20 October 2011**

Workshop 2 - **3 November 2011**

Workshop 3 - **17 November 2011**

Booking form: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/acawrite/bookingworkshops/>

- *2 Day Writing Camp*

22 - 23 June 2011

7 - 8 September 2011

Booking form: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/acawrite/bookingworkshops/>

The LDC General Programme

Other Learning & Development Centre offers that may be valuable to Research Staff are on the general programme

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/calendar/>

Funding opportunity for researchers:

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

Please note the RCUK have approved the extension of Roberts' funding being used until 31 December 2011. Just 7 months to go!

<< From May to Dec 2011 - Total Funding available = £120k >>

Funding used
£22k

Funding remaining
£98k

The focus of Roberts' funding is on sharing best practice, so in your applications please include how you plan to share best practice. It is essential that you are a research staff employee at the time of application and at the time of the event as well as being able to share best practice after the event.

Priority for Roberts' funding will be given to best practice sharing events. Support for conference attendance can be offered when applications emphasize dissemination of learning and best practice and identify ways of achieving this.

Roberts' funding individual & departmental grants total = £167K

Previous applications can be viewed at:

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/rfapps/>

- Arts Faculty - x23 applications = £32K
- Social Science Faculty - x28 applications = £27K
- Science Faculty - x67 Applications = £91K
- Medicine - x22 applications = £18K

Roberts' funding – individual applications approved during May:

- Oleg Palygin, Life Sciences - £800 towards visiting and giving an invited talk at the Davis Heart & Lung Research Institute, Columbus University, USA, 26 – 29 May 2011.
- Helena Wright, Life Sciences - £1000 towards attending and presenting at the 11th Bacterial Genetics & Ecology Conference, Greece, 29 May – 2 June 2011.
- Semen Gorfman, Physics - £700 towards giving an invited talk at the Conference on Crystal Chemistry, Russia, June 2011.
- Alessandra De Martino Cappuccio - £450 towards attending and presenting at the conference 'Naples Crucible of the World 2: A Foreign Perspective', Italy, 3 – 4 June 2011.
- Rohit Bhagat, WMG - £1000 towards attending and presenting at Molten Salts 9 Conference, Norway, 5 – 10 June 2011.

Opportunities from the Learning & Development Centre - cont'd

- Oleg Palygin, Life Sciences - £350 towards attending and presenting at the V Congress of the Ukrainian Society for Neuroscience, Ukraine, 6 – 10 June 2011.
 - Yuxin Yang, IAS - £1000 towards attending the 35th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications, Mexico, 10 – 28 June 2011.
 - Rohit Bhagat, WMG - £1000 towards attending and presenting at Ti-2011 Conference, China, 17 – 25 June 2011.
 - Rohit Bhagat, WMG - £1000 towards visiting Xi'an University to explore opportunities for collaboration, China, 25 June – 2 July 2011.
 - David Woodward, Physics - £986 towards attending EMF2011 (European Meeting on Ferroelectricity), France, 26 June – 1 July 2011
 - Nick Vaughan-Williams / Karina Pawlowska, PAIS - £1205 towards organising a workshop 'Resilient Futures: The Politics of Preventive Security', Scarman House, 27 – 28 June 2011.
 - Stuart Coles, WMG - £800 towards attending ICCS 16 (International Conference on Composite Structures), Portugal, 28 – 30 June 2011.
 - Carole Spary / Nick Vaughan-Williams, PAIS - £1420 towards organising a networking lunch and workshop (for the Performance and Politics Research Network), plus development of a group website, Scarman House – 29 June 2011.
 - Catherine Coveney, Sociology - £740 towards attending the Brocher/Hastings Summer Academy on 'Human Enhancement: Medical, Ethical and Legal Implications', Switzerland, 4 – 8 July 2011.
 - Ana Sanchez-Fuentes, Physics - £750 towards attending and giving an invited oral presentation at the International Conference on Electron Nanoscopy & XXXII Annual Meeting of EMSI, India, 6 – 8 July 2011.
 - Jane Hutton / Christopher Jewell, Statistics - £525 to support Postdoctoral Fellows participating in a Leadership & Teambuilding event, Derbyshire, 8 – 10 July 2011.
 - Antje Lindenmeyer, HSRI, WMS - £690 towards organising a workshop on kinship & family health histories, Warwick, mid-July.
 - Susan Burrows, Physics - £1000 towards attending and presenting at Review of Progress in Quantitative Non-Destructive Evaluation Conference, USA, 17 – 22 July 2011.
 - Richard Savage, Systems Biology Centre - £1000 towards attending the Fourth Conference on Artificial General Intelligence, USA, 3 – 6 August 2011.
 - Emmanouil Gkeredakis, IKON, WBS - £1000 towards attending and presenting at The Academy of Management 2011 Conference, USA, 12 – 16 August 2011.
 - Dinu Iuga, Physics - £1000 towards attending the EUROMAR 2011 Conference, Frankfurt, 21 – 25 August 2011.
 - Marc Walker, Physics - £915 towards attending and presenting at the 28th European Conference on Surface Science, Poland, 28 August – 2 September 2011.
 - Claire Balmer, WMS - £928 towards arranging 3 workshops for study participants using Photovoice, WMS, Poole & London, August – November 2011.
 - Darren Hughes, WMG - £960 towards attending and presenting at the 6th International Conference on Mechanical Stress Evaluation by Neutrons and Synchrotron Radiation, Germany, 7 – 9 September 2011.
 - Christopher Jewell, Statistics - £1000 towards attending and giving an invited talk at the GeoMED2011 Conference, Canada, 20 – 22 October 2011.
- Feedback from Roberts' Funded Events**
To read some reports from colleagues who have recently attended Roberts' funded events go to: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/rfeedback/>
- Feedback from John Burden. Development Day - 18th May**
The first Faculty of Science and School of Medicine Fellowships day took place in late May. The event was organised as part of the university's commitment to research excellence and to offering the best possible opportunity for outstanding early-career researchers to become the world-leading academics of the future.
- The event featured presentations and discussion sessions with existing fellowship holders, academic referees and research support staff looking at the factors that can affect the success of a fellowship application. The event was attended by over sixty people, including a number of people from outside Warwick who are looking to bring fellowships here. Slides from the presentations and further information on sources of fellowship funding are available on the event website. http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/rss/funding/external/fellowships_open_day
- Sessions taking place that are Roberts' funded and open to Research Staff include:**
- **2 June 2011**, One day symposium 'Spirituality Identities in Literature; An Inter-faith perspective', IAS Seminar Room. Organised by Arina Cirstea, Institute of Advanced Studies.
 - **20 June 2011**, International workshop on 'State, Society and Politics in Changing Turkey'. IAS Seminar Room. Contact Gulcin Lelandais for further information: G.Lelandais@warwick.ac.uk
 - **27 - 28 June 2011**, Workshop 'Resilient Futures: The Politics of Preventive Security', Scarman House. Contact Nick Vaughan-Williams / Karina Pawlowska, PAIS for further information. N.Vaughan-Williams@warwick.ac.uk, K.Pawlowska@warwick.ac.uk
 - **Mid-July**. Workshop on 'Kinship and Family Health Histories' at Warwick. Contact Antje Lindenmeyer for further information: Antje.Lindenmeyer@warwick.ac.uk
 - **10 October 2011**. Meeting for RAPS/RAMS and Macrogroup at Scarman House. Contact Helen Willcock for further information: H.Willcock@warwick.ac.uk
 - **WMG Researcher Network**. Liaise with Vanessa Goodship for further information. <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/withinwarwick/>
 - **Arts Faculty** provision ongoing <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/postdocs/>
 - **Statistics department events. 27 April - 17 Dec Bi-monthly seminar series** - Partial Differential Equations & Geometry, Mathematics Dept. http://www.warwick.ac.uk/~masiai/Geom_PDE.html
 - **WMG Researcher Seminars**. International Digital Laboratory. Liaise with Rebecca Cain for further information: R.Cain.1@warwick.ac.uk <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/wmg/research/researchseminars>

Further opportunities within Warwick

Women Researchers in the Science Faculty

As part of the Athena Swan project, LDC is organising 2 focus groups on the challenges of career progression and in particular in promotion to leadership roles for women in STEM departments.

We are inviting women in academic and research roles to contribute to the debate by coming along to one of 2 focus groups in the summer term and will feed back a summary of issues raised to the Athena Swan project.

The dates are:

- Thursday 16 June 12.30 to 2.30, in the Library's Research Exchange (lunch will be provided)
- Tuesday 12 July, 12.30 to 2.30, in the Library's Research Exchange (lunch will be provided)

If you are interested in taking part, please email Sharon Neal on s.f.neal@warwick.ac.uk to register your interest for the date you prefer. More information on the Athena Swan project can be found at: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/insite/newsandevents/intnews2/athenaswan2010>

Research Staff Forum – Next meeting 27 June 2011
<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/forum>

IT Services Training Courses for Research Staff
http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/its/servicessupport/training/course_cat/teaching_research

Library

- **Website** - The Wolfson Research Exchange have launched their new website which includes guides on many topics, all written by researchers. See forthcoming events of interest to researchers and contribute your profile to their community pages. Find out more at: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/library/researchexchange>

- **Next Researcher to Researcher event: New media...new problems?** Wednesday 29 June, 17.00, Wolfson Research Exchange, Seminar Room 3.

Greg Crawford (Professor - Economics and former Chief Economist, U.S. media regulator [FCC]), Eric Jensen (Assistant Professor - Sociology) and Chris Bilton (Director - Centre for Cultural Policy) are the panel for this session on new media which will stimulate debate across a wide set of issues, including ownership, de-centring of authorship and the 'fifth' estate. Wine and nibbles will be served. To find out more about the session email f.h.colligan@warwick.ac.uk or register for the event. Full details at: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/wor>

- Research Data Management - a short questionnaire

Are you making the most of your research output, the data you generate to prove a hypothesis, record an experiment and publish new knowledge? Production of research data is increasing at an exponential rate in all disciplines. The UK's Digital Curation Centre (DCC) exists to help equip you with the knowledge and techniques for managing electronic data. DCC can provide guidance and tools for assessing your data's asset value or advice on how to plan for its long-term accessibility and use, as well as help you meet the increasingly rigorous data planning obligations set by research funding agencies. DCC are running a survey and would be grateful if you could take the time to complete a short (10-15 minutes maximum) questionnaire at https://www.survey.ed.ac.uk/dcc_market which is designed to elicit your perception of data management practices, your experience of national data management programmes and your knowledge about the DCC and its work.

Opportunities outside Warwick

Vitae

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

Vitae Course / Events <http://www.vitae.ac.uk/researchers/337551/Courses-and-events.html>

- 21 June, London - Making an Impact: Getting into Policy & Practice

<http://www.vitae.ac.uk/researchers/56271-297091/Making-an-Impact-Getting-Research-into-Policy-and-Practice.html>

- 8 -10 August, Warwick University - Leadership in Action course

Apply for Roberts' Funding to cover the £50 fee

<http://www.vitae.ac.uk/researchers/56271-393481/Leadership-in-Action.html>

- 25 October, Warwick University - Focus on...Institutional Approaches to Engaging PIs and Supervisors

<http://www.vitae.ac.uk/researchers/56271-337181/New-Date-Focus-on-Institutional-Approaches-to-Engaging-PIs-and-Supervisors.html>

RCUK Delivery Plan - <http://www.ukcge.ac.uk/news/latestnews/RCUK+Delivery+Plan>

UK Council for Graduate Education - <http://www.ukcge.ac.uk/events/>

British Library

The Growing Knowledge exhibition demonstrates the vision for future digital research services at the British Library, and provide a test bed for the evaluation of digital research tools and services that have the potential to support researchers' needs. The exhibition consists of a number of features including digital signage, video demonstrations, interactive welcome animations and a prototype 'Researcher's tabletop' application. www.growingknowledge.bl.uk/

Salford Postgraduate Annual Research Conference (SPARC)

8 - 9 June 2011, University of Salford. SPARC is free to attend and is open to postgraduate researchers and research staff from all universities, different subject areas and at any stage of their research. It is really an ideal place for researchers to share practices, explore new ideas, present and promote research to new audiences. We are inviting a wide range of presentation formats.

<http://www.vitae.ac.uk/policy-practice/916-337681/Salford-Postgraduate-Annual-Research-Conference-SPARC.html>

Research Staff Profiles

Semën Gorfman / Post doctoral researcher / Physics



Role: My research work is mostly concerned with the investigation of microscopic origin of physical properties in crystals.

Life before Warwick

Graduated from the Physics Department of Chelyabinsk State University, Russia. PhD Student at the University of Potsdam (later University

of Siegen) in Germany.

Post doctoral and teaching assistant at the University of Siegen in Germany.

Best things about working at Warwick

In many aspects University of Warwick is an ideal place to work at. I appreciate the lively and international atmosphere on campus, excellent equipment and a great variety of research areas. University of Warwick provides a unique opportunity to learn and develop, and possibility to get / share the experience with other people working here. There are also plenty of opportunities for active life outside the laboratory.

Worst thing about working for Warwick or If you could change one thing at Warwick, what would it be?

It is rather unfortunate that the University of Warwick does not have any traditions, that other British universities, such as Oxford or Cambridge, are so well known for outside Britain. Although there is a huge potential to collaborate and to learn what the other research groups are doing, it is still not fully realized. Events where members of the department exchange their ideas are organized quite rarely and should be done more often.

What would you dream job be?

Working in a similar atmosphere to that of the University of Warwick but with a more pronounced role and research direction. Teaching (reasonable amount, leaving enough space for doing research) is an absolutely necessary element of the work.

Research interest

Physical and X-ray crystallography. I work on the investigation of fine features of atomic structures of novel ferroelectric materials, relating the structure with macroscopic physical properties.

What have been useful training/ development to date

I find the workshops organized by the Learning and Development Centre very useful. It was also a good experience to write my first grant proposal for the EPSRC career acceleration fellowship. Whilst preparing the proposal I was interacting with the Research Support Service team and got some useful advice on how to write my own grant. The knowledge will help me a lot in future.

Other roles (eg. peer review journals)

In the years 2009 and 2010, I was giving two lecture courses on foundations of crystallography for the Midlands Physics Alliance Graduate School (MPAGS). The lectures were given to postgraduate students of the Universities of Warwick, Birmingham and Nottingham. I have also been a referee for beam time proposals at the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility.

Next bid/ grant

My next grant should support my own project, devoted to the time-resolved X-ray diffraction study of ferro and piezoelectric crystals under applied electric field.

Latest academic writing publication(journal/ book etc)

Our paper in the Journal of Applied Crystallography has been

published in December 2010 and has already been cited three times since then. Another paper has been submitted to the Physical Review Letters and is currently under review.

Looking for?

Improving my skills in writing academic publications and research grant proposals

Major achievement to date

I am proud of a few invited talks I gave at international conferences, and my own compact lecture course on crystallography I have developed for my teaching at Warwick.

Three top tips / learning

- Take every possible opportunity to give an oral presentation about your work.
- Devote enough time to learn what other people at your department are doing.
- Being involved in teaching is the most efficient way to learn something new.

Nana Zhang / Leverhulme Early Career Fellow / Department of Sociology



Current project

'Children in rural-urban migration in China'

Research interest

Labour and migration, children in migration contemporary China, guanxi networks in China.

Profile

I obtained my PhD from Sociology Department, the University of Warwick.

My PhD research, funded by Warwick Postgraduate Research Fellowship and Overseas Research Students Awards Scheme (ORSAS), was centred on women in rural-urban migration in contemporary China.

In 2009, I was awarded an ESRC Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, working on the identity and belonging construction of rural women migrants in China, with special focus on how language was used by rural migrant women in negotiating their identities and belongings in the migration process.

From September 2010, I will be joining the Department as a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow. During the fellowship, I will work on a new project 'Children in Rural-urban Migration in China'. Bridging childhood studies and migration studies, this interdisciplinary project will explore children's experiences, agency, needs and resilience in migration and the impact of migration on their well-being.

About the project

China's fast economic development in recent years has amazed the world. While China's 145 million rural migrants have been toiling in the 'world's factory' to produce this miracle, their children, exceeding 78 million, are enduring social and cultural marginalization, discrimination and exclusion from the education, health care and social welfare systems in the cities as well as in the countryside. Although there are increasing numbers of studies done in China on migrant children in recent years, few studies explore children's agency or voices or understand migration and displacement from children's perspective. Because most of this research focuses only on one point of the migration chain (either origin or destination), mainly based on questionnaires and surveys, the analytical vantage point of the available data only reveals the disadvantages faced by migrant children. This results in an extremely negative and fragmented discourse on children in migration in China.

Research Staff Profiles - cont'd

Built on the strengths of childhood studies and migration studies, this project employs a child-centred approach to explore the experiences, agency, needs, resilience and aspirations of rural migrant children in China and the impact of migration on their well-being throughout the entire migration process – pre-migration, the migration journey, settlement and return migration. The research will greatly benefit rural migrant children and their families, and enhance the capacity of policy makers, institutions and researchers in developing effective policies and programmes to mitigate negative effects of migration on rural migrant children and improve their wellbeing.

Janet Goodall / Research Fellow / Institute of Education



Current research

A review of best practice in parental engagement
Parental belief and Parental engagement in children's learning

Life before Warwick

I'm a transplanted American, having done my undergraduate work in San Francisco (theology) and in Rome (spirituality). I married and settled in England, and first worked in administration at the University of Nottingham. From that post, I moved into educational research and then came to Warwick in 2004.

Best things about working at Warwick

The best thing about working at Warwick is the group of colleagues I work with; the research and teaching focus means that there are always ideas being shared, always something to learn from someone.

Worst thing about working for Warwick or If you could change one thing at Warwick, what would it be?

I think I would like more collaboration across faculties – it's beginning to happen but it's so useful I'd be happy if there were to be more of it.

What people are surprised to learn about me.....

I collect a certain genre of conspiracy books because they amuse me so much, perhaps?

What would you dream job be?

A research focused post that allowed me to teach without having to do much marking, I think!

Research interest

Parental engagement in children's learning; this has been a focus for some years but I'm now moving into it more deeply in relation to parents' religious/faith beliefs, or lack of them, and how that affects their interactions with children's learning. Previous research has shown it has an effect on children's educational outcomes but we don't know why, we don't know what different groups of parents are doing differently, or why.

What have been useful training/ development to date

We've had some research away days, where colleagues can talk about research opportunities, submit articles or bids for comment, and hear updates from the research support team. Those have been very useful.

I also find attending conferences to be a very good means of development; it allows me to meet people I'd never meet otherwise

and to be spurred to think down new avenues.

Other roles (eg. peer review journals)

I've acted as a peer reviewer for:

Journal of School Leadership

AERA (American Educational Research Association)

BERA (British Educational Research Association)

Educational Research

School Effectiveness and School Improvement

I'm a member of the National Home School Development Board

and was a member of the Department for Children, Schools and Families Parental Engagement Consultative Group

Next bid / grant

I have bid for development funds (from Warwick) to kick start the research around Parental Beliefs and Parental Engagement; with a colleague, I've also bid for a project looking at leadership among free schools.

With another colleague, I will bid for a project looking at homeschooling in the UK.

Latest academic writing publication

I have a wide range of interests, and my latest publication isn't really related to education at all, Goodall, J., (2010) "Superstition and Human Agency", *Implicit Religion*, Vol 13, No. 3

The last one relating to education came from the work I did with colleagues at Warwick on federations of schools, Chapman, Lindsay, Muijis, Harris, Arweck, Goodall, (2010), "Governance, leadership, and management in federations of schools", *School Effectiveness and School Improvement*, Vol. 21, No. 1, pgs 53 - 74.

Major achievement to date

I think I'm proudest of the work we did on parental engagement, both for the DCSF (now DfE), and for Save the Children. On the basis of a literature review we did for them and the recommendations we made on the basis of the review, Save the Children funded the Families and Schools Together Programme as a pilot in the UK, and is now rolling it out on a wide scale. I recently found out that my son has been volunteering in the programme, in Manchester – someone had suggested it to him as a good way into working with schools!

Three top tips / learning

- You really can do it – no matter how much it seems that you can't.
- Even the most eminent scholars sometimes have journal articles rejected; there's always somewhere else you can try to publish it!
- We all got into this line of work because we wanted to make things better – it's easy to lose sight of that but it's important to remember!

