

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
Technologies for Research: Focus on Funding	10 May
Looking Beyond Academia	17 May
Teamworking and Team Dynamics	21 June
Academic Writing Workshop 2	24 May

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 Summer 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, 24 May

A few places are still available on the 24 May workshop.
<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/acawrite/bookingworkshops/>

We are planning to run another Academic Writing programme for the summer term if there is sufficient demand. Please register your interest for this and the September / October programme here:
<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/acawrite/bookingworkshops/>

Promote Yourself Workshop

We are planning on running another Promote Yourself programme for research staff whose contracts may be ending over the summer if there is sufficient demand. Please register your interest: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/promote/>

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 8 months to go!

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 = £144K

Previous applications can be viewed at:
<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/rfapps/>

- Arts Faculty - x22 applications = £31K
- Social Science Faculty - x25 applications = £23K
- Science Faculty - x39 Applications = £74K
- Medicine - x20 applications = £16K

Roberts' funding – individual applications approved during March:

- Kurt Debattista / Rebecca Cain / Silvester Czanner, WMG - £4000 towards running a series of WMG research seminars, International Digital Laboratory, 15 April – 15 December 2011.
- Huy Nguyen / Melanie Rupflin / Miaomiao Zhu, Mathematics - £5000 towards organising a bi-weekly seminar series – Partial Differential Equations and Geometry, Mathematics Department, April – December 2011.
- Semen Gorfman, Physics - £700 towards visiting the Structural Physics Group at the University of Barcelona to give a seminar talk, Barcelona, May 2011.
- Sian Taylor-Phillips, WMS - £997 towards collaborative visits to the Universities of Pittsburgh and Arizona, USA, 14 – 25 May 2011.
- Krzysztof Latuszynski, Statistics - £1000 towards attending 'Greek Stochastics Gamma Meeting' and 'Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis' to give a short course & talk, Crete and Rome, 29 May – 11 June 2011.
- Charlotte Scarff, Life Sciences - £1000 towards attending and presenting at the 59th ASMS Conference on Mass Spectrometry and Allied Topics, USA, 4 – 9 June 2011.

Opportunities from the Learning & Development Centre - cont'd

- Letizia Gramaglia, Caribbean Studies - £227 towards attending and presenting at the International Conference on Health, Illness and Ethnicity, University College Dublin, 9 – 11 June 2011.
- Leon Danon, Life Sciences - £850 towards a visit to Iceland to meet and collaborate with the Icelandic Directorate of Health, Siminn and the University of Reykjavik, Iceland, 16 – 22 June 2011.
- Helen Willcock, Chemistry - £600 towards attending and giving oral and poster presentations at the European Polymer Congress 2011, Spain, 26 June – 1 July 2011.
- Duncan Adam, Institute for Employment Research - £432 towards attending the Welfare to Work Convention 2011, Manchester, 30 June – 1 July 2011.
- Letizia Gramaglia, Caribbean Studies – £230 towards hosting and interviewing writer Shani Mootoo during the conference 'Beyond Calypso', Warwick, 2 July 2011.
- Dean Machin, Philosophy - £1000 towards organising the Annual Conference of Legal and Social Philosophy, Social Studies, 4 – 6 July 2011.
- Kody Law, Mathematics - £1000 towards organisation of and presentation at a mini symposium during the 7th International Congress on Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Canada, 18 – 22 July 2011.
- Gabriela Czanner, Statistics - £1100 towards attending and presenting a poster at the Joint Statistical Meeting 2011, USA, 30 July – 4 August 2011.
- Wei Yang, Statistics - £1000 towards attending the 5th International Conference on Stochastic Analysis and its application, Germany, 5 – 9 September 2011.
- Leo Calvo-Bado, Life Sciences - £1000 towards attending a Human and Veterinary Vaccinology course, Oxford, 31 October – 4 November 2011.
- Andrew Taylor, Life Sciences - £1000 towards attending the 6th International Symposium on Edible Alliaceae, Japan, late 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/>

Sessions taking place that are Roberts' funded and open to Research Staff include:

- **4 May 2011**, 11.30-12.30 (followed by lunch), Room A-041, WMS, Medical School Building
Dr Jordi Quoidbach, Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Psychology, Harvard University, USA. Seminar title: "The Price of Awesomeness: Outstanding Life Experiences Impair Savouring"
For further information or to book a place, contact Dr Anca Alba: anca.alba@warwick.ac.uk
- **11 May 2011** - International Theatre Conference: 'Empowering Marginalized Voice in Theatre. The Case of Italy & beyond' Department of Italian - Alessandro De Martino Cappuccio & Paula Toninato - Organising a research event. Open to staff to attend. <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/withinwarwick/>
- **May 2011, Social Science Festival**, <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/festival/>
- **WMG Researcher Network**. Liaise with Vanessa Goodship for further information. <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/withinwarwick/>
- **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
- **10 October 2011**. Meeting for RAPS/RAMS and Macrogroup at Scarman House. Contact Helen Willcock for further information: H.Willcock@warwick.ac.uk
- **Arts Faculty** provision ongoing <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/postdocs/>
- **Statistics department events. 27 April - 17 Dec Bi-weekly 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

Further opportunities within Warwick

The Researcher Community

The next network leads meeting is on 13th May 2011. If you want to tell us about your researcher network, please let us know.

Focus on:

The Education Researcher Network

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

WMG Researcher Network

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

Research Staff Forum – do you have a faculty representative? <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

IT services training schedule for Spring 2011: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/its/servicessupport/training/>

Faculty of Science and School of Medicine Fellowships Day
18 May, 11am - 1pm, Warwick Mathematics Institute
http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/ias/prf/2010/vasquez/workshop/

Opportunities outside Warwick

JSPS London Short-Term Award

Call for Applications with Fellowships to Start Between November 2011 to the end of March 2012
Closing Date: 17:30, Wednesday 1 June, 2011

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 cooperative research with leading research groups at Japanese Universities and Institutions. The programme is designed to provide researchers with first-hand experience of the research and living environment in Japan. Eligible research fields are not limited: computer, engineering, health, biological, life, natural and physical sciences, mathematics, humanities and social sciences etc.

http://www.jspso.org/funding/fellow_short.html

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>

- Advancing in Academia, 12 September 2011 - An interactive one day event that provides research staff with the opportunity to explore and develop some of the skills, knowledge, experience and attributes required to advance an academic career. If you would like to be notified when additional activities for research staff in 2011 are added to our website please email courses@vitae.ac.uk adding 'research staff 2011' in the subject line.

RCUK events - <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/

Research Staff Profile: Nick Monk, Research Fellow, Institute for Advanced Teaching and Learning.



At present, researching interdisciplinary pedagogies.

Life before Warwick

Academic Writing Tutor, Rutgers, New Jersey, US. Before that, a manager in the construction industry.

Best things about working at Warwick

We have great freedom to experiment in teaching and research.

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

More money in the system and more job security would be nice.

What people are surprised to learn about me...

I used to run building sites.

What would you dream job be?

The one I have, with twice the money, half the hours, and a contract until I retire!

Research interest

'Third spaces' between ideas, disciplines, but most importantly, between research and teaching. I also have an edited collection out in July on Cormac McCarthy.

What have been useful training/ development to date

We don't spend enough time as researchers just sharing our

experiences. I've most enjoyed the kind of training that allows this to happen in ways that are structured and productive, but allow a degree of freedom. I really enjoyed the recent sessions on networking and 'brainstorming' organised for research staff.

Other roles (eg. peer review journals)

I review book proposals for Intellect Books, and review published books for the Journal of the British Association of American Studies.

Next bid/ grant

I don't know exactly, but something to do with the 'big society' perhaps? Or not!

Latest academic writing publication(journal/ book etc)

Monk, Nicholas, Carol Chillington Rutter, Jonathan Neelands, Jonathan Heron. Open-space Learning: a Transdisciplinary Pedagogy. London: Bloomsbury Academic: 2011.

Major achievement to date

I'm proud of my books, but proudest of my Warwick Award for Teaching Excellence in 2009.

Three top tips / learning

- To paraphrase Plutarch, 'the mind does not require filling like a bottle, but kindling like a fire'.
- 'Genuine education comes about through experience'. (John Dewey)
- 'Fail again, fail better' (Samuel Beckett).

Research Staff Profile: **Dr Harbinder Sandhu, Assistant Professor, Institute of Clinical Education, Warwick Medical School**



Role: Health Psychology module lead for the MBChB undergraduate medical degree.

Current research: Preparing research proposals exploring communication between clinician and patients in chronic pain consultations with an aim to improve behaviour change in patients and improve patient outcomes

Life before Warwick

Before starting at Warwick I had just completed my MSc in Health psychology at Coventry University. It was during this time and completing my dissertation that I started to develop an interest in communication (doctor-patient interaction) research. My dissertation explored the impact of clinician gender effects in breaking bad news consultations. This involved analysing videotaped consultations using a valid and reliable coding tool which needed a lot of self-training in order to code accurately. Having completed my MSc I then applied for a research post within Warwick Medical School funded by Warwick & Coventry Primary Care Research (WC-PCR) and in particular the National co-ordinating Centre for Research Capacity Development (NCCRCD), which allowed me to continue to work within the area of communication in healthcare and develop as a researcher.

Best things about working at Warwick

The best things about working at Warwick is the variety and flexibility I have within my role. The variety includes, research, teaching, presenting at conferences, networking, developing and delivering training, management of projects and the teaching module and attending various seminars across the University. I also work with supportive and friendly colleagues which makes the job much more enjoyable!

I believe that Warwick has some good funding opportunities for early career researchers which can support networking and training as well as national and international collaborations. For example I have been lucky in securing funding from various sources such as The Roberts Fund for Researchers (lead applicant), The Institute of Advanced Study – Short term Visiting Fellowship and The North American Funds Committee (Co-applicant). Apart from the practical aspects of working at Warwick there is of course the beautiful campus too!

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

I think I would like to see more activities which encourage cross departmental collaborations throughout the university. This could be "showcasing days" where staff can learn about research and teaching activities across the University which may encourage further networking or specific training and activity days with clear outcomes and teambuilding.

What people are surprised to learn about me...

People are surprised to learn that I am the UK trainer and manager of the Roter Interaction Analysis System (RIAS) which is a research tool used to analyse communication research. I work closely with colleagues at Johns Hopkins University Baltimore and over the years have developed a good working relationship with them. I am also a part of an international early career research network where one person from 8 different countries was selected to build a network which would lead to support, collaborations and future research within communication skills research.

What would you dream job be?

As a registered and practicing Health Psychologist in the area of chronic pain management my dream job would be to continue

to combine a clinical and academic mix where the research and teaching I do clearly influence clinical practice and vice versa. I would also like to have achieved success in research funding by leading, collaborating and securing large research bids which will allow me to develop an expertise in healthcare communication (clinician-patient communication skills) research and publish articles in high impact journals!

Research interest

My research interests are in healthcare communication, specifically looking at improving doctor-patient interactions by teaching communication skills to clinicians and empowering patients with an aim to improve patient outcomes. I also have an interest in applying health psychology theory and techniques in the management of chronic pain and improving patient motivation and self efficacy. Linked to this I also have an interest in the application of sport psychology theory and techniques in behaviour change across a range of health conditions including pain management. Exercise and physical activity is a crucial component of pain management. I am currently completing a certificate in Sport Psychology which has allowed me to continue to build on my psychological knowledge and develop another area of interest and expertise alongside Health Psychology.

What have been useful training/ development to date

I have attended various courses and training events within the University which have been useful including:

- Principles of Good Clinical Practice Training Research Governance and Ethics
- Exploring Course Design
- Assessment Design and Practice
- Research Degree Supervision (part of the Postgraduate Certificate in Academic and Professional Practice)
- MBChB Assessor Training and Selection Centre
- Reviewing UCAS forms
- Role of the Personal Tutor

Other roles (eg. peer review journals)

Other roles include: PhD supervision. I am currently a co-supervisor for a PhD student who is due to finish in 2013. I am also a committee member for the Midlands Health Psychology Network. This network is for academics, trainees and those interested in Health Psychology with up to date information, Continued Professional Development and training, an annual conference and promoting networking for research and collaboration..

Next bid/ grant

Research for Patient Benefit: Patient barriers and challenges to expressing pain related issues during a pain consultation.

Latest academic writing publication(journal/ book etc)

Vail L, Sandhu H, Fisher J, Cooke H, Dale J, Barnett M. (2011) Hospital Consultants Breaking Bad News with Simulated Patients: an analysis of communication using the Roter Interaction Analysis System. *Patient Education and Counselling*, 83, 185-194. Book Chapter: Sandhu H and Patel S (Submitted, 2011). *Health Psychology in Medical Schools*. In *Health Psychology in Practice* (Eds), Mark Forshaw and David Sheffield.

Major achievement to date

Achieving my Professional Doctorate in Health Psychology!

Three top tips / learning

- Keep up to date with training/courses that the University run for staff, if there is something you think will be useful make the time or negotiate the time with your line manager so you can attend.
- Always be willing to ask for help and guidance if you need it.
- Be creative: think outside the box!