Monthly update of learning & development
offers available to research staff
November 2010

Opportunities from the Learning & Development Centre

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

The LDC Research Staff Development Programme for the new academic year is now finalised. The information is available on the website: http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/

The printed copies have been distributed but if you would like a copy & have not received one, please contact Val (details at end).

Workshops running this term*

Workshop	Date
Career Planning for Early Career Researchers	9th November
Practical Project Management for Researchers	10th November
Four Ways to Find New Ideas	11th November
Making Successful Grant Application - Arts/Humanities	15th November
Making Successful Grant Application - Social Science	15th November
How to Network - A Strategic and Practical Approach	16th November
Getting Published: Editorial Processes, Copyright and Marketing	24th November
Introduction to Technology Toolkits for Researchers	30th November
Influencing Skills	2nd December

Please also see the LDC general programme

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

Focus on: Dr John Burden (RSS) - Research Development Officer

In this newly created Research Development Officer role within Research Support Services, funded by Roberts' money, I will specifically be looking to support the development of Early Career Researchers. For those who wish to pursue an academic career path, I will be working with them to develop Grant and Fellowship applications to maximise their chance of success. This will involve working with ECRs to make them fully aware of opportunities available to them, to use their existing skills and how they can use training and other opportunities at Warwick to enhance these. I will be working with other partners in the network supporting ECR's and their development.

Funding opportunity for researchers:

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

Roberts' funding – individual applications approved in October:

- Kulbir Bains, WBS - Attending the International Retail Design Conference, Toronto Canada. 13 -15 October 2010. £750 towards the costs.

- Stella Hart, Institute of Education - Attending the Vitae Research Staff Conference, Empowering Researchers through Staff Associations, 4 November 2010, £73

- Carole Mockford, Royal College of Nursing Research Institute, School of Health & Social Studies - Attending the Vitae Research Staff Conference, Empowering Researchers through Staff Associations, 4 November 2010, £35.70

- Kathryn Mitchell, Health Sciences Research Institute, Warwick Medical School – Attending "Facing the Care Challenge" 1 day conference, London, 17 November 2010, HSRI. £285 towards the costs.

- Paulina Sydor, Chemistry Department – Organising Natural Products Workshop 2010, 12 November 2010, £1000 towards costs

- Alessandro De Martino Cappuccio & Paula Toninato - Department of Italian, Organising a research event: International Theatre Conference: Empowering Marginalized Voice in Theatre. The Case of Italy & beyond. 11 May 2011, £ 4800 towards costs. **Open to staff to attend.**

Feedback on Roberts' funded events that have taken place:

The Useable Past in Seventeenth Century England, 23 October 2010 – Organised by Matthew Neufield

This one-day Colloquium brought together established and emerging scholars from early-modern historical and literary studies. The focus of the papers and the discussions was on the variety of 'useable pasts' seventeenth-century women and men employed in a range of social, cultural and political contexts. These include the theatrical stage, national politics, the family and the natural environment. The Colloquium shed new light on both the prescriptive power of the past and ways the past could challenge power in a traditional society.

Speakers and topics:
- Ronald Hutton (Bristol), Ancient Britain and the Early Modern English
- Lucy Munro (Keele), 'Whylome as antique stories tellen us': Archaism and the Uses of the Past in the Early Modern History Play
- Philip Baker (Centre for Metropolitan History), London's Liberties in Chains Discovered: The Civic Context of the Leveller Campaign
- Jan Broadway (Queen Mary), Symbolic and self-consciously antiquarian: The Elizabethan and Early Stuart Gentry's Use of the Past
- Fiona Youngman (Reading), Children of Baal: Anglican family narratives of Civil War trauma
- Nicola Whyte (Exeter), Meanings of antiquity in the post- medieval landscape

" The event went well, with 24 people in attendance. I've received very positive feedback from a number of guests and speakers about the day, which has been gratifying. The support of the Roberts' Fund enabled me to invite several leading scholars to Warwick. "

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Visiting Fellow http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/chm/staff/mneufeld/

*Please see the monthly e-newsletters and LDC website for new workshops, series and offerings being developed and added for this academic year.

Opportunities from the Learning & Development Centre - cont'd

Judith Brown, School of Life Sciences
Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G)
Conference - September 6th-9th 2010, Barcelona

"FOSS4G 2010 started with two half-day workshops on software tools for developers of geographical information systems, one on the geospatial database PostGIS and the other on OpenLayers, a browser-based software library for building and viewing layered maps. Both workshops were very informative and excellently run by experts who had played a key role in the design and development of the software.
The remaining 2½ days of the conference consisted of a series of talks and tutorials, some by developers of the software tools, who updated delegates on the latest features and imparted useful tips and tricks, and others by users of geospatial software, who described their own projects. Overall, the conference provided a great opportunity to meet and learn from the key players in the FOSS4G world and to get a good overview of the range and scope of software tools available."

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

*   **Research Staff Forum** – next meeting 19 November 12 – 2pm

*   **WMG Researcher Forum** – Dr Vanessa Goodship - 'a year of co-ordinated and informal internal and open events aimed at pump priming researcher development and research networks for WMG staff'

The first meeting took place on 21 October 2010.

WMG Researcher Forum –The WMG Researcher Forum is a social lunchtime network to enable WMG researchers to fully embrace all the development opportunities around them whilst they are employed on contracts at WMG. Dependant on career aspirations, this could simply mean having development information or advice on hand with which to make career choices. For others it is necessary to engage in researcher to researcher academic training to build up essential skills such as paper writing and proposal writing. Researchers do not work in isolation, they are building on the work of past researchers and creating both the knowledge and the ideas for current and future researchers. They help both themselves and each other to eventually realise these scientific aspirations. The Forum embraces this sharing of skills and best practice within its own diverse research community and the University cohort at large. Idea creation and information gathering are both central to research. Exchanging details of capability and research areas with other researchers throughout Warwick in informal, fun and friendly atmospheres encourages creative thinking, new links, best practice, new networks and networking skills. For this reason the Forum will be inviting all members of the contract research community at the university, at any stage of their careers, to share what they know with us, in open sessions at WMG right through this academic year. Watch out for the December session, come and say hello, chat over lunch, and let's see what we can learn from each other." For further information contact Vanessa Goodship.

Further opportunities within Warwick

Windows on Research – WoR
Some useful Research Staff sessions include:

*   Qualitative analysis and interview techniques
*   IAS: Funding schemes and successful applications
*   Screen capture: making and using images for research

For full details visit:
http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/wor

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

IT services have announced their training Schedule for Autumn 2010
Full list of courses http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/its/servicessupport/training/

Advanced researcher postdoctoral certificate in transferable skills in science

Being a postdoctoral researcher is an exciting time in your career. But it is also a disconcerting time, as from this point on pretty much everyone's career is different, so you have to work a lot of it out for yourself. At Warwick we have therefore launched the Advanced Researcher stream of the Postgraduate Certificate/Award in Transferable Skills to help you in that process. It is composed or two core modules which between them include most of the basic skills you need while a post doctoral researcher and in your subsequent science career. You complement these modules with one (for the Postgraduate Award) or 4 (for the Postgraduate Certificate) optional modules.

The aim of this accredited programme is to provide you with a tool to help you manage your career (and your supervisor) and to help you to develop a network of colleagues. You will largely work with a mentor who may or may not be your supervisor. For more information see: http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/pioneers/postdoctoralresearchers/ or email Professor Alison Rodger: a.rodger@warwick.ac.uk

Opportunities outside Warwick

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

The Vitae Researcher Developers conference was held during September 2010 – presentations and handouts are now available to download from www.vitae.ac.uk/conference10

Useful information and links

- **Researcher Development Framework (RDF)** The Researcher Development Framework is a tool for planning, promoting and supporting the personal, professional and career development of researchers in higher education. It describes the knowledge, skills, behaviours and personal qualities of researchers and encourages them to aspire to excellence through achieving higher levels of development.
  http://vitae.ac.uk/policy-practice/234381/RDF-overview.html

- Research Staff Development Framework **online tool.** It allows researchers to identify the areas in the framework you want to develop further, create an action plan and record your evidence of progress.
  http://www.vitae.ac.uk/policy-practice/234501/Resources-and-supporting-documents.html

- **ResearchProfessional.com** for information on funding opportunities and research policy and practice news.
  http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/rss/funding researchresearch/

- **JSPS London, Short-Term Award Programme for 2011** - Call for Applications for Fellowships to start between May 2011 and the end of March 2012. Closing Date is 17:30, Wednesday 1 December, 2010

  JSPS is the leading research funding agency in Japan, established by the Japanese Government for the purpose of contributing to the advancement of science. The Short-Term Award provides the opportunity for pre- and post-doctoral UK researchers and European or 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. Eligible research fields are not limited: computer, engineering, health, biological, life, natural and physical sciences, mathematics, humanities and social sciences etc.

  Electronic versions of all the application materials are available on our website at: **http://www.jsps.org/funding/fellow_short.html**
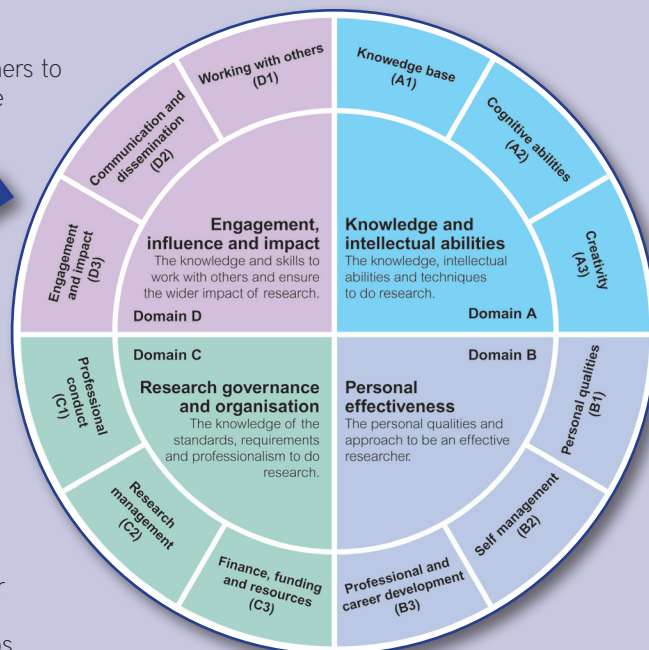
- RCUK www. rcuk.ac.uk & the Large Facilities Roadmap 2010
  http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/resinfra/lfroadmap.htm

- British Library – Growing Knowledge: The evolution of research 12 October 2010 – 16 July 2011
  An exhibition at the British Library showcasing innovative research tools **www.bl.uk/growingknowledge**

- RCUK events - http://www.ukcge.ac.uk/events/eventsarea/sc10

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Learning **&** Development Centre

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