

## York Graduate Research School newsletter - 25 June 2024

### Update from the Dean



The University hosted a general election debate for the BBC last week. I am not sure whether the UK's political leaders got a chance to complete the [Long Boi art trail](#) or partake of Piazza coffee on campus, but they did get an opportunity to field questions from members of our community. Did anyone 'win' or was it a case of who managed to avoid messing up? Not for me to say!

At YGRS, we held a [PGR Forum](#) last week along with the GSA and the PGR reps. We discussed how PGRs might be affected by the financial cuts being made across the university. There are lots of decisions to be made and we know there is a lot of uncertainty at the moment. Please keep in touch with

YGRS either directly or via your PGR reps - raise issues with us and we will always advocate on your behalf.

Best wishes,  
Kate

### YGRS and University news

#### Notes from the latest PGR Forum

The minutes from last week's [PGR Forum](#) are now available. The session covered:

- PGR accommodation support
- Issues facing Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs)
- GSA and YUSU merger
- Financial challenges facing HE and York's response
- PGR community

#### Celebrating Spaces: Connecting Researchers

[Celebrating Spaces: Connecting Researchers](#) on 27 June is an internal open day bringing together York's research and research-enabling staff and students to showcase, explore, and enjoy both our wide range of research and the unique spaces that facilitate it. PGRs are encouraged to attend: you might find the lightning talks of interest, and there's lots to explore within the exhibition space where you can learn about York research networks, activities and opportunities.

#### EDI Research Centre launch event

Celebrate EDI-related research at York at the EDI Research Centre launch event on 2 July. Find out about EDI research and network with others who are passionate about creating an inclusive and equitable research culture at York. [Register for the EDI Research Centre launch event](#) by today (25 June).

## Student Support Plans (SSP) project update

Huge thanks to everyone who has sent in comments and ideas to the Student Support Plan (SSP) Project Team so far - we're making sure they're all included in our project plan. Please continue to [send questions, ideas or feedback about SSPs](#) and keep track of the [Student Support Plan project](#).

## PGR Admin reduced capacity

Our PGR Admin team is operating at a reduced capacity at the moment so, if you have any admin queries, you may receive a delayed response.

## Library bridge lift temporary closure

The [lift from University Road to the Library bridge will be closed](#) for around six weeks for essential work.

## First Bus - summer service changes

Buses servicing campus have now moved to a [summer bus timetable](#) until the start of the new academic year in September.

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## Support and wellbeing

### £1k Santander Universities Research Awards 2024

Applications for the [Santander Universities Research Awards 2024](#) are now open. Santander Universities are giving away 50 awards of £1,000. The funding can be used on resources, equipment, travel, workshop or conference attendance and any other research-based expenses. Applications close on 11 July.

### Fraud alert: Fake police scam targeting international students

We've been made aware of sophisticated scams currently targeting international students in the UK, including at York.

- A caller claiming to be from the student's embassy informs them that they are a suspect in a crime in their home country, that their UK visa is at risk and they need to 'pay bail' in order to remain in the UK.
- A caller claiming to be from UKVI advises that the student's BRP has been cancelled and arrangements have been made for them to leave the UK. Some students are asked to press a key to be put through to a different department.

The scams are extremely convincing. If you think that you or one of your friends has been targeted by scammers, please contact the Student Hub as soon as possible and protect yourself by finding out the [tell-tale signs of a scam](#).

### Summer wellbeing: enter our nature photography competition

Connecting with nature has many benefits, including reducing anxiety, helping sleep and improved concentration. To encourage you to get out and about, we are holding a [summer photography competition](#). You could win a signed copy of the award-winning nature memoir 'The Flow' by Amy Jane Beer, plus a £25 Amazon voucher. We'll also use the best photos (fully credited) in student support areas, to promote the benefits of getting out in nature and provide a welcoming atmosphere for students seeking help.

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## Researcher development

### **Data management plans: Planning for research data**

You are expected to work with your supervisor(s) to put in place a data management plan by the first formal review of progress. The Open Research team has a video in their [research data management practical guide](#) providing an introduction to data management plans and how to use DMPonline to create a plan.

### **Handling data or running statistical analyses? (online)**

Whether you're tackling a data analysis for your research or keen to boost your analytical skills, the Maths Skills Centre has you covered. Hone your skills in [forthcoming online maths skills workshops](#).

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## **Careers**

### **Summer internship opportunities**

York Internships is still advertising [paid summer internship opportunities](#) from within the University and with some great local employers. Some of the internships are for research-related work, and some are offered on a part-time basis with hybrid/remote working options.

### **4 July: LinkedIn: Your passport to professional success (in person)**

Join this [Careers workshop](#) to find out how to kickstart your career, connect with industry influencers and set yourself apart in a competitive job market.

### **UK-China Symposium on Resilient Planet**

Applications are now open for early-career researchers in the UK (including those nearing the end of their research degree) to join and contribute to a fully funded [international symposium on the theme of Resilient Planet](#) hosted by the British Council, as part of the International Science Partnerships Fund.

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## **Teaching**

### **Introduction to Teaching and Learning training: booking now for September**

If you're planning to teach as a GTA at York, you need to complete [Introduction to Teaching and Learning training](#) first. There are three different workshops; you should complete the one recommended by your department. For any queries, please contact the Academic Practice Team: [academic-practice@york.ac.uk](mailto:academic-practice@york.ac.uk).

### **Current teaching opportunities**

See all current Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) [teaching opportunities on Handshake](#).

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## **PGR public engagement activities**

### **Would you like to learn more about research impact?**

[Research Impact: Creating Meaning and Value](#) is an online, self-directed learning resource which covers the fundamentals of research impact. The course is suitable for researchers and support staff at all career stages and has been specifically designed so you can dip in and out of the five modules. For more information and to see the course in action, please [watch our short video](#). Contact [impact-and-ke-training@york.ac.uk](mailto:impact-and-ke-training@york.ac.uk) with any queries.

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## News from the Students' Unions

### GTA insight survey

The GSA would like to give Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) the opportunity to feed back on some key areas of their experience. [Complete the GTA insights short survey](#) and let them know your thoughts. The form is completely anonymous and will be used to help the GSA understand how the Students' Union can best support you.



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### Events and opportunities:

- Win an iPad in the [Santander Universities iPad prize draw](#)
- [York Sport summer of sport membership offer](#)

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**More news and opportunities can be found on the [Research Student Community blog](#)  
[YGRS newsletter archive](#)**

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[www.york.ac.uk/YGRS](http://www.york.ac.uk/YGRS)

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