

York Graduate Research School newsletter - 26 July 2024

Update from the Dean



The schools in York have now broken up, so lots of my colleagues and some PGRs are now taking annual leave. Campus feels fairly quiet apart from summer schools and, of course, [graduation](#) week starts tomorrow. Congratulations to all PGRs who will be walking across the stage to receive their certificate and warm words from Heather, Charlie or Ken!

In other news, the University has announced its decision to [move out of King's Manor](#) by the end of the 2024/25 academic year. The reasons are to do with the substantial running costs, conservation costs and accessibility concerns. I have passed on concerns about the move from PGRs and the GSA to colleagues in the Arts & Humanities Faculty and on the University Executive Board. They emphasise that the A&H community - including PGRs - will be consulted prior to making decisions around where and when PGRs will be moved. Also, there is a strong feeling that the Humanities Research Centre community will be retained, and indeed enhanced, throughout these changes. Please get in touch with YGRS directly if you have any further questions or concerns: ygrs@york.ac.uk.

We have an [update on University finances](#) and news of staff who are leaving York will be shared across departments over the next weeks and months. We know that a large number of professional support staff will be departing so some of the services and support provided to PGRs might be delivered differently. Please be patient and direct queries to team email accounts rather than personal email addresses. YGRS will be working with departments to help manage any changes to PGR supervision and training. Guidance will be going out to Grad Chairs and Heads of Departments soon but many departments are being proactive in their planning. More info and FAQs on changes and their impacts will be posted on the website soon.

Finally, there are still pots of funding available to PGRs, despite the cuts. There is scope for PGRs to [suggest research culture workshop topics](#) for next semester. Also, self-funded PGRs can apply for our [YGRS Conference Fund](#) to attend UK and international conferences.

Enjoy your summer (when it comes....)

Best wishes,
Kate

YGRS and University news

We want to extend a huge welcome to all our new PGR students! Can you help?

The [York PGR Buddy Scheme](#) provides peer support for new PGRs. It makes a HUGE difference to receive advice from someone who's been there before. Feedback on the Buddy Scheme has been overwhelmingly positive from both volunteers and new PGRs - so if you want to get involved, please fill out the [application form](#) by 27 September.

Summer graduation

We're looking forward to our summer graduation ceremonies. Find out [all you need to know about graduation](#) on the website.

Update on University finances

UK funding for higher education continues to be very challenging and, like many other universities, we continue to face increasing costs. We have updated staff on the University's latest financial forecast and next steps. Find out more information on [what this means for staff and students](#).

King's Manor

We have confirmed plans to [move out of King's Manor](#) in the centre of York, bringing Archaeology, Centre for Medieval Studies and Centre for Eighteenth-Century Studies to our main University campus.

Changes to booking annual leave

Annual leave requests will soon be changing from e:Vision to Flexileave. Find out more about [booking annual leave](#).

Latte levy increase

Starting 5 August, our latte levy charge at all Eat and Drink outlets across campus will increase to 35p to reduce the usage of single-use plastic takeaway cups. You can avoid the latte levy by bringing your own cup, using our crockery and drinking in, or purchasing and using a YORCUP. [Find out more about the latte levy and how the money is ring-fenced](#).

First York bus ticket changes

First York have made [changes to bus ticket offerings and some fares](#).

Support and wellbeing

Funding to attend conferences

Self-funded PGRs can apply for [funding to attend UK and international conferences](#) when other funding options have been exhausted. The next application deadline for the YGRS Conference Fund is 1 September.

Get involved with the EDI Support Hub

We are looking for staff and students from a variety of backgrounds to [help develop an EDI Support Hub](#) and share their experiences and celebrate the diversity within our BAME population.

Researcher development

Suggest a topic for a research culture workshop

The Enhancing Research Culture workshops highlight different aspects of research culture and showcase examples of best practice both within and outside the University. [Suggest research culture workshop topics](#) for next semester.

Research culture survey

Hull York Medical School is investigating how communication across cultures can affect day to day research. [Join the study](#) to gain insight from other researchers at York, contribute your own experience of intercultural communication in research, and be in with a chance to win a £30 voucher!

Elevate your academic writing (online)

Over the next few weeks, the Academic Skills Community is hosting curated [online workshops to enhance every part of your academic writing](#).

Introduction to Intellectual Property and research commercialisation (online)

Join the Commercialisation team for a session covering what Intellectual Property (IP) is and, most importantly, how it can be used to benefit your research. [The IP session runs monthly, with the next session on 31 July](#).

Careers

Summer careers support

Don't forget that [Careers and Placements are open over the summer](#) (10am until 4pm, Monday to Thursday). Online or in-person [advice appointments are available to book via Handshake](#) and you can also message the Careers information team via Handshake, too.

Teaching

Current teaching opportunities

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

Introduction to Teaching and Learning training

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.

News from the Students' Unions

Your new Students' Union

From Thursday 1 August, GSA and YUSU will be merging to form the University of York Students' Union - or York SU for short. Although there's lots of change happening, the Union still exists to support you. There are still Advice and Support services, with staff available to offer postgraduate-specific support and representation, and they will continue to put on events and offer societies, socials and trips for postgraduate students. [Find out more about the new York SU](#).

Celebrating our PGRs

[Barbie at the Design Museum: playful exhibition reflects on a pop-culture icon](#) - Daisy McManaman (Centre for Women's Studies)

[Fusion power could transform how we get our energy – and worsen problems it's intended to solve](#) - Sophie Cogan (Politics and Environment)

Events and opportunities:

- [Call for speakers: York U3A Science & Engineering World](#)
- [Enter our summer nature photography competition](#)
- [Be paid for taking part in research](#) with the Centre for Experimental Economics

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

www.york.ac.uk/YGRS

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