

York Graduate Research School newsletter - 15 December 2023

Update from the Dean



Welcome to a quick YGRS update before we soon head into the University Christmas closure. Whether you're in York or not over Christmas, take a look at [student support over the winter break](#) for information about what's happening and sources of support.

There's much to look forward to in the new year. Book your place at [YorkTalks and the PhD Spotlight competition](#). It's a great way to find out about all the fascinating research going on at the University, including by your PGR colleagues. Who will win a prize for the best exhibition?

I'm looking forward to welcoming new PGRs at our [January YGRS induction](#) event. If you haven't attended an induction event, it's a great opportunity to meet University colleagues and find out about all the support we can offer you. You can also chat with other postgraduate researchers over refreshments. Please book your place - it's a lovely event to mark the beginning of your time at York.

I hope you all have the chance to get some rest and spend time with loved ones over the festive period. See you in the new year!

Best wishes,
Kate

YGRS and University news

Support over the winter break

Whether you're leaving York or staying on campus, student support continues over the winter break. We have tonnes of information on the website about:

- what's open and when
- what's happening on campus over the break
- when you should return library books
- who is available to help with a wellbeing issue
- academic activities still taking place
- how to connect to campus remotely

We are piloting closing or restricting access to specific buildings on Campus West from Saturday 16 December to Friday 5 January inclusive. If you plan to work on campus there is plenty of availability in the Library - remember to bring your student card with you for access. See [student support over the winter break](#) for full information.

Come to our January induction event

The York Graduate Research School (YGRS) invites you to [sign up for our January induction event](#) on Wednesday 24 January, where you'll receive essential information and practical advice about starting your research programme, plus an opportunity to meet other new researchers from across the University. Any PGRs who missed our October induction, or have joined the University since then, are warmly invited to join us.

PGR Forum follow up

The minutes of the latest [PGR Forum](#) are now available. Topics covered include:

- Amending the official confirmation letter that PGRs receive when completing their programme
- Producing a guide for landlords to clarify the status of PGRs compared to taught students
- Ongoing updates about the students' unions merger
- Updates on the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey action plan

Meet our PhD Spotlight finalists

Book your free tickets to [YorkTalks 2024](#) for an incredible day of short talks highlighting the breadth and depth of research taking place at York. This flagship event on 10 January includes topics such as spirituality, Chaucer, artificial intelligence and much more. You can also visit our PhD Spotlight competition finalists, who will have interactive displays communicating their research. Who will be our winner?

Reminder: new provider for Virtual Desktop Service

If you need to use our Virtual Desktop Service (VDS), you should now [access our VDS using the Azure Virtual Desktop](#) (AVD).

Support and wellbeing

Off Campus Rent Grant - are you eligible?

Have you checked whether you're eligible for the [Off Campus Rent Grant](#)? The grant helps students currently in their second or subsequent years to get support towards their rent costs. See our information on [cost of living support for students](#).

Applications open for PGR Buddy Scheme

The York [PGR Buddy Scheme](#) provides peer to peer support for new PGRs. It makes a HUGE difference to receive advice from someone who's been there before. **Current PGRs** - please consider signing up to be a buddy. **New PGRs** - sign up for a buddy! Applications close on 26 January.

Don't let temporary failure knock you off-course

How can you face academic failure without being overly discouraged? How can you make necessary decisions when faced with a personal difficulty? And how can you adapt within a stressful social situation? Research suggests that maintaining motivation and passion when pursuing your goals is key to success - but how do you do this? Check the [Success at York Toolkit](#) for [videos, podcasts and activities to help develop perseverance](#).

Dyslexia peer support group

Diagnosed with dyslexia? Suspect you're dyslexic? Are you struggling and overwhelmed with workload and technology? If you're interested in sharing challenges and experiences with other dyslexics via a Google Group and monthly catch-up sessions, contact linda-brosnan@york.ac.uk.

Researcher development

New UKRI Open Access Policy for books and book chapters

From Monday 1 January 2024 any book or book chapter resulting from UKRI-funded research will need to be published in an open access format. UKRI can provide funding of up to £10,000 per book or £1,000 per chapter (including VAT) to fulfil these requirements and payments will be managed via the Library. For guidance on your publishing options or how to access funding, visit our online [Open Access guide](#) or email the Library Open Research team: lib-open-research@york.ac.uk.

18 Jan: YESI Scholars: Interdisciplinary Research Training

Big environmental problems can't be solved by siloed researchers working independently; an interdisciplinary approach is needed. The [YESI Scholars: Interdisciplinary Research Training workshop](#) on 18 January aims to help participants think more broadly about solutions to a research problem by understanding each other's values, root methods and concepts. Priority will be given to PhD students and early career researchers.

Open Research newsletter for December

The second issue of the Open Research newsletter features updates on open research activities at York, upcoming training sessions and new sections focusing on researcher journeys and the wider open research ecosystem. Read all issues of the [Open Research Newsletter](#) and subscribe to receive future issues (login required).

Careers

Why not use the winter break to kickstart your career planning ?

Enrolling on the [Career Management for Early Career Researchers](#) online course with Futurelearn could be a great way to start exploring different career options, learning what you want from a career and being able to make strong applications to get there. It's free, and designed and led by PGR career specialists. Follow up with a career appointment in the new year by booking in [Handshake](#).

Teaching

GTA opportunity - deadline extended

The School for Arts and Creative Technologies are [currently recruiting for a paid Graduate Teaching Assistant](#) to assist them on their upcoming module 'Web Application Design and Development'. Apply by 10 January.

Latest teaching opportunities

Check [Handshake](#) for the latest opportunities. Remember, you need to have completed [Introduction to Teaching and Learning](#) before you can teach at York.

News from the Graduate Students' Association

Forthcoming GSA events

- 19 Dec: Gingerbread Decorating
- 20 Dec: Christmas Tree Festival at York Minster



See more information on the [GSA events](#) page.

Celebrating our PGRs

- [Congratulations to Mohammad Malik](#), PhD student in Politics, who was presented with the Achievement in Education award at the prestigious Yorkshire Asian Young Achiever Awards (YAYAs), as well as the VC's Award at the University's [Inclusive Impact Awards](#)
- [Congratulations to Meghna Asthana](#), PhD student in computer vision science, for being recognised as one of the 75 India UK Achievers award winners
- Will Orukotan (Chemistry) has recently had his first paper published as an early view article: [Divergent Cascade Ring Expansion Reactions of Acryloyl Imides](#) in *Chemistry Europe*
- [Raising a child to 18 in the UK costs more than £200,000 – here's why](#): Isabelle Huning (School for Business and Society) writing for *The Conversation*

If you have any success stories you'd like us to celebrate and share, please let us know: ygrs@york.ac.uk.

Events and opportunities:

- [Do you want to learn a language at York?](#)
- [UX Panel Recruitment](#)
- Get your [official University of York Christmas cards](#) - all profits go to Mentally Fit York

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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