Congratulations to Rumana who is our new PGR rep!!!

Rumana has been involved in many activities in the School of Education over the past few months, including being a committee member for the RSEC conference and also presenting at it! In addition, she has presented at an ESSL conference and attended a workshop on ‘Drawing in Research’ at Cardiff University.

As PGR rep, Rumana is keen to support research students with any issues or queries.

Please feel free to contact her at: ed13rh@leeds.ac.uk.

Would you like to support PGR’s in their early stages of their PhD/EdD? Pass on your wisdom, or offer some advice?

Would you like to be in contact with a PGR who is far along in their thesis and can offer guidance and casual support from first-hand experience?

Please drop an email to ed11rh@leeds.ac.uk to be linked with PGR’s in similar fields.
**Tips for successful postdoc application**

Start building your networks early
You might not find a formal postdoc position, but there might be an opportunity for collaborative work. Identify the areas – or research topics – that you are interested in, as well as the academics in that field. Go to conferences and see if you can visit the lab or group.

Be cautious about firing off out-of-the-blue emails
“If a candidate contacts me to do a post doctorate with their own funding I look for compatibility with my own specialisation or expertise. I would be alert to someone contacting me with an out-of-the-blue request or application i.e. someone who seems to be looking for anyone rather than having carefully explored the possible senior academics in their field.” (Pia Christensen, Professor of anthropology and childhood studies, University of Leeds)

Look for opportunities outside your specialism
Once you’ve solved a problem as part of your PhD, it’s fixed – that same problem won’t exist anymore. Instead, you need to think about transferable skills and how these could apply to a wider range of opportunities.

Avoid excessive jargon
We ask applicants for our award to write a proposal – a common failing with that is candidates use unexplained jargon and therefore do not write clearly about what they can achieve. All of our awards are judged by a much broader panel who are not necessarily going to experts in the individual field of the candidate.

Talk about something other than your PhD
One of the things that irritates academic colleagues is when applicants spend half of their cover letter talking about their PhD. It’s fine if they’re using the PhD to show how they will meet the requirements of the postdoc, but they have to be looking forward to the research project in question.

http://www.theguardian.com/higher-education-network

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“Ramadan Mubarak”
Wishing our Muslim friends at the School of Education a blessed Ramadan!
*Kul 'am wa enta bi-khair!*

“May every year find you in good health!”

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**Research Events in July**

**Getting Published - Successfully: PhD Students**
Monday, July 06, 2015
09:30 to 16:30 | SDDU

**Basic Statistics for Social Scientists - Part 2**
Wed 8th - Fri 10th July, 2015
09:30 to 16:30 | SDDU

**Writing for Research Students in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences**
Thursday, 16th July, 2015
09:30 to 16:00 | SDDU

**Scientific Research Philosophy and Methodology: Putting Theory into Practice**
Wednesday, July 08, 2015,
13:30 to 16:30 | SDDU

**Using your research skills as a foundation for your career**
Thursday, 30th July, 2015
12:30 to 16:00 | Coach House
Call for ‘Hillary Place Papers’

The 3rd Edition of Hillary Place Papers is now being planned and the attachment to this email explains the process by which the Edition will be developed.

This Edition has as its theme: Future Directions in the Educational Research Community, allowing colleagues to use their own speciality to explore this theme.

Additions to previous editions include two different lengths of articles open to all staff and students (UG and PG) with encouragement from staff to support their outstanding students. More publicity is to be generated through various modes of communication and the contents have been expanded.

Recall that HPP is an excellent illustration of the research culture, environment and support in the School, such a necessary and crucial component of research bids and any future REF or equivalent and our impact in the educational world.

The Editorial Committee of Judith Hanks, Lou Harvey Michael Inglis, Sue Pearson, Jackie Salter, David Sugden, Ruth Swanwick and Michael Wilson strongly encourage you to support this venture.

Details are in the attachment but all questions please direct to David Sugden. We welcome comments and suggestions.

Deadline for submissions is 1st October 2015.

Best wishes,
The Editorial Committee

Recommended Conference/Workshops- Student views

Kaleidoscope Conference at the University of Cambridge

“The conference programme was full of very engaging and stimulating presentations. I also presented my work to a very supportive audience and got constructive feedback. Therefore I would like to recommend that conference to other PGR students at the school.” -Melike Bulut

Scheduled annually in May

ESRC Wales DTC workshop ‘Drawing in Research’ at Cardiff University

“A very interesting and engaging one-day workshop that encourages you to consider whether and how you might use drawing or graphic techniques as part of a social science research methodology. The workshop was a hands-on how we might develop our own techniques and apply some graphic elements in our research in future. Moreover, it was a Wales DTC funded workshop.”- Rumana Hossain

http://www.walesdtc.ac.uk/events/drawing-in-research/
Inspired by our recent successful trip to Chatsworth House, on Thursday 11th May a group of students from the School of Education boarded a coach from outside the Parkinson steps and headed off to Yorkshire Sculpture Park near Wakefield.

Our aim was to walk around the extensive grounds and gardens of the “YSP”, whilst sampling some of the many sculptures and art works on display. Several us of came on the trip with a limited knowledge of sculpture and art in general, but we were keen to learn more. Thankfully, our day got off to a good start as it was a beautiful sunny morning – the YSP is worth a visit at any time of the year, but we were grateful that we didn’t need our wellies and raincoats for a change!

The trip to the YSP was a short one – just 45 minutes from Leeds. On arrival it was a very welcome surprise to find that entry to the park was free, so with a spring in our step we set off to walk through the park, up to the Longsight Gallery and back again – this is a walk of several miles but following the Lake District and Chatsworth trips our group was now well-experienced in walking long distances!

On starting our walk we quickly realised that there are so many amazing things to see, that a slow ‘meander’ round the park would be required, as opposed to a quick march, to allow time to appreciate the fantastic artworks on display. One of the first exhibits we found was Antony Gormley’s “One and Other”, which in keeping with the artist’s other works was based on a cast of his own body. On viewing the sculpture someone said that it was a bit skinny and showed that the artist needed to eat more!

After spending time admiring the Gormley we literally stumbled across “Buddha”, an amazing multi-coloured mosaic work by Niki de Saint Phalle, which used mirror, glass and stone to create a brilliant and original sculpture. So impressed were the group by this work, that it was agreed that it would make an ideal background for the traditional “School of Education social trip group photo”! Instantly, numerous cameras and smartphones were handed out and photos were taken (and uploaded onto Facebook…). The group then continued up to the Longsight Gallery, past groups of sheep and cows, lazing around in the afternoon sun.

After visiting the gallery we had a quick stop, to allow the student support officer to have his daily fix of ice cream, before setting off down the hill and through the forest and back to the coach and a return to Leeds. Whilst we walked for most of the day, we all agreed that there was so much more that we could have seen, (the YSP is 500 acres in size – the University is only 90 acres!), so plans were made to return again soon.
**Explore Leeds this July**

**Abbey Inn Beer & Music Festival** (Over 25 Live Bands) 3rd- 5th July. **Contact telephone:** 0113 2581248

**Leeds 10K Run** Sun 12 Jul 2015 [www.runforall.com/10k/leeds/](http://www.runforall.com/10k/leeds/)

**Summer Series at Millennium Square** (Live outdoor concerts) Fri 17 - Fri 31 Jul 2015 [www.leeds.gov.uk/summerseries](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/summerseries)

**Leeds Sax Quartet at Horsforth Hall Park.** Free Admission- Sunday 19 Jul 2015 (2.30pm - 4.30pm) **Contact telephone:** 01132478336

**Leeds Uni Children’s Camp** (Sports such as baseball, badminton, swimming, basketball, cricket, rugby and many more activities) 8.30 am to 17.30 pm. From £79 p/w or £39 daily. Monday 29 Jun 2015 to Friday 21 Aug 2015. **Contact telephone:** 0114 2632160

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**If you haven’t already, please consider making a profile on our School of Education website!**

If you’re tutors have not given you the protocol, please email ed11rh@leeds.ac.uk

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**Join our team!**

Fancy getting involved in producing our monthly newsletter? Whether it be to design or edit, we would love to have you on board! Email ed11rh@leeds.ac.uk to find out more!

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**Watch the PGR community grow!**

This month I’m going to be using NVivo to create a networking map which will determine how similar the different elements of you research are compared to your peers. It will look a little like the image below, but will give details about each PGR's research with contact details to allow you to connect.

I will be emailing all 118 of you with a request to list 20 words related to your research in order to get the most detailed map.

**THIS WILL ONLY WORK WITH A LARGE INPUT SO PLEASE, GET INVOLVED!**

Regan Holden
Undergrad Intern

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**Next issue’s entry**

Have any news? Want to share some information with the PGR community or would like to nominate a spotlight student?

Please email ed11rh@leeds.ac.uk before the 20th July.