

## **YNE Hub Email Bulletin: 12<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

Hello, welcome to the YNE Hub events & news bulletin.

This issue contains information about an upcoming interdisciplinary postgraduate conference, the ESRC festival of Social Science and the British Library Postgraduate Training Days.

Please feel free to forward this bulletin to colleagues or friends who you feel would find it interesting. Also if you would like us to include anything in the next bulletin, please contact us at: [yorksandnehub@vitae.ac.uk](mailto:yorksandnehub@vitae.ac.uk)

In this issue.....

1. Art and Power: An Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Conference
2. RegeNer8 workshop: a focus on Durham, Newcastle and York
3. ESRC Festival of Social Science
4. Call for articles for the Autumn edition of GRADBritain
5. British Library Postgraduate Training Days
6. Researchers in Residence
7. Biotechnology YES: North East Regional Heat
8. Careers in Focus Event

– Other funding opportunities aimed at early career researchers and students -

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### **1. Art and Power: An Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Conference**

Registration for the 'Art and Power' interdisciplinary postgraduate conference on September 27th 2008 at the School of English, University of Leeds is now open. The deadline for registration is September 21st 2008.

All details, including abstracts and practical information can be found at our website: [www.artandpower2008.wordpress.com](http://www.artandpower2008.wordpress.com).

Conference description:

Joseph Conrad expressed apprehension about the political and moral utility of literature, W.H. Auden claimed that poetry makes nothing happen, and Theodor Adorno asserted that there could be no poetry after Auschwitz. Yet, in the postmodern era there is no shortage of art or of theories that speak to political realities, conflict and calamity. In the 21st century and in the 7th year of the official 'War on Terror' we ask: is the pen mightier than the sword? Is art acting as a social corrective? Is it politically effective? Or conversely, how and when is it co-opted and/or appropriated, and to what ends?

This conference invites presentations that speak to art's politicisation, neutralisation, instrumentalisation, and its relationship(s) to power more generally. Our objective is to establish a dialogue that takes up the various intersections between art and power in contemporary capitalist, 'globalised', 'postmodern', and 'post'-colonial societies. 'Art and Power' is an interdisciplinary conference, and thus topics for papers are not restricted to literature.

The keynote speaker is Professor Derek Attridge (University of York). The conference will moreover include a session designed to advise emerging scholars on publishing their academic work. Prof. Shirley Chew (University of Leeds, general editor of *Moving Worlds*) and Dr. Mark Taylor-Batty

(University of Leeds, European editor of The Pinter Review and co-editor of Performing Ethos) will give a talk on various aspects of academic publication. Our guest artist, R. Max Vollmer, will install an art work, designed specifically for the occasion, and will give a brief performance.

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## **2. RegeNer8 Workshop – Stem Cells for Tissue Engineering**

### **Workshop 1: A Focus on Durham, Newcastle and York**

Friday 3rd October 2008, Redworth Hall hotel, County Durham

RegeNer8 is passionate about the talented research taking place in the North of England's 8 research-intensive universities (the 'N8'), and seeks to establish connections between them and industry. A series of events will highlight what regenerative medicine research is taking place in each of the N8 and this Workshop highlights three of those: Durham, Newcastle and York.

This meeting will prove an invaluable networking opportunity for any individual (Academic, Clinical, Industrial) with an interest in the field of Regenerative Medicine. Firstly it will provide delegates with an overview of significant areas of RM research that is currently being carried out within a number of N8 universities (Newcastle, Durham and York). These will concentrate on work being done in adult stem cells, embryonic stem cells and detailing examples of clinical translation. This will be followed by an interactive workshop that will bring delegates together in small groups to take part in a 'junk modelling session' followed by structured discussions on a range of current topics within the field.

RegeNer8, ***“accelerating the development of regenerative therapies and bringing them through to clinic and market.”***

Spaces are limited, so please visit [www.regener8.ac.uk](http://www.regener8.ac.uk) to register

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## **3. ESRC Festival of Social Science** ***Applications to hold an Event***

The deadline for applications for sponsorship is 9 October 2008.

Non-funded applications are due 23 October 2008.

Web: <http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/FSS/>

The ESRC Festival of Social Science will run from Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2009. The Festival will give a fascinating insight into some of the country's leading social science research and how it influences our social, economic and political lives - both now and in the future. The Festival is an annual weeklong programme of events held across the UK that are designed to communicate information about the social sciences and how social science impacts on our lives. The events take a variety of formats, from traditional lectures and seminars, to exhibitions, film screenings and topical debates. The festival events are aimed at a range of different audiences, including policy makers, business, the media, the general public, and students of all ages.

Applications to hold an event (both sponsored and nonsponsored) are now welcome. All ESRC-funded investments and award holders are invited to participate in the Festival. A package of support has been put together including funding of up to £2,000.

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#### **4. Call for articles for the Autumn issue of GradBritain** Deadline 28<sup>th</sup> September 2008

A new academic year means a new issue of GRADBritain...

Before you even register, get issued your shiny new student card, or go mad in Ryman's stationary shop, why not start the academic year the right way and write for GRADBritain. We are looking for articles of 800 words on anything PhD-related; it may be your disdain for current state of academia, some scholarly advice you wish to share with your peers, or personal success stories that will arouse either envy or enthusiasm in our readers. All that we require is that your article contains the essential mix of coherence and humour and both entertains and informs.

So don't let your wit and wisdom go to waste, remember we pay £50 for all published articles. The deadline for submissions is the 28th September. Please send your article in word-doc format to [gradbritain@grad.ac.uk](mailto:gradbritain@grad.ac.uk) with the file saved under your own name.

To get a sense of the style and content of GRADBritain and to download previous issues please visit <http://www.vitae.ac.uk/GRADBritain>

Guidelines for authors are also available at <http://www.vitae.ac.uk/3905/About-submitting-an-article.html>

#### About GRADBritain

GRADBritain is a magazine written by and for postgraduate researchers (PGRs) in the United Kingdom. It is published once per academic term (three times per year) and contains articles written by PGRs of all ages and backgrounds from a variety of disciplines in the sciences, arts and humanities.

GRADBritain provides a platform for PGRs throughout the country to share experiences, advice, and ask questions in order to improve the experience of their PhD. On occasion, it may even make you laugh.

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#### **5. British Library Postgraduate Training Days**

The British Library now offers research postgraduates the opportunity to attend training days in English, History, Social Sciences, Entrepreneurship and Modern Foreign Languages in partnership with academic centres of excellence. These specially tailored days of talks, workshops and networking opportunities combine a general introduction to the Library with specialised sessions on subject specific material. Students will have the opportunity to learn about all aspects of the British Library collections, from oral history recordings to modern literary manuscripts and ephemera through special sessions with curators and special workshops. They will be given training on how to access online and electronic catalogues, carry out bibliographic research on their topic and meet expert curators in their field.

To help ensure the scheme is accessible to research postgraduates from across the UK, there are a limited number of travel bursaries available.

13 <sup>th</sup> October 2008	Social Sciences
20 <sup>th</sup> October 2008	English (19 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup> Century)
28 <sup>th</sup> October 2008	English (Medieval - 18 <sup>th</sup> Century)
4 <sup>th</sup> November 2008	History (Medieval to 18 <sup>th</sup> Century)
25 <sup>th</sup> November 2008	History (19 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> Century)

9<sup>th</sup> December 2008

Modern Foreign Languages

For more information about any of these training days, please email [Highereducation@bl.uk](mailto:Highereducation@bl.uk)

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## 6. Researchers in Residence

Researchers in Residence is a scheme which aims to enrich the classroom experience of secondary school students through placing a cutting-edge researcher (PhD and post-doctoral) in that school. This is done by facilitating supportive, exciting and mutually beneficial partnerships between school students, researchers and teachers.

RiR is now recruiting for researchers to work on a wide range of projects in the Durham and Newcastle area: if you would like the opportunity to engage young people with your research, and think an RiR project in the north east might be for you, contact Nicky Allford, Project Co-ordinator at [na504@york.ac.uk](mailto:na504@york.ac.uk) or have a look at the website: [www.researchersinresidence.ac.uk](http://www.researchersinresidence.ac.uk)

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## 7. Biotechnology YES: North East Regional Heat

A North East regional heat of the Biotechnology YES competition is being held in Newcastle for the first time this year (29th October - 1st November). The competition is open to all bioscience researchers, it is free to enter, meals and business class accommodation are included throughout and there is a £1000 prize for the winners. Teams of 3-5 members need to have a feasible business idea involving bioscience; the idea need not be practically possible and can be about any aspect of bioscience. Previous teams have suggested ideas such as: GM Grass that doesn't grow long; a device for analysing blood chemistry using fluorescing quantum dots; a 99.9% lactose-free Milk targeted at lactose intolerant consumers and an enzymatic wash for instruments and apparatus to remove endotoxins.

It is how researchers deal with their idea that wins the competition not the idea itself. The experience of working in a small team in a real business environment is a brilliant opportunity to develop a fantastic range of skills such as team building and time management as well as commercial awareness.

For more details and to apply go to

<http://www.biotechnologyyes.co.uk/>

Teams and individuals from any institution are invited to attend and cross institution and staff/student teams are welcome to take part

For potential team members to link up with, contact

**[Richard.hetherington@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:Richard.hetherington@ncl.ac.uk)**

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## 8. Careers in Focus

Are you considering your career options? Are you thinking about where you'd like to be... next year... in five years time? Do you want to continue working in an academic environment?

Around half all postgraduate researchers take up jobs within the education sector immediately on graduation. But not all of those are in research positions.

Following the success of our previous Careers in Academia events, Vitae is running a one-day event to enable you to explore what a career in the academic environment is really like.

Like most careers, there are many elements that make up a career in academia, and you need specific skills to succeed in what can be a very competitive environment. Here's your chance to find out what really is involved, what skills and strengths it will take to succeed, and to decide if this is the career for you.

These one-day events give participants an insight into some of the areas that make up a career in academia.

Participants have the opportunity to:

- meet with current academics from a range of disciplines and hear about their experiences; ask the questions you've always wanted to, but weren't sure who to ask
- explore how to market yourself for a career in academia, both within your department, and at interview
- look at how to write and win grant applications and what life is like as a PostDoc
- work with fellow researchers and share experiences with other participants

The next Careers in Academia events is:

- **Monday 6 October 2008, Manchester**

For further information and to book your place please go to [www.grad.ac.uk/cif](http://www.grad.ac.uk/cif)

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## **Funding opportunities and other events**

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### **Children's Workforce Development Council: Tenders for youth workforce projects**

Evaluation of Practitioner-Led Research - closing date 3 October 2008

Longitudinal study of the role of Early Years Professionals - closing date 4 November 2008

Web: [http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/whats-new/news/943\\_cwdc-invites-tenders-for-youth-workforce-projects](http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/whats-new/news/943_cwdc-invites-tenders-for-youth-workforce-projects)

Tenders are being sought to deliver two major youth workforce reform projects.

The first involves researchers being invited to tender for a three-year project to define the youth workforce across England. The second, invites tenders to improve the skills of people who work with young people in the Third Sector.

For the three-year project, the successful bidder will be asked to design, collate and deliver three annual "state of the youth workforce" reports covering the years 2008, 2009, and 2010.

The purpose of these reports is to establish the baseline data position and to measure any subsequent changes over the three year period in relation to the youth workforce in England.

Each report will support the development of a range of initiatives across the youth workforce programme and the wider evaluation of the Aiming High for Young People strategy. The first report should be complete by March 2009.

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## **The Wellcome Trust - Arts Awards**

Closing dates:

For small to medium-sized projects (up to and including £30 000) upcoming deadlines are: 10 October 2008, 9 January 2009, 3 April 2009, 31 July 2009

For large projects (over £30 000) the next deadline is 23 January 2009

Web: <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/Funding/Public-engagement/Grants/Arts-Awards/index.htm>

Small to medium-sized projects (up to and including £30 000) Funding can either be used to support the development of new project ideas, deliver small-scale productions or workshops, investigate and experiment with new methods of engagement through the arts, or develop new collaborative relationships between artists and scientists.

Large projects (above £30 000)

This funding can be used to fund full or part production costs for large-scale arts projects that aim to have significant impact on the public's engagement with biomedical science. We are also interested in supporting high-quality, multi-audience, multi-outcome projects.

Applicants can apply for any amount within the above boundaries, for projects lasting a maximum of three years.

Eligibility

The scheme is open to a wide range of people including, among others, artists, scientists, curators, filmmakers, writers, producers, directors, academics, science communicators, teachers, arts workers and education officers.

Partnership projects (between different people and organisations, e.g. scientists and ethicists, educators and artists) are welcomed.

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## **EPILEPSY Action - Research Grants Programme 2008/09**

Closing Date: 10 October 2008

Web: <http://www.epilepsy.org.uk/research/awards.html>

Epilepsy Action is offering up to £70k for large projects, £15k in small grants, a 3 year PhD studentship (up to £25k per year) and a number of postgraduate research bursaries.

Epilepsy Action is the largest member-led epilepsy organisation in Britain - they are committed to promoting all types of research into epilepsy and actively fund a wide range of non-laboratory epilepsy research.

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## **The Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Junior Research/Travel Fellowships 2009**

Closing date: 23 October 2008

Web: <http://www.kklf.org.uk/junior.html>

The Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund invites applications for three-year research fellowships into leukaemia and/or related haematological conditions. Awards will be made from the following categories:

Scientific fellowships - open to scientists, usually with 0-3 years postdoctoral experience, intending either to work at a recognised UK research institution or seeking a travel fellowship for relevant work abroad.

Clinical research fellow - open to clinicians seeking funding for a PhD in the field of leukaemia research usually at a UK centre.

Priority will be given to those intending to pursue novel lines of research, and the appointment will reflect the calibre of the applicant, the scientific merit and originality of the proposal, and the excellence of the proposed host institution.

Fellowships are expected to start in July 2009 (or soon after) and will cover salary costs for three years and costs of laboratory consumables in the UK but will not contribute to departmental overheads. Travel fellowships will additionally cover travel costs and expenses and may include a Family Allowance.

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### **MRC - Population health scientist fellowship**

Closing date: 10 October 2008

Web:

<http://www.mrc.ac.uk/Careers/Fellowships/AvailableFellowships/PopulationHealthFellow/index.htm>

As part of its commitment to early career training and development in population health sciences, the MRC is delighted to announce a new fellowship competition designed to support MRC priorities for the field. The new fellowships can be awarded at the pre- or post-doctoral entry level.

Population health sciences are concerned with the study of social and environmental influences on physical and mental health and well-being, with reference to a range of 'up-stream' influences such as early life experiences, the social and economic conditions in which we live and environmental exposures that can affect wellbeing. A key aim is to understand how and why ill-health varies within and between populations and across the life course, and how to improve the health of the public through clinical or public health interventions including those that may be delivered outside conventional health services.

There are no residential requirements for post-doctoral applicants, although there are some requirements for pre-doctoral applicants. Please refer to the link under 'Guidance for applicants'. If you are invited to interview you will be expected to demonstrate a commitment to the UK research effort in the area of Population Health Sciences beyond the period of the award.

An MRC population health scientist fellowship may be awarded for any period up to four years.

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### **The Royal Academy of Engineering: Research Exchanges with China and India**

Closing date: 17 October 2008

Web: <http://www.raeng.org.uk/research/researcher/reci/default.htm>

The scheme enables engineering researchers at UK Higher Education Institutions to travel to a Chinese or Indian Institution, and China/India-based researchers to spend time at a UK Institution.

The main objectives are to:

- \* promote collaboration between high quality engineering researchers in the UK and China/India.
- \* strengthen relations between leading partners in these countries and support the expansion of international Networks of Excellence in engineering research.
- \* allow researchers to gain international experience and access world-class expertise.

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### **Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) Research Mobility Programme (RMP)**

Closing date: Monday 1 December 2008.

Web: [www.wun.ac.uk](http://www.wun.ac.uk)

WUN is an alliance of 16 research-intensive universities which aims to create international networks of researchers in all academic disciplines. Further information about WUN can be found at [www.wun.ac.uk](http://www.wun.ac.uk)

PhD students at the universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York can apply to the RMP for research visits lasting between 2-6 months.

The international institutions participating in the programme are:

The Pennsylvania State University  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
University of Washington-Seattle  
University of California-San Diego  
University of Bergen  
University of Utrecht  
Zhejiang University  
Nanjing University  
University of Sydney

Full details of the scheme, including FAQs, application deadlines and application forms can be found at [www.wun.ac.uk/rmp.php](http://www.wun.ac.uk/rmp.php)

Research students considering applying for an award under this scheme should make sure that they speak to their supervisor at the earliest opportunity. Applicants are advised that suitable collaborators and projects must be identified and contacted and a comprehensive work plan negotiated in advance of application.

US visas

If you are considering spending time at a US institution please note that it can take up to four months to obtain a visa. Please factor this into your planning when deciding which application deadline to go for.

## **British Academy – Guide to Awards**

The 2008/09 Guide to Awards is now available and can be downloaded from the Academy's website at <http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/index.html>

Below are brief details of a number of the schemes:-

Postdoctoral fellowships - closing date for outline submissions - 1 October 2008.

This scheme is designed to enable outstanding early career researchers to strengthen their experience of research and teaching in a University environment. Awards are offered under FEC and are tenable for a period of three years to commence in Sept or Oct 2009. It is anticipated that up to 45 awards will be made.

Small Research Grants - closing dates 15 October, 15 January and 15 April.

Grants are available to support primary research in the humanities and social sciences. Applications should be for between £500 and £7,500 over 2 years. Funding can be used for initial project planning and development; to support the direct costs of research and to enable the advancement of research through workshops or visits to partner scholars.

Overseas Conference Grants - closing dates 15 October, 15 January and 15 April.

Grants of up to £900 are available for the travel expenses of a scholar delivering a paper at a conference abroad.

Conference Support - closing dates 15 October, 15 January and 15 April.

Awards of between £1,000 and £20,000 are available. Conference convenors may apply for any combination of the following (a) financial assistance (b) use of the Academy as a venue (c) organisational assistance from the Academy's conference team (d) subsequent publication of proceedings by the Academy.

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As always, please feel free to forward this email bulletin on to any colleagues/fellow PhD researchers who you think would find it useful. If you are not already on our mailing list and would like to be, then email us at [yorksandnehub@vitae.ac.uk](mailto:yorksandnehub@vitae.ac.uk) with "subscribe to mailing list" in the subject header.

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