

Vitae Researcher Development International Conference

8 - 9 September 2015 The Midland, Manchester



Programme

Day 1: Tuesday 8 September 2015

- 09.00 Conference registration opens
- 09.30 Pre-conference workshop and networking opportunity with refreshments
- 10.45 **Welcome and introduction**
Dr Janet Metcalfe, Chair and Head, Vitae
- 11.00 **Opening plenary: strategic and global context for developing researchers**
- **Shaping the future of the HR Strategy for Researchers within the European Research Area** - Irmela Brach, Policy Officer, ERA Policy and Reform Unit, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission
 - **Exploring the experiences and careers of postdoctoral researchers in the US** - Emilda Rivers, Director of Human Resources Statistics Program (HRS), National Science Foundation, USA
 - **Strategic directions in postgraduate research education** - Chris Millward, Director of Policy, Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)
- 12.20 Lunch, networking and exhibition
- 13.45 Half plenary session 1: **Doctoral education: diversity in programmes, provision and researchers**
Chair: Alison Mitchell, Director of Development, Vitae
- PRES 2015: doctoral researchers' experiences** - Dr Alex Buckley, Surveys Manager, Higher Education Academy
- Sustainable models for postgraduate education** - Dr Rebekah Smith-McGloin, Capability Development Manager, Coventry University
- Ensuring equality of access into doctoral training programmes** - Frances Burstow, Head of Skills and Methods, Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)
- 13.45 Half plenary session 2: **Research staff: experiences and talent management**
Chair: Indi Seehra, Director of Human Resources, LSE
- The experiences of researchers: outcomes of CROS and PIRLS 2015** - Dr Robin Mellors-Bourne, Acting Chief Executive Officer, CRAC
- Strategic support for early career researchers** - Karina Prasad, Head of Office, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, University of Cambridge

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Nurturing our talented researchers and staff - Prof Ritsert Jansen, Dean of Talent Management, University of Groningen

The Voice of Researchers: the reality of the European Research Area - Dr Miguel Jorge, Lecturer, University of Strathclyde and Voice of Researchers

- 15.00 Refreshment break, networking and exhibition
- 15.20 Workshop session A
- 16.20 Break
- 16.30 Workshop session B
- 17.30 Special interest sessions
- 18.00 Close, check in and personal time
- 19.00 Wine reception and networking, sponsored by Elsevier

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- 19.45 The final of the UK 3 Minute Thesis competition
Prize of £3000 for the winner sponsored by RCUK and NCCPE with additional prizes from ThinkWrite and Speakezee



- 20.20 Dinner

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Day 2: Wednesday 9 September 2015

09.00 Plenary: **Challenging assumptions:**

Introduction: Dr Janet Metcalfe, Chair and Head, Vitae

- **Does appearance influence career opportunities?** - Professor Tristram Hooley, Professor of Careers Education, Head of ICeGS, University of Derby
- **Unconscious bias within the research environment** - Dr Pete Jones, Shire Professional Chartered Psychologists

10.30 Refreshment break, networking and exhibition

11.00 Workshop session C

12.30 Lunch, networking and exhibition

13.45 Workshop session D

15.00 Closing plenary: **What next for researcher development?**

Vitae leading to the future - Alison Mitchell, Director of Development, Vitae

The growth of open research and the implications for researcher development - Professor Geoffrey Boulton, University of Edinburgh

16.00 End of conference with refreshments