

**April 2017 edition**

## Nominations for ESRC Grand Union Scholars Committee 2017-2018

The time is approaching when we will be looking to elect a new scholars committee for the 2017-18 academic year. Enormous thanks are due to the current committee members who have done a fantastic job of representing the interests of all DTC students at various DTC committees/boards, etc, not to mention their organising of various social events over the year!

The association will continue to hold its own devolved autonomous budget from the DTC/DTP, again for academic and social networking. More information concerning the posts available on the committee, etc, was included in a message that was sent by the DTP Director on Friday 28th April 2017. All DTC students continuing in their funded period next year are asked to think about whether they might wish to serve on the committee. Students will need to self-nominate, and the deadline for nominations to be submitted is [dan-iel.meacoe@socsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:dan-iel.meacoe@socsci.ox.ac.uk) is **Friday 12th May 2017**.

## National ESRC Student Conference 2017

The ESRC is pleased to announce that registration for the **2017 ESRC Student Conference** is now open. The conference is being held at **Bloomsbury DTC, London on 15th and 16th June**. This 2 day conference is open to all ESRC funded students, including those in the Masters year of a 1+3 programme. The theme this year is 'Knowledge and Networking' with speaker panels, a variety of workshops and plenty of opportunities for networking, including a dinner reception on the first day.

This is a very popular event and a rare opportunity for students to network with others from across the entire doctoral training network.

Further information on the conference, including the programme of events and travel/accommodation expenses policy, is available on the [conference website](#).

Registration is offered via EventBrite and available [here](#).

## 'The new Grand Union Blog': Call for contributions

We are planning to develop a Grand Union blog on our News pages with regular contributions from Scholars and the Grand Union leadership team. It is a chance for you to share your experiences as an ESRC student, and to promote broader awareness of the opportunities your funding has given you. We want to use it to encourage a broader range of potential applicants to think about doctoral study, and to celebrate the social sciences!

Please get in touch with Ben or David if you'd like to write something for the site: all contributions warmly received.

## Message from the Careers Service: Exclusive Placements open to Social Sciences students!

### Micro-Internships

The Trinity Term [Micro-Internship Programme](#) is now **open for applications!** Micro-Internships are exclusive, 2-5 day placements that take place in Week 9. Each placement presents a specific, cohesive work project to be tackled: one which will develop your professional skills, enhance your CV, and make an impact on your host organisation. Placements can be research-based or professional, with host organisations this term including [Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences](#), [The Curiosity Box](#) and [Social Sciences Division, University of Oxford](#).

Browse all opportunities by sector [here](#) including [Scientific Research and Development](#), [Health and Social Care](#) and [Academia and Higher Education](#). Apply through [Career Connect](#). **Deadline for all applications is Sun 7 May**.

Email: [micro-internships@careers.ox.ac.uk](mailto:micro-internships@careers.ox.ac.uk) for more info.

### Summer Internships

4 – 12-week placements in the UK and abroad are also being added regularly to the Oxford University Internship Programme. Internships currently available include data visualisation with [Clinical Trials Service Unit](#) and international projects such as relief and microcredit with [Makhzoumi Foundation](#) in Beirut. See our [blog](#) or [CareerConnect](#) for the full list and to apply. The deadline for current placements is **Sun 7th May**, but new ones will be added until the end of Trinity - to keep updated sign up to [Internship Alerts](#). Email [internships@careers.ox.ac.uk](mailto:internships@careers.ox.ac.uk) for more information.

### Looking for application support?

The Internship Office offers weekly **Application Support Sessions** at The Careers Service where you can receive 1-1 feedback on your CV and personal statement. You can also join our 'Internship Applications: Employer Feedback' workshop on **Wednesday 3 May** to learn what employers are really looking for from your application. Book your place through [CareerConnect](#).

## Social Sciences Division Trinity Term Fieldwork training sessions

The Social Sciences Division is organising a number of training sessions and informal discussion groups focused on fieldwork over Trinity term. The Fieldwork in Practice sessions provide a more formal training opportunity to discuss the design and conduct of fieldwork (please note that the Preparation for Safe and Effective Fieldwork course – or equivalent- is a prerequisite for these sessions). The Fieldwork in discussion sessions offer a more informal opportunity for researchers to discuss their experiences and expectations of fieldwork. Please register following the links below and contact [skills-training@socsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:skills-training@socsci.ox.ac.uk) for further information.

Fieldwork in Practice series: <http://researchtraining.socsci.ox.ac.uk/node/233>

10 May: [Preparation for Safe and Effective Fieldwork](#)

10 May: [Fieldwork in Practice: Fieldwork Preparation](#)

17 May: [Fieldwork in Practice: In the Field](#)

24 May: [Fieldwork in Practice: Returning from the Field](#)

Fieldwork in discussion series: <http://researchtraining.socsci.ox.ac.uk/node/318>

28 April: [Fieldwork in discussion: Fieldwork 'at home'](#)

5 May: [Fieldwork in discussion: Women in the field](#)

12 May: [Fieldwork in discussion: Researcher identities](#)

19 May: [Fieldwork in discussion: Women in the field](#)

26 May: [Fieldwork in discussion: topic TBD](#)

In response to requests, an online training course on personal safety for female travellers will soon be available. Please contact Chris Williams ([chris.williams@socsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:chris.williams@socsci.ox.ac.uk)) if you would like to sign up for this.

## Staffing changes

All students are advised that the Postgraduate Funding Coordinator, Daniel Meacoe, will be leaving his post the Social Sciences Division to take up a post in the University's Finance Division. Daniel will begin **working Wednesdays and Thursdays in his new post from the week commencing 15th May 2017, until Friday 9th June 2017**. After this date, Daniel will then work full time in his new role - during this period, while recruitment is ongoing for Daniel's successor, students are advised to send any queries relating to their studentships to [granduniondtp@socsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:granduniondtp@socsci.ox.ac.uk), and a member of the team in the Social Sciences Division will respond as soon as possible.

## Funding guidance reminders

Full funding guidance, covering all of the schemes available to DTC/DTP students such as RTSG, OFE, DLT, OIVs, etc, is regularly updated at <http://www.granduniondtp.ac.uk/forms-and-guidance-for-current-award-holders>.

## Training

For information on available training courses, please see the training website at <http://researchtraining.socsci.ox.ac.uk/>.

Don't forget to check the ESRC's National Centre for Research Methods (NCRM) portal at <http://www.ncrm.ac.uk/training/> for training courses available nationally.

## Research Capacity Funding

The DTC/DTP provides funding for interdisciplinary projects - such as workshops, seminars or small conferences, etc – on a rolling basis, and you can apply for funds at any point. Now is the time to plan an event for next year.

Full guidance is available under the Research Capacity Funding section on the DTP website at <http://www.granduniondtp.ac.uk/forms-and-guidance-for-current-award-holders>.

Applications should be sent to Melanie Goodchild ([melanie.goodchild@socsci.ox.ac.uk](mailto:melanie.goodchild@socsci.ox.ac.uk)). Please note that the scheme is open to applications from students currently enrolled on DPhil programmes only.

As you will see from Daniel's note above, he is moving to a great new job in Finance. He will be sorely missed, and I am sure you will all want to join me in expressing appreciation for everything he has done in this role over the last 5 years. I couldn't have worked with a better funding administrator. David

<http://www.granduniondtp.ac.uk/forms-and-guidance-for-current-award-holders>