



THE UNIVERSITY  
*of* EDINBURGH



INSTITUTE FOR  
**ACADEMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**

# Research Staff

Transferable skills, professional and personal  
development training and support





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## Welcome to the IAD Research Staff brochure

The Institute for Academic Development (IAD) supports the career and professional development of the University's population of around 2000 research staff. We use the umbrella term research staff to describe postdocs, fellows, research associates and technicians. Whether you are on your first research contract, are new to Edinburgh or have years of experience, this brochure summarises the training and support we offer.

All our workshops are free of charge and have been tailored to the professional skills a researcher needs to do their job. You are a large community, with diverse needs, so the programme of workshops presented here is only part of what the University can offer.

Our approach is to offer a mixture of both on campus and online training, to guarantee the availability of comprehensive support for researchers. We also have a growing collection of online guides and resources available to access on our webpage.

We have also been working on ensuring our work in supporting research staff aligns with national level initiatives. As a signatory to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers we are committed to developing new approaches and support for research staff across the University. One significant outcome is the development of the Research Staff Hub. This University landing page is for research staff and draws together resources and information and signposts useful services.



We continue to work closely and in partnership with research staff societies, postdoc champions, Schools, Colleges and other professional services, to ensure that you have access to the relevant support you need to do your job.

We always welcome feedback and are keen to add to the workshop programme in response to your ideas and needs, so please do let us know what you think via the course feedback or by contacting us directly on [iad.researchers@ed.ac.uk](mailto:iad.researchers@ed.ac.uk).

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## How to use this brochure

This brochure provides an overview of the training and support available through the IAD for research staff. It also links to IAD support for learning and teaching roles, PhD supervisors and Principal Investigators.

Each workshop or activity has a short description and we have also mapped all our training to the Vitae Researcher Development Framework (RDF). You can find a short introduction to the RDF on [pages 10 - 11](#). Please note that the programme is subject to possible change throughout the year but that full and updated information (including dates, full descriptions and booking information) can be found on our webpages



## The Researcher Development Team (Research Staff)



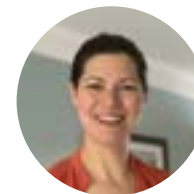
Dr Fiona Philippi      Head of Researcher Development



Nicola Cuthbert      Researcher Development Manager



Dr Darcey Gillie      Research Staff Careers Consultant



Eleanor Hennige      Research Staff Careers Consultant



Dr Anna Pilz      Academic Developer and Trainer



Dr Emily Woollen      Academic Developer

## Supporting Research Staff: Policies and Practice

The University of Edinburgh is committed to supporting the professional and career development of all our research staff. Alongside the training we deliver, the IAD works closely with colleagues around the University to ensure that our policies and practices reflect this commitment.

### **The Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers**

On 4th February 2020, The University of Edinburgh signed the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers. The Concordat, commonly known as the Researcher Development Concordat, is an agreement between stakeholders to improve the employment and support for researchers and researcher careers in higher education in the UK. It sets out three clear principles of environment and culture, employment, and professional and career development. The principles are underpinned by obligations for the four key stakeholder groups, funders, institutions, researchers and managers of researchers, to realise the aims of the Concordat.

Research staff play a vital role at the University of Edinburgh and we are committed to supporting their career development. By signing this document, the University is demonstrating its continued commitment and ongoing support of research staff careers, but also to working in partnership with other institutions and funders to explore more systematic changes.

As per our signatory responsibilities, the University of Edinburgh is required to publish an action plan and annual report, which includes our strategic objectives, implementation plan and progress. Our action plans and reports have been saved on the Research Staff Hub, Concordat section.

**Search: Research Staff Concordat**

### **Code of Practice for the Management and Career Development of Research Staff**

If you are new to the University or uncertain about what you are entitled to as a member of research staff, we'd strongly encourage you to become familiar with our Code of Practice. This puts the national and international guidelines about supporting and managing research staff into an Edinburgh context and clearly sets out the responsibilities of researchers, their managers and the University.

Each section of the Code includes useful checklists. These are designed to help you work with your managers to ensure your career and employability develop during your time at Edinburgh, whatever career path you subsequently follow.

With practical advice and clear information, the Code is designed to be used by researchers and their managers to prompt useful discussions on research progress, training and career progression. It highlights the various policies and documents which affect research staff and a dedicated webpage points to these so you can understand how the University expects you to be managed and guided.

**Search: Research Staff Code of Practice**

### **Support for Research Ethics and Integrity**

Research ethics and integrity underpins excellent research, and is at the heart of what constitutes good research practice. It means conducting research in such a way that allows others to have confidence and trust in the methods and the findings of the research, leading to improved research quality. All researchers share the responsibility with their institutions to uphold research ethics and integrity, and it is important to educate yourself on your responsibilities and best practice in order to enhance your research.

For more information on training, guidance and support, go to the IAD research ethics and integrity webpages.

**Search: IAD Research Ethics and Integrity**

## Supporting you and your wellbeing

Research involves a lot of uncertainty, so you are likely to have a plan to help you maintain progress in your project and have ideas about how you will address problems as they arise. It's just as important to think about how you will notice if your wellbeing suffers and to have a plan to tackle this. The University has a range of services and resources to help you. Some will help you to manage your research, others will be more focused on your mental health.

As a member of staff, you can access free and confidential support from the Staff Counselling Service. The Staff Disability Service provides specialist support, advice and guidance on request. The Chaplaincy offers a wide variety of wellbeing activities, for people of all faiths and none. You can also access expert third party support including Big White Wall.

The IAD has produced two online guides for research staff to complement the expertise and support across the University:

**Thriving in your research position**, with a focus on being resilient, includes advice, worksheets and case studies.

**Beginning your research position in Edinburgh** is aimed at new staff and focuses on finding support in Edinburgh and managing the transition to postdoctoral research.

**Search: Beginning your research position in Edinburgh**

**Search: Thriving in your research position**

**Search: Counselling Services**

**Search: Chaplaincy Mindfulness and Wellbeing**



# Policies, advice and support in the University



## Leadership

Develop skills to take control in your research project and build your employability in a range of careers



## for Researchers at a Glance



## Writing

Present your ideas effectively in publications and proposals



## Funding

For tailored development opportunities and new networks



## Careers

Understand your options, marketing yourself effectively, make the right decisions



## Networks

Develop effective connections with researchers, stakeholders and employers



## Engagement

Support to reach new audiences and promote the value of research in society



Build your own profile and find out where to follow us

# Mapping your Skills

## Researcher Development Framework

Alongside the specialist skills you develop as a researcher, it is important to ensure that your personal and professional development is enhanced as you gain experience. A useful tool to identifying these skills is the Researcher Development Framework (often referred to as the RDF). Developed by Vitae ([www.vitae.ac.uk](http://www.vitae.ac.uk)), the national organisation of researcher development, the framework has four skills domains:

**Domain A:** Knowledge and Intellectual Abilities

**Domain B:** Personal Effectiveness

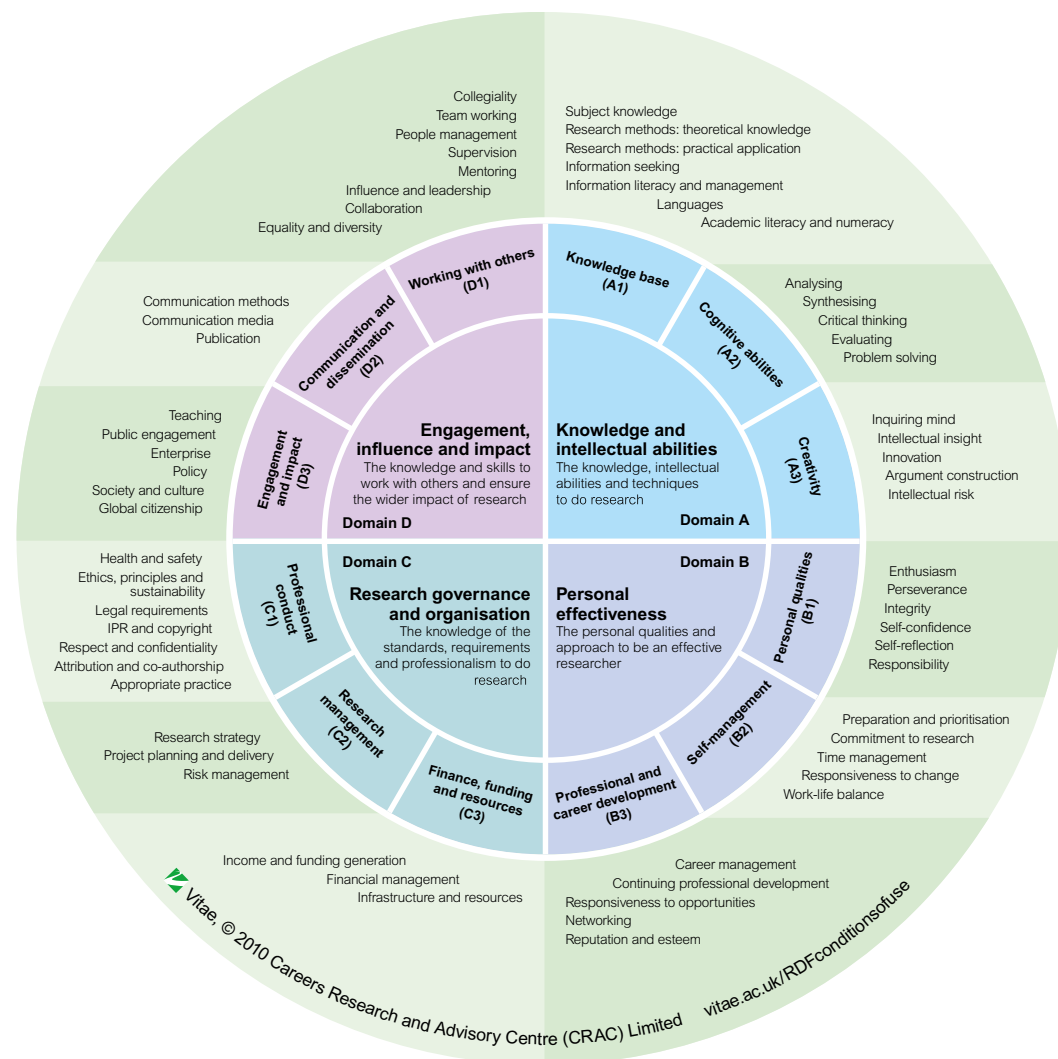
**Domain C:** Research Governance and Organisation

**Domain D:** Engagement, Influence and Impact

The wheel opposite summarises the wide-ranging knowledge, intellectual abilities, techniques and professional standards directly linked to being a researcher, as well as the personal qualities, knowledge and skills to work with others and ensure the wider impact of research. On the Vitae website you will find a range of resources to help you use the RDF to guide your development.

There are many different ways to use the RDF. You could start by doing a skills audit to identify present and desired competence and confidence levels in a particular skill area. As a researcher you are likely to have a wide range of skills which may have been acquired through past studies, work or other experience. It is important to recognise these and to reflect on how these can be refined and developed. Equally, you may have gaps in your knowledge or experience of a particular skill area, and the RDF can help you to recognise these.

One way to develop is to undertake training in a certain area. At the IAD, we have mapped all our workshops to the domains of the RDF, in order to support the use of the RDF by researchers. This mapping can be found on our webpages.



## Workshops

Please note that these workshops are subject to change throughout the academic year.

Further information and guidance on booking is available on the IAD website.

If you are unsure about whether a particular workshop is relevant to your career stage, or responsibilities, don't hesitate to get in contact with us.



## Bookings and Cancellations

**Booking:** To book any of our workshops please visit our webpage: [www.ed.ac.uk/iad/researchers](http://www.ed.ac.uk/iad/researchers) and click on the 'Research Staff' box. Here you will find details of our workshops and guidance on booking.

**Waiting lists:** If the workshop is full please add yourself to the waiting list; if we see there is a high demand for a workshop we will try to add additional workshops based on waiting list numbers.

**Cancelling:** If you need to cancel your booking, please do so at your earliest opportunity and at least 3 days before the event. Someone else may be able to take your place, but we need time to contact them. Also, although you are not charged for an event, there are costs we incur (e.g. tutor fees) which relate directly to places reserved.

**Attendance:** We maintain attendance registers; unexpected absences will be noted. If you consistently fail to attend, or repeatedly cancel with very short notice, you may be prevented from booking future IAD events.



## Professional Development

### How to Develop your Research Leadership

This workshop facilitates a reflection on how to be an effective leader in research, and what that means in your context. We will look at theories on leadership as well as consider practical experiences through case studies to enable you to articulate your leadership skills and experiences. The workshop gives you the opportunity to plan your next actions for further developing your research leadership.

### How to Get the Most out of your Postdoc

This workshop will give you an opportunity to reflect on your research career ambitions and how you can be proactive and strategic during your current postdoc position to move toward those ambitions. Aimed at postdocs of any career stage, we will consider some practical planning tools and tactics that assist you in building your research portfolio.

### Staying well in your Research Career

Working in research is both an exciting and challenging experience. Working on something you care about along with dealing with setbacks, uncertainty, etc. Inevitably you will experience times when things aren't going so well, this workshop draws on evidence-based strategies to help you stay well during your research career.

### The Strategic Researcher

This workshop will provide support around being more strategic when applying for grants, publishing and using different resources, including teams, to increase productivity.

### How to Build your Research Profile 1:1 Consultations

In these 45-minute consultations you can explore strategies for building your research profile and/or how to develop compelling narratives around your research activities that enable you to move towards your next research project and career ambitions.

### Developing as a Mentor

This 3-hour interactive workshop provides a general overview of what mentorship is (and isn't). The session facilitates the opportunity for best-practice sharing between mentors with different levels of mentoring experience. Role playing activities will enable participants to develop strategies in managing challenging mentoring situations.



### **Giving an Effective Presentation**

Giving a great presentation is largely about practice, but there are many things you can learn that will improve your stage presence and the way that you connect with a conference audience. This interactive workshop will focus on your needs and explore the tricks, tips and techniques of great presenters.

### **Storytelling Techniques for Effective Communication**

This workshop is an introduction to using storytelling techniques for effective research communication.

### **Voice and Presentation Skills Workshop**

This workshop will promote and enhance an awareness of what makes your voice interesting and sustainable and will focus on how you deliver a presentation.

### **Advanced Presentation Skills Masterclass**

This workshop is designed to help you practice and develop your skills, will focus on the presentation design, structure, style and delivery of your presentation.

### **Researcher Writing Hour & Morning/Afternoon Writing Retreat**

We offer both in-person as well as online writing sessions throughout the academic year to provide you with space and time to work on your chosen writing projects.



### **Research Leader - New and Aspiring PIs**

A programme of 4 standalone workshops for new and aspiring Principal Investigators (PIs). Topics include building your research profile, developing and supporting a research group, and understanding the internal and external research and higher education environment.

## **Funding**

### **How to write your Fellowship Application**

This workshop will offer top tips on how to write your first fellowship application, with the aim to encourage participants to think more positively about funding applications generally as an opportunity to reflect on career goals, developing time and project management skills, and shaping research projects.

### **Developing your Funding Profile**

This hands-on workshop is designed for research staff who are currently developing a research project idea and are seeking to build a track record of grant capture. Through reflective and collaborative activities, this session will help you identify essential strategies for implementing a step-approach to funding.

## **Research Connections and Collaborations**

### **Networking for Researchers - A Strategic Approach**

This workshop introduces a proactive approach to developing your own network. It explains how to incorporate networking into your career planning and how to build genuine relationships. It also includes practical tips to help you 'work the room' and to promote yourself in conversations.

### **How to Collaborate Effectively**

Collaboration can be one of the most rewarding opportunities and experience of a research career, and yet can bring some of the biggest challenges. Aimed at researchers new to, or thinking of establishing, a collaborative research project, this workshop provides an opportunity to reflect on your reasons for collaborating, what each party might contribute to the overall project, and offers practical tips how to establish effective working practices and relationships.

### **Interdisciplinary Collaborations**

The workshop will provide an introduction to interdisciplinary collaborations for early career researchers who are new to, or who want to improve skills. The workshop will give participants a chance to understand and reflect on what barriers might present themselves, and how they might tackle these with practical strategies for effective interdisciplinary collaboration.

### **An Introduction to Public Engagement with Research**

This workshop provides an introduction to the ways you can engage the public with your research.

### **Creating Impactful Public Engagement**

This workshop introduces a flexible approach to planning engagement activities with focus on the outcomes.

### **Facilitation Skills for Public Engagement**

This workshop looks at ways of improving the communication and inter-personal skills needed to facilitate well.

### **Dialogue: Public Engagement Beyond Public Lectures**

This course gives practical guidance on how to go about 'collaborative conversations' in a way that is relevant to your research. It builds on the principles of 'dialogue', which has proved a powerful approach to communication in public engagement and many other areas.





# Publications

## How to Peer Review Manuscripts for Journals

For postdocs and researchers with little or no experience of reviewing manuscripts, this workshop focuses on the peer-review system and how to critically evaluate a manuscript.

## Get that Paper Written and Published

This one-day workshop helps researchers develop the skills for writing research papers for peer reviewed journals. It focuses on all the steps involved in the writing process after the collection and analysis of data.

## Writing Clinic Day

In this session, researchers can try out editing strategies that will improve your writing in terms of clarity, structure and argument.

## Collaborative Writing and Publishing

Collaborative writing is often stimulating and rewarding, but it can also be stressful. In this workshop, we explore both the benefits and potential pitfalls of writing in collaboration with others; the affordances and drawbacks of different types of collaboration; issues around ownership, contribution and authorship; co-authoring and technology; and communication habits of strong collaborators.

## Writing Freely: Blogging about your Research

Blogging is turning into a popular format for communicating research processes and results to different audiences. It may seem straightforward compared to other academic writing platforms, but taking the leap into publishing blogposts can be daunting. In this workshop will explore key issues for academic bloggers.

## From Thesis to Publication

This workshop aims to enable participants to develop a publication strategy for their doctoral research, covering the pros and cons of articles, book chapters, edited collections, and monographs.

## How to Get your First Book Contract (CAHSS)

This workshop is aimed at Arts & Humanities researchers who are in the process of developing their first monograph plans. The workshop provides an opportunity to reflect on your publication strategy in relation to your career plans and will address key considerations when seeking a contract for an academic book, including how to choose a publisher; target audience; components of a book proposal; and timeline.

## An Introduction to Copyright

This workshop provides an overview on the fundamentals of copyright as it applies to students and academic researchers in terms of writing dissertations/theses, journal articles and other types of research outputs.

## Copyright and Social Media

This workshop will cover topics such as fair dealing, copyright infringement, Creative Commons and how to obtain permission to use copyrighted materials. It is well-suited for those who require a basic understanding of copyright law and licensing when using works from social media (or from the internet, in general) as content creators or researchers.

## Academic Publishing

Publishing your work and sharing your findings is a key component of a successful research career. This workshop is designed to explain the relationship between copyright, Creative Commons licenses and Open Access and how authors can navigate the publishing process meeting all their funder's requirements, ensuring maximum impact and visibility of their research while not breaking the law.

## Creative Commons for Beginners

This session provides a comprehensive introduction to Creative Commons licensing. Discover the various license types, learn how to apply them to your creative works, and explore the benefits of sharing content while retaining control over your intellectual property.



# Research-Led Teaching

## How can supervisors help PhD students develop their academic writing?

This workshop is intended for PhD supervisors who would like guidance on handling the problems that their supervisees – in particular, international students – may present or encounter in their academic writing.

## Gaining Teaching Accreditation for Your PhD Supervision

This workshop is designed to help you to identify ways of gaining teaching accreditation for the work you do in doctoral supervision. You will spend time reflecting on and discussing your supervision, and find out about Higher Education Fellowship and the Edinburgh Teaching Award.

## Supervising Flexibly

This workshop provides advice and support for research supervisors who are now having to supervise more flexibly in response to changing circumstances.

### CV briefing sessions

These workshops will address how to present your skills, experience and research effectively:

- **Academic CVs** will focus on writing academic CVs, tailoring it for roles within academia
- **Non-Academic CVs** will focus on writing and tailoring your CV for non-academic jobs.

### Career Coaching with Peers

Monthly drop-in group coaching sessions for career related queries. Group coaching enables you to explore approaches to your career management - for example discovering options, decision-making techniques, action planning, networking, and more.

### Squiggly Careers and your Options

The purpose of this workshop is to enhance your confidence in managing your career in response to all events, planned and unplanned, and to respond to your own needs as your professional motivations and personal priorities change through life. Participants will learn how to navigate squiggly careers by applying their research skills and creativity to ask helpful questions, gather data to inform decision-making, cope with uncertainty, and adapt to the unexpected.

### Academic Interviews

This workshop is aimed at researchers wishing to learn more about the academic interview process. The workshop will cover what to expect at academic interview, how to prepare and give you a chance to practice interview questions in a group setting.

### LinkedIn and Social Media Retreat

This retreat offers you a dedicated period of time to set aside other demands and responsibilities to focus on optimising your social media profile for career management and planning. A qualified careers adviser will be on hand to support you. This is a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) session.

### Research Staff Career Development Consultations

These one-to-one appointments with a professional career adviser can be used for many purposes, including discussing career options, paths and planning, receiving practical advice on preparing a targeted CV or application form, undertaking a mock job interview or general career advice.

Consultations can help researchers at different career stages including anyone who is new to the University or coming to the end of a contract, anyone looking to develop a long-term career in the University or those actively looking to move in a new career direction.

Eligibility details on our webpage.

**Search: Research Staff Careers Consultations**



## Careers Resources

### New Career Development Videos

New and enhanced career development resources are now available at the University. A series of recorded career conversations have been created, with people who have transitioned from University research positions to careers outside of academia, along with a suite of micro workshops, based on materials drawn from already successful live workshop sessions. The micro workshops are open access, accessible and available to researchers at any time.

**Search: Career Conversations**

**Search: Micro Workshops**

### Academic Career Journeys at Edinburgh

This resource is a collection of video and text case studies from individuals at the University of Edinburgh who are at different stages of the academic career journey and across a range of disciplines. The case studies show the challenges and rewards of an academic career, and the personal qualities and experiences that can be influential in helping individuals to progress an academic career. In addition, the case studies demonstrate the type of support provided by PhD supervisors, research group leaders, and other academic colleagues that has helped the individuals progress their academic career.

**Search: Academic career journeys at Edinburgh**

## Research Projects

### Writing a Data Management Plan for your Research

At the end of this practical workshop, researchers will have produced a 1st draft Data Management Plan (DMP) for their research project and will understand the basic components of a good DMP.

### Working with Personal and Sensitive Data

For many researchers, the sensitivity of research data is one of the main barriers to data sharing. Fear of violating ethical or legal obligations, lack of knowledge about disclosure control and the time required to anonymise data to a suitable standard often prevents valuable datasets from seeing the light of day. This awareness raising workshop will introduce how to collect, share, store and protect the sensitive data you may encounter.

### Data Management for your Research

Research Data Management is a hot topic these days, with various funding councils increasingly requiring researchers to meet certain data management criteria both during and beyond their research project. This workshop provides an overview on research funders' and University requirements from researchers, research data lifecycle, data management plans, storing data securely during a research project, options for sharing or archiving data at the end of a research.



## Online Resources and Guides

To ensure researchers have access to support as and when they need it, we have a selection of online resources and guides. These either complement our core workshop programme or provide a readily available resource for those very popular workshops, designed to support you in your research role at Edinburgh.

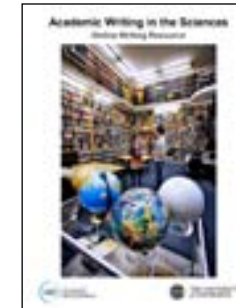


### How to Design a Public or Stakeholder Engagement Process

This workshop will offer strategies to design public engagement activities where everyone is engaged and comes away with something useful. project, and services and tools available at the University to help researchers manage.

### Archiving your Research Data

In this workshop researchers will learn how to approach the key decisions around archiving research data, such as whether to release data under an open licence.



## The Seven Stages of being Productive

- 1 UNDERSTANDING AND ACCEPTING YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES**  
How you work can change from day to day. You may find you have to change the structure of your working day and identify and communicate with colleagues what your main responsibilities are on any given day.
- 2 CREATING A MEANINGFUL TASK LIST**  
Creating a task list allows you to get everything organised to do out of your head and gives you a sense of achievement when you can tick them off. They need to be low overwhelmed with what you need to do, but allow this process to be a way to reflect on your workload and what is urgent but feasible.
- 3 CREATING A SITUATIONAL TASK LIST**  
Remember to give yourself time to build this list. Not necessary 'urgent' tasks or the things you normally get around to, they can still be important and can support the work you do (e.g. training, online training), thinking about your professional development, your networks, and filing and sorting paperwork.
- 4 WORKING OUT WHAT YOU CAN AND CAN'T DO**  
Try to face up to this as soon as you can. Tell people what you are prioritising (or taking your preparations and adjustments) and why, and include a plan for how you'll tackle the things you can't do at the moment. Remember to ask for help if you can't work out how to do something that is expected of you.
- 5 EMOTIONAL IMPACT**  
It's important to acknowledge and factor in emotional impact of work. Our attitudes to disruption and uncertainty will be different, so it's important not to compare yourself to others or judge others who are struggling with things that are straightforward to you.
- 6 REVIEWING AND ADAPTING**  
How your day turns out is important. It's OK if they aren't, you can still learn from them. Consider a weekly review of what you have done, and adapt as necessary. You won't get this right straight away, so be all learning as we go it may help to have someone to talk things through.
- 7 TOOLS THAT MIGHT HELP**  
What can you do when things don't go to plan? It's important to plan for all eventualities. Do this by discussing with colleagues what to expect from each other when you are feeling tough, and any ideas of how to best to react to unexpected situations.

## Improving your Online Presence

Reviewing your Online Engagement

- How do you use social media?
- Why have you not used social media?
- What are the benefits of using social media?

Stronger your online presence and the good practice you already in effect will help you stand out from your peers.

The Core Features of Online Spaces

Questions to ask

Reflections to think

## Mentoring

The IAD has created a suite of mentoring resources to support individuals considering mentoring as a career development opportunity, from both the mentor and mentee perspective. They explore what mentoring is and what it is not, the role of the mentee in finding and building mentoring relationships and the skills required in the role of the mentor. The University also has a university wide mentoring programme, to support staff to create these connections.

**Search: Mentoring**

## Writing Retreats

The IAD offer a number of writing sessions to support researchers to carve our dedicated time to progress writing projects. These include Researcher Writing Hours and Writing retreats, along with taking part in the annual WriteFest. You may also be interested in running your own writing retreats and to help with this the IAD have produced a 'Facilitators Guide' to give you an idea of the structure of different retreats, the things to think about before and during the retreat and your role as facilitator. More information can be found on our webpages:

**Search: IAD Writing Retreat**

## Developing Digital Skills

As researchers it is important to keep your digital skills up to date. This will enable you to better communicate and collaborate using digital tools, manage and visualise data, help you develop your network, and share research through social media and online channels.

At the University, the development of digital skills is underpinned by the Digital Skills Framework - a tool to help you evaluate your current levels of digital capability, reflect on development needs, plan a development path and find resources to help develop your digital skills.

You can attend training courses through the Digital Skills Programme, or attend our six month Developing Your Data Skills programme, which develops broad data skills across three levels of complexity. If you prefer self-led learning, LinkedIn Learning is our online skills development service offering an extensive library of high quality video courses in digital, technology, creative and business skills.

**Search: Digital Skills Training**

## Digital Research Services

Digital Research Services provide a single point of access for data-intensive and computational work at any stage of the research lifecycle. Check out their website for a collection of tools, training and events or get tailored advice from one of the college-specific Research Facilitators.

**Search: Digital Research Services**

## Online Development Toolkit

An online resource which enables all staff, particularly those in leadership and management roles, to quickly find relevant information and practical advice to help them deal with different situations they may be facing in the workplace. It provides support for operational performance issues, like time management, difficult conversations or effective recruitment, through to more strategic issues, like innovation, developing strategies or partnerships.

**Search: Talent & Development**

## Research Staff / Postdoc Societies

Research staff societies are organised by researchers for researchers. These societies offer the chance to meet other researchers, access local information relevant to your discipline, locate opportunities for collaboration, attend talks and seminars and allow for valuable social and networking opportunities.

The IAD holds networking events for society members bi-annually and have created a mailing list to allow societies to share news, resources, good practice and develop a network at the University.

Our research staff societies' webpage has further information if you are looking to set up a society or locate existing societies. It also has information about the type of external networks which support research staff societies.

**Search: Research Staff Societies**

## Research Staff Society Video Resources

The IAD have video resources for research staff societies, where current and previous society members from across the University provide their insights into what the benefits of research staff societies are, give practical advice on how to set up and maintain a society, and showcase some of the successful events that their societies have run.

# RESEARCHER REALITIES.

Researcher Realities is a new IAD initiative. Under the umbrella of #ResearcherRealities, we invite conversations among and across the research community how we do what we do, what contexts and circumstances inform our decisions, what we do when things go wrong, how we navigate challenges, how we define success. They aim to foster open, transparent, and inclusive research cultures by promoting authenticity, and giving reassurances, opportunities for best-practice sharing and inspiration. There are three formats for these conversations: thematic in-person pop-up sessions that connect, for instance, to Writefest and career month (June); a curated blog series; and an annual virtual event.

**Search: Researcher Realities**



## Edinburgh Research Office

At Edinburgh Research Office, we work alongside researchers to grow ideas into fundable proposals. Our website is your first port of call for finding funding opportunities, including how to get the most out of ResearchProfessional. We also have a wealth of resources on crafting your research application, including a collection of successful applications.

Contact your Research Funding Specialist or Research Grants Administrator for personalised advice on a proposal or an existing grant you are currently working on. We have a dedicated website area including support for researchers, funding opportunities and information about our Covid-19 research across the University.

**Website:** <https://www.ed.ac.uk/research-office>

**Blog:** <https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/research-office/>

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/GrowingYourIdea>



## Public Engagement

One of the most effective mechanisms for developing as a researcher is to get involved in one of the many public engagement opportunities in the University. Alongside the skills that you will develop, you will be an ambassador for the University and the important research we do here. Whatever your future career path, public engagement will add real impact to your CV and allow you to demonstrate a wide range of skills.

There are many events, festivals and programmes around the University to get involved in, and in IAD we run public engagement workshops to support you.

**Search: Supporting Public Engagement with Research**



## Support for Learning & Teaching Roles

New teaching experiences can be exciting but daunting! Whether you're approaching your first tutorial, lecturing for the first time or taking on your first course organisation or personal tutoring role the IAD is here to help.

If you're about to start tutoring or lab demonstrating then have a look at our workshops and resources for tutors and demonstrators. Some of these are intended as an introduction for those new to these roles. If you're new to lecturing then you might also like to attend some of our workshops for tutors and demonstrators as these cover topics like lecturing. You could also come along to some of our 'Practical Strategies for ...' workshops, which are short practical introductions to teaching topics.

You may want to begin an accredited programme or award focused on teaching in higher education. This is likely to be useful for your future career.

We have a range of networks you can join, as well as other resources and support, so do have a look at these on the IAD web pages.

Do remember to ask around in your subject area for advice as well. You should get help locally with how your teaching fits into particular courses and programmes and how teaching is administered.

**Search: IAD Learning and Teaching Roles**

**Search: IAD Tutors & Demonstrators**



## Postgraduate Research Supervisors and Examiners

The IAD offers a variety of workshops, training and resources to support you in your role as a postgraduate research supervisor and examiner.

### Fundamentals of PhD Supervision



IAD provides training to support supervisors in performing their supervisory role. New supervisors are required to complete the online course, 'Fundamentals of PhD Supervision' and this should be renewed every five years. Additionally, supervisors may be expected to attend a College or School specific session to discuss local level information and scenarios. Further information on the course is available online.

**Search: Fundamentals of PhD Supervision**

There is also an online resource, 'Fundamentals of PhD Examination' available to support PhD examiners in developing their understanding of the examination process and their role. There is more information about this online.

**Search: Fundamentals of PhD Examination**

### Optional workshops for supervisors

We offer further optional training events for supervisors. These include practical strategies such as:

**Dealing with International PhD Students' Writing Issues**

**Gaining Teaching Accreditation for Your PhD Supervision**

**Supervising Flexibly**

### Information and resources

There is a dedicated section of the IAD website which offers tools and resources for supervisors as well as information on events and training.

**Search: Postgraduate Research Supervisors**

**There is a page for Research Supervision on the Doctoral College Webpages**



## Photography

Images → Allan Bovill / Mihaela Bodlovic / Paul Dodds / Guthrie Aerial Photography

## Contact Details

If you would like to find out more about the workshops and resources offered by the IAD, please visit our website [www.ed.ac.uk/iad/researchers](http://www.ed.ac.uk/iad/researchers) or email [iad.researchers@ed.ac.uk](mailto:iad.researchers@ed.ac.uk)

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