

Postgraduate Forum Annual Conference Training Symposium (PGF-ACTS)

Programme 2018

Postgraduate students attending the RGS-IBG Annual Conference are invited to attend a training and networking symposium on the Tuesday before the Annual Conference begins, organised jointly by the RGS-IBG Postgraduate Forum and the RGS-IBG. The symposium provides an opportunity for postgraduates to get to know other delegates and the conference venue. The location for ACTs will be in the Glamorgan Building – Seminar Rom -1.80.

Time	Session
12:00 – 13:00	Registration and lunch
13:00 – 13:30	<p>Opening Address Dan Casey (University of Sheffield, UK – outgoing chair of PG Forum) and Professor Paul Milbourne (University of Cardiff, UK – Chair of Conference)</p>
13:30 – 14:15	<p>Getting the Most Out of the RGS-IBG Conference Dr Mary Greene (National University of Ireland Galloway, Ireland)</p> <p>This introductory workshop focuses on welcoming early-stage PhD students to their first big academic conference, guiding them through what to expect over the coming days, and the opportunities on offer at the conference. This year we are delighted to welcome Dr Mary Greene (a former PGF committee member and author of a guide for postgraduates on making the most of conferences) to lead this workshop. With plenty of opportunities to network with other delegates, this informal yet informative workshop will be the ideal start to your conference experience!</p>
14:15 – 14:30	Break
14:30 – 15:45	<p>Changing Landscapes of Academic Publishing Professor Peter Kraftl (University of Birmingham, UK – co-editor of <i>Area</i>) and Dr Fiona Nash (RGS-IBG)</p> <p>This workshop aims to demystify academic publishing for PhD students, providing advice and guidance about how to start thinking about publishing papers from your research, in a relaxed and friendly setting. Attendees will also hear from current or recently post-PhD students on their experiences in publishing in geography.</p>
15:45 – 16:15	Networking over tea and coffee/ Break
16.15 – 17.15	<p>Planning in Advance: How to Find and Write Fieldwork Funding/Grant Applications Huw Jones (RGS-IBG), Peny Sotiropoulou and Jo Hickman-Dunne (Loughborough University, UK)</p> <p>This workshop explores how to seek out and successfully apply for funding for your fieldwork and other grant applications. Led by Huw Jones (grants officer at the RGS-IBG), and two PGF committee members with experience in applying for funding, the session will include advice on where to find funding sources, and how to write a strong application. The session will focus on a number of questions linked to applying for postgraduate funding:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where should I look for grants and funding? - What are application assessors looking for? - Can I expect feedback on an unsuccessful application? - How much time should I spend on my application? - Should I stick to the space on the form or add appendices? - How can I make my research project stand out? - What skills am I gaining from the application process and can they be applied elsewhere?
17:15 – 17:30	<p>Closing remarks and evaluation</p> <p>Martin Watts (University of Southampton, UK – outgoing PGF-ACTS co-ordinator) and Nina Willment (Royal Holloway, University of London, UK – incoming chair of PG Forum)</p>
18:15+	<p>Annual Conference opening plenary panel</p>
18:30	<p>ACTs Social Event</p> <p>To relax and socialise after the conference, a space in Buffalo Bar which serves food and drink and is close to the university has been reserved from 6:30 pm onwards for people attending ACTs. Their address is 11 Windsor PL, London, Cardiff CF 10 3SX</p>