The University of Edinburgh signs 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. We were one of the first eight UK universities to be awarded the HR Excellence in Research Award and have a comprehensive Code of Practice for the Management and Career Development of Research Staff. 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 such as security of employment and understanding of career destinations.

It is vital that researchers' voices are at the heart of our planning and actions, so a series of consultation events are currently taking place across the University to raise awareness of the Concordat and gather suggestions for the action plan:

- **College of Science and Engineering Concordat Event:**
  17th February 2020, 13:30 - 15:30, Murchison House, Kings Buildings
  [https://edin.ac/2uirryi](https://edin.ac/2uirryi)

- **College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Event:**
  20th February 2020, 10:30 - 12:30, Lister Building, Central (George Square MVM Postdocs are welcome to attend this event)
  [https://edin.ac/2S0zGrX](https://edin.ac/2S0zGrX)

- **College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Event:**
  TBC, contact [n.cuthbert@ed.ac.uk](mailto:n.cuthbert@ed.ac.uk) if you are interested in being notified of this event.

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**Research Staff Careers Consultant**

IAD have recently welcomed Eleanor Hennige into post as their dedicated Research Staff Careers Consultant. Eleanor has responsibility for holding individual Career Consultations with researcher staff and fellows across the University. These Consultations will shortly be available to book via MyEd and will be available on Monday and Tuesdays.

Eleanor will also be delivering a programme of Careers workshops within the IAD Research Staff programme. The next workshop to run will be a CV Briefing Session focussing on non-academic CVs [https://edin.ac/31nJq2m](https://edin.ac/31nJq2m)

Eleanor is looking forward to shortly contributing to the IAD blog (blogs.ed.ac.uk/riad4researchers) with further information.
Open to everyone - The 5th meeting of the community of Edinburgh Research Software Engineers (CERSE) will take place at Cockburn Geological Museum, Grant Institute of GeoSciences, Kings’ Buildings, 18th February 2020 from 2:30pm onwards. More about this event https://cerse.github.io/2020-02-18-Grant-Institute/
link to register https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cerse-meeting-at-kb-tickets-91748565429

For Staff - A series of information sessions on research planning in different campus locations. More details about this information session and link to book your place available at https://www.digitalresearchservices.ed.ac.uk/training/plan-design-research-projects

PhD Supervision - Coaching Conversations
21st May 2020 and 4th June 2020

As a PhD supervisor part of your role is to enable students to develop their independence as researchers. This can be challenging for supervisors as there is always the temptation to tell the student what to do especially if the student is linked to a specific funded project. This practical workshop aims to equip you as supervisor with the ability to “coach” your students to enable you to support the development of independent research.

More information here - https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/research-roles/supervisors/network

IP for Research Workshop

This is a fantastic opportunity for early-career researchers to understand how to secure intellectual property in research activities and how to use IP to create research impact. Delivered by Vitae with content from the UK IP Office this fantastic opportunity is not to be missed. Edinburgh Innovations will discuss the support available at the University. Catering provided.
https://eil.ac/IPworkshop

Career Development Support for Technicians | February - May Workshops  (click on web links below for dates and booking link)

Take Charge of Your Career: This 2hr session will provide an overview of the new technicians career development programme, including tools and opportunities available from within the University and beyond. https://edin.ac/2pR3UC5

Taking Steps to Plan your Career: This 1-day workshop will allow you to understand and present the skills, knowledge and experiences you have to offer to support you develop in your career. https://edin.ac/2N9yi3i

Career Insights: These 1hr discussions aim to support you explore the different career paths available to you. https://edin.ac/2oHTOmv

Although the curated Festival of Creative Learning week won’t be taking place in February 2020, you can still apply to run a Pop-up event at any time!
For more info and to submit a funding application please see: http://edin.ac/2Qaortu @UoE_FCL #FCL20