

June 2016 edition

Oxford ESRC Scholars Association Presidential Vote

The polls are **now open** for the first President of the Oxford ESRC Scholars Association.

The scholar who is elected as President will be taking on a key role in ensuring that the interests of all DTC students are represented at all levels within the DTC.

Two ESRC scholars—**Will Allen** and **Ivo Gruev**—have put themselves forward as candidates for the position. Both candidates have prepared short statements (attached) and 3 minute videos (the links to which are contained within the statements) to introduce themselves.

All DTC students in their funded period can vote at <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/direct/eval-evaluation/13846>. You'll need to use your Single Sign-On to vote, and please be assured that all voting is anonymised.

The polls are open until 23:55 next Wednesday 29th June 2016.

PS: The success of the association will also depend on its organising committee. If you'd like to put your name forward and get involved, please contact David.mills@education.ox.ac.uk ASAP.

DTC Annual Student Report/Survey

The DTC Annual Student Report/Survey is now open and can be completed at <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/direct/eval-evaluation/13669>. **It is mandatory** for all DTC students in receipt of studentship funding to complete the report/survey.

The responses rate currently stands at 45%. **Please could all students ensure that they complete the survey by the deadline of 12 noon on Thursday 30th June 2016.** Many thanks to those who have completed it.

Bildr App—Beta Testers Required

Dr John Miles, the Humanities Training Officer in the Humanities Division, is currently developing a training app for various platforms (smartphones, etc) called 'Bildr', which will be entering the beta testing phase soon. Any students who are interested in taking part in the beta test for the app should contact John directly at john.miles@humanities.ox.ac.uk.

Funding guidance reminders

Full funding guidance is regularly updated at <http://researchtraining.socsci.ox.ac.uk/current-students/resource-and-funding-guidelines>.

<http://researchtraining.socsci.ox.ac.uk/current-students/resource-and-funding-guidelines>

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.

NCRM Research Methods Festival 5-7 July

The National Centre for Research Methods will be holding their 7th biennial Research Methods Festival from the 5-7 July at the University of Bath. Bookings are now open and the programme and further information can be found [here](#).

Thinking of doing an Internship? Where do you start?

We want your research to have influence and relevance beyond your immediate discipline and this university. To help you with this, the DTC actively encourages 'knowledge exchange', and in particular promotes internships. Since 2011, over 70 ESRC-funded students have participated in collaborative activities with non-academic partners, and 33 have carried out internships in a wide range of organisations, from the United Nations to Oxfam, from Goldman Sachs to Locus Analytics, from the International Criminal Court to Thames Valley Police, and from the Japanese Ministry for Health, Labour and Welfare to the Scottish Government.

There are three ways you can go about organising one funded internship of up to 12 weeks.

i) Your own personal or professional contacts and networks, or those generated through your research. To apply for funding to support the additional costs of an internship, and to find out more about our expectations, fill in our internship application form at <http://researchtraining.socsci.ox.ac.uk/current-students/resource-and-funding-guidelines>

(ii) a bespoke service provided by Oxford's Careers Service, called the Doctoral Internship programme. Their trained advisors can help you identify internship possibilities and facilitate every step, from applications to signing contracts to follow-up. For further information, see the Doctoral Internship Programme website, or contact the Doctoral Internship Programme team at doctoral.internships@careers.ox.ac.uk. They ask you to follow their application process in order to process funding

(iii) nationally advertised internships scheme, such as the Policy Internships organised by the [Research Councils](#) themselves. You can apply for these in addition to our own funded internships.

Want to know more? Our summer conference has a session dedicated to internships, with a number of students speaking about their experiences and the things they have learnt.

Assessing the Impact of Cabinet Decision Making on Public Policy

University of Kent, 8th July 2016

What is the influence of the cabinet and the processes surrounding it on public policy making?

Much political science literature links governmental policy choices to voter preferences, the electoral strategies of parties and the influence and perspectives of interest groups, technocratic and civil service expertise.

These perspectives leave little room for the role of cabinet-level processes and decision making to influence policy-making outcomes. This workshop aims to open up cabinet decision making to scholarly scrutiny and examine how cabinets and ministers make policy decisions, and how these decisions shape policy outcomes.

This one-day interdisciplinary workshop will bring together researchers to explore these questions and investigate the under-researched link between cabinet level decision-making processes and policy outcomes.

For further information, please see the attached flyer and contact Dee Goddard (rg363@kent.ac.uk) to register.