Organisational structures and support services for incoming/outgoing Doctoral students at the University of Essex

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- Postgraduate Research Education support structures at the University of Essex;
- Proficio postgraduate research skills and development for doctoral candidates at the University of Essex;
- Doctoral student cohort development;
- Support for incoming and outgoing visiting doctoral candidates;
- Close and questions.

Teams supporting Doctoral Candidates at Essex

- No Doctoral School at the University of Essex;
 - Admissions;
 - Academic Departments;
 - Essex Abroad;
 - International Services Team;
 - Organisational Development;
 - Partnerships Team
 - Postgraduate Research Education Team;
 - Student Wellbeing and Inclusivity Service;
 - Student Development.
- Academic Leadership and Support
 - Dean for Postgraduate Research & Education;
 - Faculty Deans (Postgraduate)
 - Deputy Dean (Postgraduate Research Training)



University of Essex

Postgraduate Research Team supporting Postgraduate Research Student

- Act as advocates and representatives for the Postgraduate Research (PGR) community.
- Assist our PGR students and their academic departments with a range of administration processes, in support of academic progression and success –for example:
 - PGR registration and student records
 - PGR student progression
 - Thesis title approval, submission and examination
 - PGR Regulations, Policies and Procedures: Codes of Practice & Principal Regulations for Research Degrees
 - Appeals
 - Complaints
- PGR Cohort building
- Proficio management and administration postgraduate research skills and development
- Managing University Doctoral Training Partnership Studentships & Training
- Working with Partnerships Team and academic departments to develop joint international doctorates.



Proficio - skills and development for doctoral candidates What is Proficio?

Proficio is the University of Essex's Professional Development scheme for Research Students

How does it work?

The University gives each research student funds to spend on training courses and conference attendance, thus enabling each student to have a bespoke development plan which caters to their individual needs:

- Doctoral students: £2500
- Masters of Philosophy: £1500
- Masters by Dissertation: £1000

To access the funds and the training, students first need to complete a Training Needs Analysis (TNA)

Proficio - skills and development for doctoral candidates

Courses Offered

- To browse and book onto our courses, visit the University website and search Proficio
- All Proficio courses are mapped to Vitae's Research Development Framework (RDF)
- If Proficio isn't offering a course internally, students can use their funding to attend a course delivered by an external provider



PGR community and cohort development Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition

- Developed by the University of Queensland, Australia. Its success has led to the establishment of local and national competitions in several countries.
- The competition challenges students to present a compelling oration on their thesis, and its significance, in just three minutes
- Students receive training on presentation skills
- Winner receives cash prize and is invited to present at the PGR Celebration Event, as well as being nominated for the national award



PGR community and cohort development

PGR Celebration Event

- Students, Supervisors, and the Senior leadership team recognise the achievements of the PGR community over the past year
- The winners of our student led Supervisor of the Year competition are announced
- We hear from the winners of 3MT and invite an inspirational PGR alumni to deliver a lecture



PGR community and cohort development

University and Departmental Events

- Cross University Research Event (CURE) 3 minute research pitches from staff and PGR students across the University
- PGR Cohort Development Fund enables students to seeking funding to develop their own events
- Departmental Research Conferences
- Departmental Research Seminars
- Quiz/games nights
- Departmental Research Groups



Support for incoming doctoral students

- Incoming team for support at various stages of transition
 - Student facing advisor and officer
 - Pre-arrival zoom meeting
 - Communications on visas/CAS, support with accommodation, registration
 - During Welcome Week 4-5 sessions on academic support, student support, social events, what to do in Colchester, personal tutor role
 - Volunteering opportunities

Support for outgoing doctoral students

- Outgoing team for support at various stages of transition
 - Student facing advisor and officer
 - Supporting connections with host institution
 - Pre-departure event with sessions on:
 - Wellbeing
 - Culture shock
 - Integration
 - Finances
 - Support with administrative processes (e.g. risk assessments, insurance, travel advice etc.)



Thank you



Any questions?