What Now Workshop Notes – Friday 1st May 2020

In our webinar we shared ideas and ways of managing our time even if our doctorate is not possible to continue at present. Also to feel comfortable with not doing anything and focusing on something completely different for a while.

Online Training

Bearing in mind the latter we looked a range of online training opportunities and noted that for those that are not free, you can use your RTSG (£300 per annum) if you wish to sign up to any of them. Remember the Discretionary fund is open continuously until 12th June, so if you need to top up your RTSG then please apply. Please find my slides from the webinar attached.

How to find the motivation to write

One of the questions that arose was around how to write when the environment is not conducive or inability to write given the current anxieties and difficult social climate we are currently in.

There are several things that could be done – finding some virtual writing groups offered externally or within the University such as the RDP; also setting up your own writing group remotely – we would be happy to set up the Zoom platform for you to use and host for your own group. The DTP is also re-running a Digital Productivity online session on 29th May, which provides some helpful tips on how to focus.

If you are able to write and would like to be doing something other than research you might consider writing a blog The Cambridge Researcher. Additionally The Conversation are always looking for writing from researchers that are written for a non-academic audience.

Do something different

We also heard from students who have been unable to progress their doctorate and are currently doing a short placement remotely. This is an opportunity you are all welcome to take if you identify an area you might like to see if you could work in for a short period of time please contact us and we would be happy to negotiate a contract for you to do this. It can be for just a week or a few weeks or longer and part-time or full-time. Doing something away from your research might be the thing to do at present to take your mind off other anxieties.

Further workshops

We acknowledged that it is difficult to cover all aspects of what you as doctoral students are trying to manage at present and that what we provided last week was an overview. We would like to provide more in-depth sessions focusing on each area of support separately. We hope to potentially provide topics as follows:

Writing a contingency plan
Maintaining motivation
Emotional Wellbeing (in conjunction with the University Counselling Service)
Training and your TNA
Non-academic Opportunities
At Cambridge....

- PPD [https://www.ppd.admin.cam.ac.uk/](https://www.ppd.admin.cam.ac.uk/)
- LinkedIn – planning to open to doctoral students [https://www.linkedin.com/learning/me?trk=trk_default_learning](https://www.linkedin.com/learning/me?trk=trk_default_learning)
- RDP [https://www.rdp.cam.ac.uk/research-students/online-learning](https://www.rdp.cam.ac.uk/research-students/online-learning)
- DTP [https://www.esrcdtp.group.cam.ac.uk/Doctoral-Training](https://www.esrcdtp.group.cam.ac.uk/Doctoral-Training)
- CCTL [https://www.cctl.cam.ac.uk/teaching-remotely](https://www.cctl.cam.ac.uk/teaching-remotely)
- CULP/Language Centre [https://www.langcen.cam.ac.uk/](https://www.langcen.cam.ac.uk/)
Welcome to **Research Skills training**, brought to you by Cambridge University Libraries.

Researchers interact with the academic literature every day. You might be looking for information, evaluating sources, writing up work for publication or disseminating your work more widely. And of course the literature does not just consist of books or papers, there’s also a lot of research data and grey literature that needs to be processed and distributed appropriately.

We’re here to help you find your way in this landscape and make the most of your research opportunities. We have designed 7 online modules, packed with key ideas and tips to guide you, whether you are searching for information, managing data, or preparing to publish. One module will be released each week, but you can take them whenever is convenient. We’ll be here to answer your questions by email or during our weekly virtual drop-ins.

This site was created to replace our face-to-face training throughout Easter term 2020. It is not exhaustive and it will continue to be developed over time. If you have any comments or suggestions please let us know through the feedback survey.

Click on the links below to access modules as they become available.
What can **YOU** do?

Clusters – reading groups, Twitter conference – small scale, seminars

Some funds to support these activities

Peer-led learning – DTP can support these and provide platform and publicity to run

Skills Sharing – database of everyone’s skills – who can teach what to each other

Could offer outside of DTP as well to SHSS doctoral students
The Public Engagement Starter Fund is an exciting opportunity for University of Cambridge researchers to apply for small grants to undertake innovative public engagement with research activities.

Applications for the 2020 Public Engagement Starter Fund can be submitted until 15 May 2020.

The fund supports novel projects based on contemporary research at the University of Cambridge which aim to do one or more of the following:

- Reach a specific target audience
- Develop a partnership with a community of interest
- Create an innovative activity for any of the Cambridge Festivals

Applicants can apply for grants up to £1,500. Proposed projects can take a variety of formats, provided a clear rationale is given regarding the appropriateness of the method of engagement adopted, and how the necessary resources and expertise will be secured. This variety of formats includes (but is not limited to):

- Live events e.g. festivals, discussions, workshops, science cafes,
- Collaborative projects e.g. with public/organisations as partners in research,
- Public involvement e.g. patient and public, citizen science,
- Media e.g. social media, discussions via blogs, broadcasting-led activities,
- Exhibitions and installations e.g. museums and galleries,
- Education resources and programmes that connect pupils, teachers and/or education providers directly with research.

Please download and complete your application form and submit it to publicengagement@admin.cam.ac.uk by Friday 15 May 2020. Applications will be reviewed and selected internally and applicants will be notified by end of July of which they have been successful.
Create something today

Create provides a community space for those wanting to freely publish their open educational resources for all to study.

Quick start guide
Learn the basics of setting up a free course and more about the advanced features.

Create a resource
Create a course, materials, handbook, guide or competition using the advanced Moodle tools.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZxQBgWLEhI&feature=youtu.be
LinkedIn Learning - https://www.linkedin.com/learning/ - this is something Cambridge is hoping to sign up for all students and staff – should be available mid-May
Coursera - [https://www.coursera.org/](https://www.coursera.org/) includes Imperial, Stanford like business analytics, graphic design, Python, and more

FutureLearn [https://www.futurelearn.com/](https://www.futurelearn.com/) - extremely wide range, business, creative arts and media, healthcare, history, literature, law, Psychology, Politics, Nature and environment teaching

Alison [https://alison.com/](https://alison.com/) - again wide range from various institutions – free course but charge for the certificates etc

SkillShare [https://www.skillshare.com/](https://www.skillshare.com/) – this is a creative site, with teachers who are creators such as artists, writers etc. Animation, design, illustration, film, photography, writing

Coding Bootcamps

**edX** [https://www.edx.org/](https://www.edx.org/) – MOOCs from Harvard, MIT, Boston, Berkeley

Data Sciences, Computer Sciences, Business and Management

Skill building courses: Example – BlockChain from Berkeley - self paced, 3 months, 3-5 hours per week and around £120

Data Visualisation from Harvard, 8 weeks, 1-2 hours per week, Free or if you want a certificate around £30

**Udacity** – [https://www.udacity.com/](https://www.udacity.com/) – offer a quarantine special – free access for 30 days – AI, cloud computing, autonomous systems, data sciences, programming
**Code Academy** - [https://www.codecademy.com/](https://www.codecademy.com/) - coding, programming, web programming etc.

For free you get 180 hours per month of interactive lessons and daily practice, sign up for Pro at £15 per month 1,800 hours per month and unlimited mobile practice, work on real world projects, and peer support

**TeamTreeHouse** [https://teamtreehouse.com/](https://teamtreehouse.com/) - also web design and coding, free trial, offers python etc and works with tech industry partners such as google and Microsoft