

Enabling enhancement and innovation through collaboration

Visit the Centre for Academic Leadership & Development website for Research Futures news and updates throughout the year: www.hw.ac.uk/ald

Other opportunities offered via Research Futures include:

Scottish Crucible – A prestigious leadership and development programme set up and run by Research Futures for 'research leaders of the future' across Scotland: www.hw.ac.uk/scottishcrucible/

Heriot-Watt Engage – Heriot-Watt's public engagement initiative encouraging and supporting outreach by the academic community: hwengage@hw.ac.uk

Engagement with national organisations and other institutions – information, opportunities and collaborations provided via external institutions and national bodies such as Vitae: www.vitae.ac.uk/



Contact Us

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Research Futures

Academic Leadership and Development



Researcher Development support for:

Postgraduate research students
Research associates
Lecturers
Professors



Centre for Academic
Leadership & Development

Enhancing research excellence and innovation

The Centre for Academic Leadership & Development aims to support and facilitate research and teaching excellence by the institution's entire academic community – from postgraduate students and research associates to lecturers and professorial staff. The Centre aims to help researchers to maximise their research capacity and impact through provision of an extensive and award-winning training and development initiative called "Research Futures".

Research Futures at Heriot-Watt University fosters researcher development and leadership in a variety of ways including:

- Supporting early career researchers develop skills and competencies to enhance their research-related capabilities and future employability
- Stimulating a culture of innovation, leadership and interdisciplinary collaboration
- Creating valuable synergies between academic research and teaching practice
- Contributing to the Research & Knowledge Exchange Strategy and internationalisation agenda
- Providing a portal for researcher development resources, ideas and achievements
- Ensuring awareness of national agendas and external opportunities to enhance researcher development provision at Heriot-Watt University

Research Futures encompasses a number of University-wide development programmes designed and delivered by the Centre for Academic Leadership & Development for the academic community - including Heriot-Watt Crucible and Heriot-Watt Engage. The Centre further supports Learning & Teaching enhancement through accredited programmes such as LEADS and PGCAP. It also leads prominent national initiatives – including Scottish Crucible and the KE Scotland conference, and forges productive collaborations with other research institutions and national bodies (such as Vitae and the Higher Education Academy).

For further information, visit Research Futures at the Centre for Academic Leadership & Development website:

www.hw.ac.uk/ald

or email us at: researchfutures@hw.ac.uk

Developing your research capability

Research Futures at the Centre for Academic Leadership & Development offers a range of opportunities around researcher development and leadership, from subject-specific workshops and university-wide events to online resources and enhancement support.

The Centre's courses, workshops and events are offered free of charge to all members of the academic community at Heriot-Watt University, but prior online booking is required.

To book your place, go to: <https://pdms.hw.ac.uk/>

Research Futures Workshop Programmes

Designed to support early career researchers in developing valuable skills and competencies to enhance their research and career development, extensive workshop programmes run throughout the academic year for both i) Postgraduate Research Students and ii) Research Staff. Led by training and development experts from academia, industry, business and the media, the topics of the workshop programmes are informed by Vitae's "Researcher Development Framework" and include:

- How to be an effective researcher
- Thesis writing and viva preparation
- Communication skills and conference success
- Project management and team working
- Writing skills and academic publishing
- Research impact and public engagement
- Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Career management and leadership

Research Futures Conferences and Symposia

Cross-institutional Research Futures events take place throughout the academic year bringing together academic staff and postgraduate research students to discuss topical issues. They include:

- Annual Postgraduate Researcher Conference
- Academic Staff Update Session
- Research Staff Symposia
- Open Lecture Series

Heriot-Watt Crucible

Based on the success of its national Scottish Crucible programme, Research Futures runs a "Heriot-Watt Crucible" leadership programme for specially nominated lecturers and researchers from the University and partner institutions. It also designs one-off "HW Exchange" events to stimulate new research with external research institutes. Participation in HW Crucible and HW Exchange enables researchers to:

- Broaden networks and interdisciplinary collaborations
- Become more creative and innovative in their research
- Achieve more impact through engagement with Knowledge Exchange

Knowledge Exchange

Knowledge exchange (KE) is the two-way flow of ideas, expertise and people between the research community and wider users in Society in the public and private sectors. Research Futures enables researchers to develop skills and experience of KE through participation in a variety of training and outreach opportunities, including:

- Enterprising Research Summer School
- KE Scotland Conference
- HW Engage