



RESEARCH STUDENTS' EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Research in Challenging Times

Monday 24th of May 2021

09:45-16:00 (UK time)



Registration is still open on Eventbrite!

Join us and meet our inspirational keynote speakers from the University of Leicester and the University of Warwick.

Morning Keynote Speaker: Professor Teela Sanders



Abstract: Research in Challenging Times

Not unlike parenting, doing a PhD is one of the hardest but most rewarding endeavours you are likely to undertake. Add a global pandemic to the mix - including remote learning, disruptions of work communities and support networks, travel and mobility restrictions, plus unexpected health and wellbeing consequences and responsibilities - has made doctoral studies incredibly hard over this past year. If you are reading this, well you made it this far. Such a disrupted year is likely to continue to have consequences for all of us going forward, particularly in terms of work flow and productivity, as well as motivation and momentum. This talk will reflect on how to learn from this sometimes overwhelming and confusing situation (individually and as a community), so we can continue to do excellent, robust and ethical research. I will discuss how to adjust going forward, how to 'catch up' and insights to achieve the end game. I will speak to topics that will be useful for postgraduates to be mindful of, both to succeed in the PhD process but also to prepare for employability in and outside of higher education.

Abstract: Challenging (the) Times: Roles for Research in / for / beyond Difficult Circumstances

In this talk I will reflect on the notion of 'difficult' or 'challenging' circumstances which has informed both some of my work with PhD students and the practitioner-research initiatives I've been involved in with teachers in countries including Chile, India and Nepal, both in pre-pandemic and pandemic times. Via different research stories, I offer reminders that, while unfavourable external circumstances can present challenges to research, the same circumstances can be overcome - or at least be better handled or resisted - by means of research. Difficult circumstances thus raise the stakes for research - they make research harder but also more urgent and more important. They can also be balanced with an awareness of newly-gained and unexpected achievements. I end with some practical implications of this line of argument for students, teacher-researchers and academics trying to make sense of the pandemic, and beyond.

Afternoon Keynote Speaker: Dr Richard Smith



The conference booklet is ready on our website!
<https://rsec2021leeds.wixsite.com/15th-edu-conference>



Pre-recorded video presentations will be uploaded on the website soon!



Contact us: edursec@leeds.ac.uk



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