

Sociological Studies Newsletter: Issue 9 2011/12

Mickey Conn <m.conn@sheffield.ac.uk>

1 December 2011 17:53

To: scs-newsletter@lists.shef.ac.uk

For general enquiries, please call at the Enquiry Desk in Elmfield (open 09:30 - 14:30 daily). Please also remember to check noticeboards and general pages on MOLE frequently. You can find the latest copy of your handbook at www.shef.ac.uk/socstudies/current/handbooks.html.

In this newsletter:

- 1) Staff Student FREE Christmas Social - change of date
- 2) Module evaluation
- 3) Invitation to a Faculty of Social Sciences focus group on building communities of learning
- 4) Professional Service Careers in Universities
- 5) Green Roofs and Green Spaces
- 6) WARNING: Virus Alert

- 1) Staff Student FREE Christmas Social - change of date

The staff-student social announced last week has been moved to Tuesday 13th December - put the date in your diaries!

Where: Vodka Revs Baby Bar

When: Tuesday 13th December, 8pm onwards

What do you get: FREE food and a glass of champagne - there will also be some complimentary wine - all other drinks can be bought with our society vodka revs card for reduced prices too!!

It is FREE for staff and members of the society and a small charge of £2 for any non members. There will be charity buckets for donations to the Hallamshire Haematology Unit on the night too. Also there will be a fun quiz! Hope everyone can make it!

- 2) Module evaluation

Don't forget to complete a module evaluation form for each module which you are taking with the department. For most modules, these forms will be distributed at the final lecture, but for first year undergraduate modules, and anyone who misses out, the forms are freely

available at the Sociological Studies Enquiry Desk at any time that the building is open. Please place completed forms into the essay submission box. We really do value your feedback, which helps us maintain and, where necessary, improve the quality of the modules taught in the department.

3) Invitation to a Faculty of Social Sciences focus group on building communities of learning

Do you have an hour to share your ideas on 'building communities of learning'? This is one of the key themes in the Learning and Teaching Strategy: www.shef.ac.uk/polopoly_fs/1.91035!/file/TUOSLTS.pdf

The Faculty of Social Sciences is holding a series of focus groups and would like to know what you have to say.

Drinks and cakes will be available. Please respond to Claire Alam at C.Allam@sheffield.ac.uk as soon as possible if you would like to attend. There is a cap on numbers.

4) Professional Service Careers in Universities

A talk for researchers on professional and management careers in higher education.

As large complex organisations universities require talented individuals to work in roles that involve supporting academic staff and students. The publication 'What Do PhDs Do?-Trends', which analysed the career destinations of 2003-2005 doctoral graduates, found that around one in twenty moved into these kinds of professional support roles in higher education.

This event will provide you with an opportunity to find out more about this area of work and to hear about the experiences of three PhDs who are currently working in professional services roles here at Sheffield. The event will take place at the North Campus Graduate Research Centre on Thursday 8 December, beginning at 1.00pm and finishing between 2.00 and 2.30 pm. If you would like to attend please email Kevin Mahoney, careers adviser for researchers, at k.mahoney@shef.ac.uk to reserve a place.

5) Green Roofs and Green Spaces

Professor Allison James has received a small grant to explore

children's views of green roofs and green spaces. She will start this work when the grass starts growing again in the Spring!

6) WARNING: Virus Alert

A message from Lorna Warren, Director of Learning and Teaching.

It has been brought to my attention by a number of colleagues that a highly contagious virus - 'essayitis submissionosis' - is circulating the Department/University. The symptoms include:

- * an inability to attend classes;
- * if classes are attended, an inability to prepare for the class;
- * if preparation has been carried out, an inability to contribute anything constructive or useful in class.

The Student Health Centre is currently working in collaboration with senior colleagues from the Medical Faculty to produce a vaccination to protect against this very transparent virus. In the meantime, the only solution is to take large and repeated doses of Workload Management Pills and to attend classes and contribute as normal. If necessary, seek advice on the condition from your personal tutor.