CAPOD Funding Report

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Personal details will not form part of the uploaded report to CAPOD webpage

Event /Course Title	Early Career Researchers Network
Date of event	17 and 18/04/2018

1. Brief description of Event (*50-100 words*):

This valuable training opportunity will raise awareness and confidence in Early Career Researchers, addressing a range of issues that will help you complete your PhD and get the most from the conferences. We will cover:
- What we are and what we do: ourselves and our own research topics.
- Your PhD as an elevator pitch: what you do in 30 seconds.
- What's a conference for? Getting the most from GISRUK (and other conferences).
- Networking (& social networking) as ways of getting jobs.
- Getting Published: an exploration of some of the various routes to publishing research findings and to identify the requirements, opportunities and limitations involved.
- Presenting your work: how to deliver a great presentation.

2. What were the benefits of attending and what did you gain from the experience in terms of transferable skills and knowledge.

It was very soothing to hear the same struggles I experience from established academic staff, it made me rethink my career options and suitability to academia in a very positive fashion. It seems like being an academic is not about not having struggles, but rather how to deal with them and how to use self-development tool to overcome them. Also, I believe that during this event I made contacts that will be part of my career, even in joint research, in the near future as I am a 4th year already. One of the most interesting bits was one how to network in a big conference and how to use the body language to choose the group to join or to show that you wanted to be joined. This is definitely something for a life time! It was also very interesting to hear from 1sr and 2nd year students there, I was the only 4th year and it made me realise how much we grow and progress during a PhD in terms of transferable skills and confidence.

3. What actions will you be taking as a result of attending or by making new networking contacts.

I think I have became more confident to approach people for networking, also I hope to be able to contribute with session like this on the future. I am starting a post-doc in October and I think I will run a similar session for the student on our research group.

4. Can you share any additional resources produced in connection with the event (e.g. feedback from participants, training resources, website links, and additional materials.

The following hashtags were recommended to be followed on twitter and I think they can be useful for most postgrads.

@ECRchat

#ECRChat #ECRC #PhdChat #phdforum

5. Tips/experience learned from the event

Twitter can be a great way to network with your peers. Do not be afraid of start a conversation with a stranger in a conference, we are all there for the same reason. Think about presenting your work as telling a story to a group of friends interested on the same things as you, that really helps to easy you in.

6. Any additional comments or information regarding the event

Thanks for the support! I would not be able to make it without your matching fund.