

CAPOD Funding Report

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Event /Course Title	Doctoral Training in Renaissance Studies: Challenges and Opportunities
Date of event	17 March 2019

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

The event was a workshop on the first day of the Renaissance Society of America conference in Toronto. Several academics from an international variety of institutions discussed the developing needs of doctoral students in Renaissance studies, especially pertaining to preparing for the job market afterwards. The event was compromised by short talks by established academics, followed by small group discussions amongst current doctoral students. There was a significant focus on training resources and needs in the UK, and how these can be adapted to be relevant to job applications in the US.

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

The event was beneficial in many different ways. Firstly, as a networking opportunity to meet both postgraduates from other universities, and academic staff. In particular, I made several contacts at the Centre for the Study of the Renaissance in Warwick, and at the Society for Neo-Latin Studies, such as Prof Ingrid De Smet. The discussion was helpful in terms of learning about how different universities, AHRC consortiums and countries provide different opportunities, and what skills were thought of as a priority in various contexts. It was especially useful for learning about expectations and opportunities in international academic circles, such as North American universities.

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

I will be engaging more with the Centre for the Study of the Renaissance, and with the Society for Neo-Latin Studies, solidifying my contacts and joining the mailing lists and as a member. I have a clearer sense of how to take advantage of the opportunities offered by CAPOD and SGSAH, and will be pursuing additional linguistic training in Latin and Greek. I will also be considering the Visiting Doctoral Researcher scheme to expand my understanding of the international job market, and to affiliate myself with North American universities.

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 workshop is listed in the RSA programme:
<https://rsa.confex.com/rsa/2019/meetingapp.cgi/Session/1149>

5. Tips/experience learned from the event

I become more aware of the usefulness of linguistic expertise and training in digital humanities for job applications, and the importance of cultivating these skills at a doctoral level. I also realised just how many opportunities, and resources and support were offered by Scottish universities compared to those elsewhere in the UK and abroad, and this has encouraged me to make the most of them.

6. Any additional comments or information regarding the event

Overall, it was invaluable both to make connections, hear advice, and discuss experiences with other postgraduates.