CAPOD Funding Report

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<th>Event /Course Title</th>
<th>SGSAH Summer School</th>
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<td>Date of event</td>
<td>20 – 23 June 2016</td>
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1. Brief description of Event (50-100 words):

Aimed at PhD students from across all disciplines, the SGSAH Summer School, now in its second year, took place over the course of four days and featured a range of workshops and events covering a huge variety of topics, from feminist research methods to the use of digital resources in humanities research. There were also film screenings, competitions and social events, and the summer school offered an excellent opportunity to make new contacts, mix with students from my own and other disciplines, and to share ideas and experiences, while learning new methods and skills in academic research.

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

The events were all very hands-on or audience-centred encouraging a high level of participation, which made each event an interactive and engaging experience. The opportunity to get up in front of an audience to pitch my idea for a radio programme to the head of BBC Radio Scotland, as part of the broadcasting workshop, was a great boost to my confidence and my future presentations at conferences and meetings will benefit from this. A recurrent theme throughout the summer school was the importance of impact in academia and the importance and value of sharing research with a wider field – many of the events provided ideas and advice on just how this can be done.

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

Taking part in the feminist research methods workshop really made me evaluate my own approach to my research, and to consider to what extent I am conducting my research through a feminist lens. In addition, through the discussions in this session and others, both during the session and around it, I got details of a number of different papers and resources which will be useful in my research and which I had not previously come across. Throughout the summer school, I made many new contacts and exchanged details, and will be hoping to work with my new contacts in future, perhaps in arranging workshops and/or events on topics of mutual interest – it was great to be able to engage with students from other fields. I was especially interested to hear the views of students involved in more practice-based PhD projects, whose perspectives and techniques are quite different.

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.

More information is available at the SGSAH website: http://www.sgsah.ac.uk/news/summerschool/
5. Tips/experience learned from the event

Be concise and clear in your description of your research, be confident and respectful, and be aware of your responsibility as a member of the academic community - be a good ‘academic citizen.’

6. Any additional comments or information regarding the event

This is the second year that the SGSAH has organised a summer school of this sort, and from talking to other students who attended last year’s event, it seems that this year’s summer school was far more cohesive than last year’s, when it might be said that the organisers were finding their feet and trying out the concept. This year’s event was well organised, and the ease of registration and booking of accommodation was impressive. The team is friendly and supportive, and I was left feeling empowered by the event, and looking forward to next year’s – there were many more workshops this year than I could attend.