What previous recipients have said about the GRADskills Innovation Grant:

“As the project organiser, the scheme helped provide me with a track record in project management and research dissemination – both useful career skills.”

“Receiving a GRADskills Innovation Grant made it possible to turn a good idea into reality.”

“Many participants expressed enthusiasm in discussing advanced ideas… It is believed that they have built good networks with those who shared with them similar research interests.”

“Since being awarded the Grant we have introduced a series of bi-monthly student researcher seminars… Bringing together PhD students and Postdoctoral researchers working on a wide range of topics to present their research and discuss it with their peers.”

“GRADskills Innovation Grants provided a great opportunity for graduate students to organise workshops and other events on topics of your interest. This is a professional way to approach experts and other graduate students in your own field of research and may provide a basis for further collaboration.”

“A GRADskills grant also helps to attract other funding. In my experience funding bodies look favourably on those who have already successfully applied to other organisations. The GRADskills grant is a very good start to learn the ropes of the application process.”

About CAPOD

CAPOD is the University’s Centre for Academic, Professional and Organisational Development. Our aim is to provide learning and development opportunities for all staff and students.

We have tailored programmes of career and professional development for every cohort of staff and students, such as:

- GRADskills for research postgraduate students (www.st-andrews.ac.uk/capod/students/pgresearch)
- Mskills for taught postgraduate students (www.st-andrews.ac.uk/capod/students/pgtaught)
- CoReSkills for contract research staff and early career academics (www.st-andrews.ac.uk/capod/staff/researchstaff)
- Academic Staff Development Programme (ASDP) for academic staff, teaching fellows and contract research staff (www.st-andrews.ac.uk/capod/staff/academic)
Are you a doctoral student or a staff member in Arts or Sciences? Do you have an idea which could enhance transferable and professional skills development amongst research students? Would you like to organise a workshop or conference, or maybe create a network?

Then CAPOD would like to invite you to apply for the GRADskills Innovation Grant and PG Conference Fund. This is one of the means by which students and staff are encouraged to think creatively about how the skills development of Research Postgraduates can be facilitated through CAPOD.

Funds of up to £2,000 are available depending on the project size. Projects should be well-defined, short-term and aim to either:

1. Develop transferable skills training resources or activities that can be made available to research students at St Andrews.

Or

2. Help postgraduate students organise a conference at which they can present their research (and develop transferable skills).

How to apply

Application forms and guidance notes can be found on the CAPOD webpages at www.st-andrews.ac.uk/capod/funding/innovation. Applicants must describe their proposed project or conference, with particular emphasis on how it will develop transferable skills and provide a lasting resource, justify the expenditure requested and provide a time-line for completion of the project / conference.

Applications are reviewed three times per year – deadlines can be found on the CAPOD website. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their proposal approximately one month after the submission deadline.

Successful applicants are required to submit an Innovation Grant Final Report within one month of the completion of their project / conference detailing the outcomes. This may be published in the St Leonard’s Postgraduate Newsletter.

Postgraduate applicants may find the following GRADskills workshops particularly helpful:

- Fundraising for postgraduates
- Conference planning for postgraduates

You can register for GRADskills workshops via the University’s online Personal Development Management System (www.st-andrews.ac.uk/pdms).

Previously funded projects include:

- Applied Creativity: A practical, collaborative workshop to enhance creative thinking and problem solving skills across disciplines
- SHEILAS Gross pathology workshop: marine mammals
- The Scottish Journal of Performance – student-led, peer-reviewed, online and Open Access
- A Bio-Network for University of St Andrews Postgraduates
- St Andrews / Stirling Philosophy Graduate Reflectorium
- Workshop series on Advanced Quantitative Methods
- Film on the Catwalk: Interdisciplinary PG Study Day in Costume Cinemas
- Future Connections: Scottish Universities Postgraduate Sustainable Development Networking Conference
- PG Interdisciplinary Conference ‘Gender & Transgression in the Middle Ages’
- Immersive Training Environment to Explore 3D Virtual Worlds for Student Transferable Skill Development
- PG Forum conference: Developing & Transferring Research Knowledge at the School of English
- The Deleuze Cinema Network Resource Centre