

LERU Doctoral Summer School

Essential Enterprise Skills for Early Career Researchers

17th - 22nd July 2011

The second annual LERU Doctoral Summer School will be hosted by University College London, focusing on the theme of Entrepreneurship. During the week participants will develop the knowledge and attributes required to successfully take a business idea forward, whether that is within an academic or a business environment and from scientific or humanities domains. Participants will be given some initial training, followed by project work in cross-disciplinary teams on a business idea focused around one of the global challenges such as climate change, energy, ageing, population growth, urbanisation or food security. Experts in areas such as intellectual property and resource management will be on hand to support the teams in their work and provide some formal learning input throughout the duration of the summer school. At the end of the week, each team will present their business idea to a panel of professionals. During the business plan development, participants will be encouraged to produce a video diary of their activities which will not only harness creative energy but also enhance the learning experience by demonstrating the process each team went through to get to their end result.

Provisional programme

Sunday 17th July
4pm

Networking Skills Workshop
Followed by Welcome Reception and Buffet

Monday 18th July
Morning

Introduction to the Course, UCL and London
Keynote Speech (UCL President and Provost)
Talk and Workshop - 'Skills Development for Early Career Researchers'

Lunch

Afternoon

Workshop - 'What Does Business Want From Universities, What Do Universities Want From Business?'

Dinner

Tuesday 19th July

Morning

Introduction to Global Challenges and Project Remit / Teams
Workshop - 'How to Write a Business Proposal'
Workshop - 'Presentation Skills'

Lunch

Afternoon

Workshop - 'Negotiating and Licensing'

Evening

Panel Discussion - 'The Successful Entrepreneur' (researchers and entrepreneurs who have successfully set up businesses)

Networking with Panel Speakers and Buffet Dinner

Wednesday 20th July

Morning

Business Planning and Learning
(Teams work on their business plans. Throughout, there will be talks on elements of the planning process such as Intellectual Property, Finance, Leadership, Resource Management, and Harnessing Creativity. After the presentations, experts will be available for individual 'drop-in' consultations with team members)

Lunch

Afternoon

'Where Does Your Idea Fit?'- how different target audiences may inform strategy, including an industry visit to demonstrate key issues

Dinner at a Local Restaurant

Thursday 21st July

Morning

Business Planning and Learning (continued)

Lunch

Afternoon

Business Planning and Learning (continued)

Dinner with Keynote Speaker

Friday 22nd July

Morning

Final Team Preparation
Presentation of Business Ideas to Panel of Experts

Lunch

Afternoon

Feedback from Experts
'Where Do I Go From Here?' - Self-reflective look at personal and team achievements across the week
Closing Comments

4pm

End

Participant requirements

Participants will be selected by their institution. They are preferably well advanced in their PhD projects and keenly motivated to work on the topic of the summer school. Participants must be available for the whole duration of the summer school. The days will be full and long. Candidates must be prepared to participate in all activities in the programme. The sessions will all be conducted in English and therefore fluency in written and spoken English is essential.

Application (deadline: 15 April 2011) and selection

Each LERU university is invited to select one or more candidates to participate in the summer school. The top candidate from each LERU university is guaranteed a place. Additional participants (maximum 40 in total) will be selected by the host university from the candidate pool based on merit and other criteria. Names of the candidate(s) should be sent by the designated contact person at each LERU university to Mrs Veerle Van Kerckhove at LERU (veerle.vankerckhove@leru.org) no later than 15 April 2011. Besides the candidates' names, the following information should also be included: their rank order for acceptance, their contact details, discipline/title of research project and optionally their cv or application letter for the summer school. It should also be indicated to whom (name and address) the invoice for the attendance cost (£375 - see below) should be sent. This could be the doctoral candidate, the designated contact person or another person at the sending university.

Letters of acceptance will be sent out no later than 15 May 2011.

Cost

Cost of attendance is £375. This will include all course materials, accommodation (Sunday night to Thursday night) and all food (breakfast, lunch and dinner) from dinner on Sunday night to lunch on Friday. Candidates will be expected to pay for their travel to UCL and additional costs for social activities undertaken.

Organizers

Karen Barnard, Head of Career Services, University College London

Tim Barnes, Head of UCL Advances, University College London

Ben Colvill, Graduate School Skills Development Programme Manager

LERU Advisory Board for the Summer School

David Bogle, Professor of Chemical Engineering and Head of the Graduate School of University College London

Jan Eggermont, Professor of Cell Physiology and Director of the Doctoral School for Biomedical Sciences, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Jan Willem van Henten, Professor of Bible Studies and Director of the Graduate School for Humanities, Universiteit van Amsterdam

Katrien Maes, LERU Office, Chief Policy Officer

About LERU

The League of European Research Universities (www.leru.org) is as an association of 22 leading research-intensive universities that share the values of high-quality teaching within an environment of internationally competitive research. Founded in 2002, LERU advocates education through an awareness of the frontiers of human understanding; the creation of new knowledge through basic research, which is the ultimate source of innovation in society; and the promotion of research across a broad front in partnership with industry and society at large.

The LERU universities are:

*Universiteit van Amsterdam • Universitat de Barcelona • University of Cambridge
University of Edinburgh • Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg • Université de Genève
Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg • Helsingin yliopisto (University of Helsinki)
Universiteit Leiden • Katholieke Universiteit Leuven • Imperial College London
University College London • Lunds universitet • Università degli Studi di Milano
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München • University of Oxford
Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris 6 • Université Paris-Sud
Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm • Université de Strasbourg
Universiteit Utrecht • Universität Zürich*