

## **The Roberts Agenda: Reimagining Learning Development for Research Postgraduates**

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Since the publication of Gareth Roberts, SET for Success the sector has seen a massive injection of funding designed to provide training and development opportunities for research postgraduates and research staff. Most of this resource has been spent on the appointment of new staff who, while they may not use the term, are broadly functioning as learning developers for their client group.

This paper will draw on an analysis of the Vitae Database of Practice, which includes details of over 700 examples of practice from across the sector, to examine what this new cohort of learning developers are doing. It will look at ways that the existing community organised around ALDinHE and the researcher development community can work together and learn from each other more. Finally it will ask participants to consider how they engage with the Roberts agenda and the opportunities for collaboration and funding offered by it.

This workshop will:

- provide background into the development of the Roberts agenda;
- provide an overview of learning development activity that has been undertaken across the sector with research staff and students;
- encourage practitioners to consider their own practice and reflect on where it might be applicable in the postgraduate world
- stimulate ideas about how to engage with staff working on the Roberts agenda and gaining access to associated funding.

### **Presenter:**

Tristram Hooley is a Senior Programme Manager for Vitae. At Vitae he is responsible for managing the programmes interactions with universities and HE professionals. Before coming to Vitae he managed the research training provision in the University of Leicester's Student Learning Centre. He has also worked variously as a teacher, researcher, web designer and a variety of other roles that sit somewhere in between. Once upon a time he wrote a PhD on Second World War science fiction which proved to be much less interesting than expected. He has particular areas of interest in e-learning, online research and Web 2.0, social capital and the experience of part-time researchers.