

Foreword

It is a pleasure to write a foreword to this issue of Frontier as Inaugural Doctoral College Director. I came to Leicester in 1988 (started on Dec 21st 1987 to be included in the fore runner of REF) for my first post-doc and have not left! I have always been involved with the PGR piece from the coal face through Departmental PG Tutor and beyond and this is surely the part of my job I enjoy the most; especially when the undergraduate or PGT umbilical is finally broken. I had a great experience as a PhD student and that is what I want Leicester to provide for you. The Doctoral College now has a full academic year under its belt and we are really beginning to make an impact in terms of being a co-ordinating voice for PGR, managing the regulatory piece for PGR and providing a wide range of training for all students including those in doctoral centres and partnerships. Of particular note is the opening of the Doctoral College reading room in the library and hugely successful thesis boot camp event(s) where PGR students have the opportunity to lock themselves away and write; with some excellent results and feedback. Frontier is a magazine commissioned, edited and produced by PGRs for PGRs and this issue is a fine mix of science plus arts and humanities. It is also a great advertisement for Leicester PGR and what can be accomplished

collaboratively and beyond disciplinary boundaries. I am immensely proud of our PGR population and the countless ways in which they continue to distinguish themselves. I hope that you enjoy reading your copy of Frontier and don't be shy in providing the editorial team with any feedback.



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