

# ECCI Consultancy Innovation Programme

## Training for PhD students

Book your space by emailing  
[e4dtp.support@ed.ac.uk](mailto:e4dtp.support@ed.ac.uk) up to  
1 week before each session.

### A hello and an introduction...

**Date: Tuesday, 3 October 2023**

**3pm-5pm**

**Venue: ECCI conference room**

This session is compulsory for all first year E4 DTP students.

Join us for a welcome session to learn more about ECCI and the programme ahead. Hear from previous programme participants to gauge exactly what you have in store and start to get to know your hosts and peer participants.

Followed by some networking to continue the introductions and get to know the wider ECCI team and residents.

### Deadlines, deadlines, deadlines: Project management skills in academia and industry

**Date: Tuesday, 21 November 2023**

**2pm-4pm**

**Venue: ECCI conference room**

Do you find your deadlines problematic? Your colleagues are unresponsive? Your task list just keeps getting longer? Project management skills are a fundamental part of academia and industry. Hear from experts in the field and get to grips with the pillars of project management in both academic and industrial contexts.

**By the end of the workshop, you will be able to...**

Identify your project management needs, break down tasks into manageable chunks, work more effectively with your colleagues and manage your time.

### Making your research matter

**Date: Monday, 22 January 2024**

**10am-3pm**

**Venue: ECCI, Training & Skills**

We start the day with a tour of the Scottish Parliament at 10.30am (optional) before heading back to the ECCI for lunch. The workshop will start at 12.30pm:

Have you ever wondered about the relationship between evidence and policy? This session focusses on how research is used to support and inform the decisions of Scottish Government. It will also encourage you to think about how and why your research might be relevant to policy, and reflect on how to develop your research in a policy-relevant direction. This session will be useful if you think your research might be able to influence the development and implementation of environmental or sustainability related policies. The session will be delivered by ClimateXChange, which commissions and manages climate-related research on behalf of the Scottish Government.

**By the end of the workshop, you will be able to...**

- Understand and explain what policy relevant research is
- Articulate the specific aspects of your research which could be interesting to policy-makers, and why
- Communicate key aspects of your research to policy-makers

## It starts with communications

**Date: Tuesday, 29 February 2024**

**10am-12pm**

**Venue: ECCI, Training & Skills**

"I help cows get pregnant" or "I'm using ultrasound and MRI techniques to understand sperm mobility under varying situations." Which one of these statements sounds more engaging to you?

Many struggle to explain the importance of their research, getting stuck within gritty methodology, which some don't find relevant. Communication of research is vital if it is ever to be used within policy or industry. In this workshop, you'll work on how to communicate what you do to a range of audiences in an effective and engaging manner. We'll then expand on this to look at how to clearly communicate in a range of situations, from explaining your PhD skills on your CV, to persuading others to back your project.

**By the end of the workshop, you will be able to...**

Understand the best way to communicate your point- whether that be your research or answering an interview question.

## Funding and Innovation

**Date: Tuesday, 21 March 2024**

**10am-12pm**

**Venue: ECCI, Training & Skills**

Applying for and winning grants is an important part of an academic or consultancy journey. Yet, how to locate, filter and write grant applications is complex. In this workshop, we will break down the complexity into simple, practical steps with people who've done it before (and done it well).

Approaching it from academic, consultancy and business angles, with the opportunity to evaluate real applications to see where an applicant has gained or lost marks, this workshop will provide a unique insight into the funding process. Furthermore, we will explore the many innovative routes your research could take you.

**By the end of the workshop, you will be able to...**

Identify where to look for funding and how to write a successful application.

## Improving sustainability of research (and responding to funder's questions)

**Date: Tuesday, 30 April 2024**

**2pm-4pm**

**Venue: ECCI, Training & Skills**

How sustainable is your research? And how would you go about answering this question? Increasingly funders of both research and consultancy are putting sustainable methods and reporting as key scoring criteria for bids. Understanding, measuring and reporting this impact has never been so important.

But do you know where to start? This workshop will help you truly understand your climate impact and take you through the steps to collect, measure and report your data. From this, you will be guided through common requirements as well as how to identify ways to improve the sustainability of your research.

**By the end of the workshop, you will be able to...**

Report on the sustainability of your research and identify key actions you could take to reduce your climate impact.