

Academic Writing Skills and Getting Published – 70 attend Network Event

We're pleased to report that some 70 people attended our most recent network event *Academic Writing Issues and Getting Published*: perhaps not surprising in view of the fact that, for newer researchers, these represent key issues on the learning curve for becoming a successful researcher. We are grateful to our two facilitators who ran the sessions. Dr Simon Lygo-Baker provided the morning session, entitled *Getting published: a way through the maze*. This incorporated a number of activities set up to stimulate discussion on the topic, and provided advice as well as opportunities for newer researchers to share concerns, experiences and thoughts about the issues - with the aim of developing appropriate strategies for undertaking academic writing. The afternoon session (*Academic Writing*) was led by Dr Rowena Murray, and introduced a practical strategy to help academic writers start and develop a writing project. Writing to prompts - in several forms - is a strategy described in two of Rowena's books, *Writing for Academic Journals* and *How to Write a Thesis*. Participants were provided with the opportunity to try this strategy for themselves, discuss it, and reflect on its potential uses in their own writings.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank both our facilitators, as well as all participants, many of whom travelled some distance to get to the event, held at the SRHE offices in central London. With this level of demand, we will be running a similar event next year, whilst, as usual, we would be pleased to receive your feedback or ideas for the Network. Please contact SRHE directly; or you can contact Dr Arwen Raddon (Convenor of the network: aer4@le.ac.uk) or Patrick Baughan (Co-convenor and organiser of this event: p.baughan@city.ac.uk). In the meantime, we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the next event, organised jointly with the Postgraduate Issues Network. This is entitled *Presenting Your Research II*, and takes place at SRHE on 02 June. And if you haven't noted it already, the Postgraduate and Newer Researchers Conference 2009 takes place on 07 December: more details to follow on this site soon.

Finally, if you would like to see another report of the *Academic Writing Skills and Getting Published* event, you might be interested to know that *Times Higher Education (THE)* carried a full page feature about it (issue dated 16-22 April 2009; p. 12).

Patrick Baughan
Network Co-convenor.