

**Friday 9 December****11.30-12.30****Beaumaris****DTCs: The changing face of doctoral education in the Social Sciences (RS3)**

This is seminar proposed under the auspices of SRHE Postgraduate Issues Network, chaired by Dr Martin Gough (University of Kent) with discussion led by Dr Sally Barnes (University of Bristol) and Prof. Rosemary Deem (Royal Holloway, London). Therefore, there is no research paper to include here as such, the point is to bring people concerned together for discussion in the session.

**Abstract:**

The ESRC has created twenty-one Doctoral Training Centres in the Social Sciences which will go live in October 2011. The ESRC bidding guidelines for DTCs stressed the need to develop collaborative partnerships and working relationships to foster interdisciplinary research within and beyond the Social Sciences. This roundtable session brings together representatives of some of those newly created DTCs to present and discuss the theoretical underpinnings for the collaborations and interdisciplinary work they plan to grow and develop over the 5 years of funding. These discussions will be an opportunity to consider the different interpretations DTCs have made about what a DTC is or could be; what interdisciplinary research is and what aspects of it should be promoted within a DTC; what sorts of collaborations can be made within and beyond single institutions.

1. What are the benefits offered by and the challenges of, inter-institutional collaborative doctoral training centres? How can the benefits be exploited to their maximum potential?
2. Are inter-institutional doctoral training schemes or schools likely to be exclusionary for some research students?