

SPS ECA Career Development: Learning Lunches and Listening Sessions

SPS ECAs were asked about areas that could be useful to them to learn more about - the SPS ECA Director along with the 2 ECA representatives organised a series of workshops and events that included a lunch to the benefit of ECAs in attendance. The lunches included speakers from across SPS covering topics such as impact and knowledge exchange and PhD supervision. In conjunction with this we ran a couple of online listening sessions where ECAs were encouraged to talk about what improvements they might like to see. Both activities fed into the development of an action plan.

College (where initiative takes place):	College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences
School (where initiative takes place):	School of Social and Political Science;
Stakeholders involved in the planning, organisation and execution of the initiative:	Researchers; and other ECAs;
Webpages:	The Action Plan that was a result of these interactions is posted on the SPS ECA SharePoint.
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Concordat principle:	Environment & Culture; Professional & Career Development;
Area the Concordat Initiative Supported:	Employment: Policies and Processes; Environment & Culture: Research Culture;
Stakeholders:	Researchers; Other early career academics;
Comments:	Over 2023 - 2024 the learning lunches and listening sessions offered an informal space for frank and full discussion about the training needs of ECAs as well as specifying useful areas of information that were needed.
Outputs/Impact:	These events fed into the development of an 'Action Plan' that is a living document intending to answer questions about on policies and procedures that ECAs were uncertain or needed more information about.