

Disability Resource Centre Newsletter – February 2022

Dear Students,

We hope the first half of Lent Term has gone well.

Should you wish to discuss support options or need advice related to your disability, [please book an appointment on Moodle to meet with your Disability Adviser or an Assistant Disability Adviser](#). You should see DRC Appointments in your courses list, but please let us know if you cannot access it.

Early in Easter Term, we will be updating the photographs of students that feature on our website and information materials. We are seeking students who wish to be photographed and included. Pictures will be taken at the Student Services Centre and will take up to one hour. Please let us know if you are interested in taking part and we can send you further information.

We are pleased to welcome Helen Tully to the DRC. Helen will be supporting students with specific learning difficulties. [We have recorded a short question and answer session to introduce you to Helen](#).

This month we have added a contents list to the newsletter. We hope this allows you to quickly identify any items of interest.

Best wishes,

The DRC Team

disability@admin.cam.ac.uk



The main entrance to the DRC & the Student Services Centre

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1) British Sign Language Tours of Samurai: History and Legend

10-11am and 11am-12pm, Saturday 19th February 2022

Milstein Exhibition Centre, Cambridge University Library

Join Dr Kristin Williams, Head of Japanese Section and exhibition curator, for British Sign Language tours of Cambridge University Libraries' latest exhibition. With thanks to the [Cambridgeshire Deaf Association](#) who are providing interpretation for these tours.

Samurai are a well-known image of Japan, but they are as much legend as history. [Samurai: History and legend](#) explores the literary concept of the samurai and the changing nature of Japanese warrior culture from the 12th to the 19th centuries.

Tours are free and open to all. Booking required.

[Full details and registration can be found on the library's website](#)

2) Snowdon Trust Scholarship Opportunity (master's programme in 2022/23)

[You can now apply for the Snowdon Masters Scholarships](#). The scholarship offers up to £30,000 of funding for disabled students seeking to do a master's programme at a UK institution in 2022/2023.

Successful students will receive up to £15,000 towards their fees and a £15,000 allowance while studying. There are up to 12 scholarships available, and students can apply for any master's course at any UK university. Applications are open for both National and International Students and will close on the 1st April 2022.

3) Careers Service event – 'Working in the Think Tank sector'

23 February 2022 – 4pm to 6.30pm

[This webinar is for undergraduates considering working in think tanks](#). Think tanks develop ideas and suggestions for action using research, analysis and commentary to inform and influence politicians, policy makers and the public. Given the recent economic, social and political issues facing the UK, encouraging more diversity in

the world of research and policy-making is more important than ever. To contribute to this, a group of think tanks and similar organisations have joined together to hold a webinar for undergraduates about working in this sector.

4) Cambridge Self-Help Group for Adults who Stammer

Has university affected your stammer? Perhaps the pressures of moving away from home, the new independence and meeting countless new people have set your stammer back and caused anxiety or a loss of confidence.

The Cambridge Self Help Group for Adults who Stammer was established 15 years ago to offer support and share experiences.

The group meets on the first Thursday of each month at the University Centre on Mill Lane and via Zoom. Everyone gets chance to speak about their month in relation to their stammer: good experiences, bad experiences, if they have attended any therapy, read any books or seen any coverage of stammering in the media.

The meetings are informal with chairs set in a circle and other participants on a TV screen. There is no expectation on anybody to speak but equally there is the opportunity to describe feelings and offer opinions in a non-judgemental setting.

For more details about the group please email cambridgeselfhelp@hotmail.co.uk

5) Student Advice Service – Update for disabled students

Between July and December 2021, 15% of students who accessed the Student Advice Service disclosed a disability. The top issues these students were seeking support on were in relation to intermission (disregarding terms in University language), complaints and examination allowances.

If at any point during your studies, you have any questions or concerns, from academic to welfare-related, do feel free to contact us to see how we can assist. We

can offer guidance and support on making applications for Examination Arrangements, AMA (Adjusted Mode of Assessment) and applying for intermission.

We are provided by the Cambridge SU and offer free, confidential and independent support to all students at Cambridge University. You can contact us with any questions or arrange an appointment to speak with one of our Advisors by emailing us on advice@cambridgesu.co.uk or [you can request an appointment by our online form](#).

6) Research study – Paid online study on psychosis in borderline personality disorder

Charley Peitzmeier, PhD Student, University of Cambridge cp693@cam.ac.uk:

“I am a PhD student with lived experience of mental illness, and a passionate advocate for greater scientific understanding of psychological disorders. I am currently running a paid online study on psychosis in borderline personality disorder and am looking for participants with a diagnosis of BPD. The study takes about 1h-1.5h and you will be paid £20 for your time. For more information, including how to take part, [please visit the information page on our website](#). Thank you!”

7) Research study – Impact on disabled students’ experiences during the Covid-19 pandemic

Jode Enderby, PhD Student, Coventry University:

“As part of my PhD, I am exploring the impact of the pandemic on students who are disabled and/or neurodivergent studying at University at this time and would love to know what these experiences have been like during these educational changes accompanying the COVID-19 pandemic. I am currently looking for students willing to participate in a 15-25 minute questionnaire, both now and in 3 months’ time, exploring their experiences. There is a chance to win a £50 Voucher for completing

both times. If anyone has any questions please feel free to email me:
enderbyj@coventry.ac.uk. The link to the questionnaire can be found on our website”

8) Feedback request - Intervention aimed at improving accessibility for students with dyslexia and visual disabilities

Lawrence Dawson, MSt student, University of Cambridge:

“I’m currently researching an approach to improving accessibility to teaching materials in lecture situations. It is app and web-based and allows the user to quickly collect and collate references and other web-links given by the educator, for either immediate or future access.

I am hoping that this will encourage teachers to adopt best practice, and that it will be accessible for students of diverse abilities. I am keen to discover how you currently access educational references and links and whether this innovation could make a difference.

I am looking to discuss the intervention with a group of students (either individually or collectively) to get feedback regarding its design and accessibility. To this end I would like to recruit a focus group to try it out. If you think that you may be able to help, please would you email me at ld635@cam.ac.uk.”

9) Research study – Everyday experiences of students with Autism Spectrum Conditions

Sherita Tam, PhD student, University of Cambridge:

“I am a doctoral student at the Cambridge Sociology Department. I am currently looking for participants with ASC to take part in my sociological research, which examines experiences of digital self-tracking in everyday life (e.g., tracking sleep patterns, mood changes, time use, etcetera, to gather and evaluate personal activities by using digital technologies), the lived reality of living a life with autism and the idea of neurodiversity. Outcomes of this research will contribute insights to interest groups who strive to provide better support for people with autism. You will be given a £10 Amazon voucher as an appreciation for your time and contribution.

The study will involve an online interview which shall last up to 60 minutes via Zoom or Microsoft Teams at a time of your convenience. The interview setting will be adjusted to serve individual needs and preferences.

Participants of all genders with the following criteria are welcomed to take part:

- Clinically diagnosed and/or self-identified with ASC
- Aged 18 or above
- Have experience in using digital self-tracking technologies, wearables and/or apps for personal and/or clinical purposes

Participation in this research is voluntary. You will be provided with a participant information sheet and a consent form before the interview. If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please contact me (Sherita Tam) at wmst2@cam.ac.uk “

Please note: The DRC newsletter contains content which has been sent to us from other parts of the University and also external contacts. Inclusion within the newsletter does not necessarily imply a recommendation from the DRC or responsibility for the content.