

Disability Resource Centre Newsletter – June 2022

Dear Students,

As this is the final DRC newsletter of the academic year, we take this opportunity to wish all final year students well with your next steps. And we wish you all a pleasant and restful summer.

The DRC remains open as usual, so if you are a student continuing their studies during the summer months or you would like to discuss your requirements ahead of Michaelmas Term 2022, please contact us or make an appointment to meet with a Disability Adviser or Assistant Disability Adviser on the [DRC Moodle Course](#).

Our annual lecture takes place on Thursday 16th June at 12pm-1.30pm, online via Teams. It will be delivered by [Liz Sayce](#): 'Where next for disabled people's equal participation? Navigating opportunities and threats in the context of covid, cost of living and assorted future trends.' [Free booking is available on Eventbrite](#).

You will find in the newsletter numerous items which may be of interest to you, including exam-related resources from the Student Advice Service and the opportunity to book disability-related appointments with the Careers Service.

Best wishes,

The DRC Team

disability@admin.cam.ac.uk

We are based at the [Student Services Centre](#) and open Monday to Thursday 9am to 5pm, Friday 9am to 4pm.



Figure 1 Entrance to the DRC and Student Services Centre

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Disability-related careers appointments

The [Careers Service](#) is offering 30 minute disability-related careers appointments on the afternoons of Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 February, and the mornings of Wednesday 15, Thursday 16 and Friday 17 June. These appointments are to discuss:

- Talking to an employer about your disability
- Reasonable adjustments – helping you to work out what adjustments you might need
- Impact of a disability on career choice
- Explaining unusual timelines on an application or CV
- Other disability specific careers discussion

These appointments are to discuss your individual circumstances. For a more general overview see [Talking about a Disability with an employer](#) on the Careers Service YouTube channel.

To make an appointment please email enquiries@careers.cam.ac.uk with the subject heading “Disability Careers Appt and your name” indicating which of the bullet points above you would like to discuss and which date you would prefer. These appointments are not available to book on Handshake.

Also, Look out for two posts on the Careers Service blog in the coming days:

“Staying mentally healthy in the transition to work” and “Managing your wellbeing in the job hunt”

Find these and other [disability related blogs on our website](#). Just put Disability in the Search to find them.

Careers Service Finalist Focus Initiative

Now you are completing your course, the Careers Service can help you prepare for what comes next. We are running a [series of events covering a range of careers topics](#), mainly hosted in person, in the exams hall at the [Student Services Centre](#).

Whether it's work, further study, volunteering or something completely different - we've got the resources to help you make it happen.

Wherever you are in your career-planning, we've got you covered. From making career choices to completing applications or navigating the Graduate Visa, you'll find a session to suit you. And if you already have a job offer we can help too - with a session on transitioning into work.

Student Advice Service: Exam & assessment support: before, during and after

Support before exams

It is important to feel prepared for your exam, whether that's in person or online. You can prepare by packing any materials you might need for the exam, having a bottle of water and knowing where to go. If the exam is online, you might wish to make yourself familiar with the process and technology, and plan your exam space.

It is also important to remember to take breaks and practise self-care alongside your studies. In our Guide to Getting through Exams, we talk about the '[Five ways to wellbeing](#)' to help you consider different ways in which you could take breaks during the exam period.

Disabled students who have not already applied for exam arrangements and need to do so, can find information about the process, who to contact and what may be needed for an application, as well as links to further information [in our Guide](#).

During the assessment process

We hope everything is going well for you, but if something unexpected happens during the assessment period, you should seek support. You should let someone know early - your College Tutor, College Nurse, Supervisor, Course Director, etc. It is also important to obtain medical evidence early.

After the assessment period

Nobody wants to think about what would happen if your assessment didn't go to plan, but it can be useful to be aware of your options as most processes have deadlines. The options available to you depend on your course and the type of issue that affected your assessment.

Our [Flowchart for processes on examination-related issues](#) could help you identify what options might be available to you. Through these processes, you can let the University know about the issues you experienced, the impact they had on your studies and/or on your assessment results.

**Find us at Sidgwick Avenue lecture rooms for a quick chat or question,
Thursday, 16 June 11.45am - 12.45pm.**

Have a question or need one-to-one support from a professional Advisor?
You can send us an email with your questions or [request an appointment](#)

Libraries Accessibility Service in the summer vacation

We hope you are looking forward to a well-earned rest over the summer. The [Libraries Accessibility Service](#) will still be here if you need us. Here are some of the ways we can help:

- [Accessible alternate formats](#) of summer reading, or reading for next academic year
- RNIB Bookshare accounts
- Email advice
- One-to-one chats with us over Teams, Zoom or in-person
- One-to-one library tours

Email us at disability@lib.cam.ac.uk or contact Patrick or Lindsay direct.

Audiobooks trial

Many thanks to students who showed interest in our audiobooks trial. We ran a small, successful trial in Lent term, and hope to have some exciting news soon.

Research participant request: The Autistic Experience of Higher Education

Alexandra Hutchin, Oxford Brookes University:

“I am currently completing my dissertation research for an MA in Education at Oxford Brookes. My research concerns The Autistic Experience of Higher Education and I would be grateful to any students with autism who can help me with my research.

[Please fill out the questionnaire](#) which should take 20-30 minutes. Please contact me with any questions or concerns: 19141626@brookes.ac.uk

Curating for Change: Curatorial Fellowships

From [Kettle's Yard, University of Cambridge](#):

“Do you love museums and want to begin to pursue a career in curating?

Applications are open (close Monday 13th June) for Accentuates 18-month Curating for Change Curatorial Fellowships. They provide an opportunity to make sure disabled people and their history are represented in museums through curating your own exhibitions or events.

[Find out more and apply”](#)

Research participant request: Experiences of disabled students in UK higher education

Stacey Lyons, Keele University:

“My name is Stacey Lyons and I am currently studying PhD Psychology at Keele University. My supervisor is Dr Julie Hulme. The title of my study is: “Aspirations and Adjustment of Disabled Students/Students with Disabilities in Higher Education: Psychological Transitions through a Socially Constructed World”.

I am inviting interested parties to participate in a survey. It is open to numerous parties, including disabled students attending a Higher Education institution within the UK.

Before you decide whether you wish to take part, it is important for you to understand why this research is being done and what it will involve. Please contact me for further information: s.m.lyons@keele.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.