

Students as research proposers and funders

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Students as research proposers and funders

- Exhibits the essential link between research and teaching
- Students inculcated with a 'research ethic'
- Develops an understanding of the role of research within academic endeavour the philosophy of science
- Helps develop 'enquiry-based learning'



Students as research proposers and funders

1. The Abertay biotechnology project model
2. Personal experiences (?) with research students



Students as research proposers and funders

- (1) The Abertay biotechnology project model
 - BI0905A: Techniques & Skills 3
 - BI1005A: Techniques & Skills 4
 - BI1006A: Honours Project



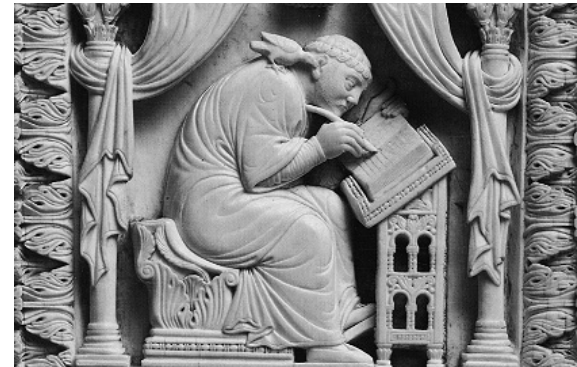
Students as research proposers and funders

- BI0905A: Techniques & Skills 3
 - *to formulate, present and defend research proposals*
 - *Participation in group production of written grant proposal for a medical or life-sciences research project; individual verbal presentation of proposal; participation in group assessment of all proposals. The process includes application of info. skills: search strategies, info. retrieval; reference citation, compilation of bibliographies. Peer assessment and peer appraisal.*



Students as research proposers and funders

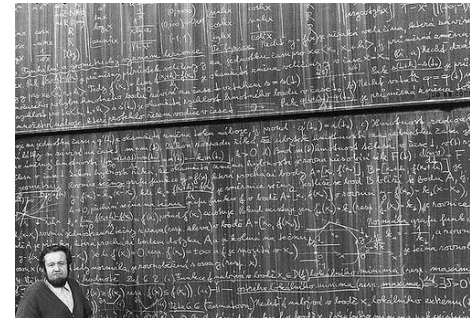
- BI1005A: Techniques & Skills 4
 - *an understanding of the principles and practice of research project planning, development, management and execution*
 - *Research project development. Research Ethics. Research Health & Safety. Completion and maintenance of relevant documentation either in the form of a laboratory note-book or a reflective log*



Students as research proposers and funders

- BI1006A: Honours Project

- *This module allows the student to develop his or her own intellectual processes and practical and communication skills in the pursuit of research goals substantially defined by the student.*
- *Demonstrate practical, academic and theoretical skills associated with the operation, completion and presentation of a research based scientific project*



Students as research proposers and funders

- Outcomes

- ‘Confident thinkers’
- Research planning & development skills
 - Research ethics
 - Health & Safety
- Instilled and critical awareness of the scientific process
- Ability to develop novel scientific approaches to address specific problems



Students as research proposers and funders

- (2) Personal experiences with research students
 - UK students
 - Overseas students
 - General comments



Students as research proposers and funders

- UK Students

- Greater awareness of research process & funding
- Willing to make research suggestions and develop projects
- Less willing to travel for research opportunities
- Lower overall motivation
- Higher drop-out rate



Students as research proposers and funders

- Overseas students

- Mis-understanding as to the nature of research degrees (eg: they commonly assume that a PhD can be achieved via a programme of studies)
- Must be trained to challenge assumptions and received wisdom
- Willing to travel
- Often carry their own funding
- Higher motivation than UK students
- Lower drop-out rate



Students as research proposers and funders

- General comments
 - UK students are easier to train into project development and more willing to engage with the literature at early stages
 - Overseas students require much more effort at this stage, but soon become self-motivated project leaders and developers
 - Overseas students more likely to carry own funding (eg: personal wealth, employers etc)

