

# Research Bites: researcher training programme



Awarded to Aston University Library

A photograph in the top right corner showing a woman with long brown hair smiling and talking to a man whose profile is partially visible. The background is blurred, suggesting an indoor setting.

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# Research Support Context

- ▶ Approximately 575 academic staff, researchers and research students
- ▶ 4.5 FTE Information Specialists - no dedicated research support specialist
- ▶ 2 Open Access Repository Specialists based in another team within the Library
- ▶ Prior to 2011 research support was reactive not proactive except for PhD workshops in their first year
- ▶ No one in the library has overview of researcher training

# Research Bites Programme

- ▶ Takes place each Wednesday lunchtime in July and August in the Library
- ▶ Focus on current areas of interest e.g. Research Data Management, Open Access Publishing, Increasing Your Citations
- ▶ Map sessions to the Researcher Development Framework
- ▶ Record session using Panopto so people can refer back to it or catch up if they missed it
- ▶ Use Eventbrite for bookings and keep statistics

# Publicity & Promotion

- ▶ University twice weekly news bulletin
- ▶ Screens in the Library and around the university
- ▶ Flyers
- ▶ Posters sent to departments to display in offices and staff rooms
- ▶ Posters around the Library
- ▶ Link on Library webpage
- ▶ Emails
- ▶ Blogpost
- ▶ Information Specialists email signatures
- ▶ Social media
- ▶ New for 2014 [Research Bites LibGuide](#)



Wednesdays July - August, 1pm  
Library 2nd Floor Workshop A

**Programme:**

2nd July	Level Up: enhance your literature searching
9th July	Measuring Research Impact
16th July	Distinguish yourself: get an ORCID
23rd July	Open Access publishing – an important growth area at Aston
30th July	Safeguarding Research Data
6th August	Get more citations: strategies for increasing the visibility of your work
13th August	What's new? Getting the most from SCOPUS and Web of Science
20th August	Cite it! Sort it! EndNote it!

See [libguides.aston.ac.uk/ResearchBites](http://libguides.aston.ac.uk/ResearchBites)  
or book your place via [library@aston.ac.uk](mailto:library@aston.ac.uk)



Promotional flyer  
sent out in poster  
and flyer format,  
print and online

# How is it going?

- ▶ Regular attendees
- ▶ Cross-school discussion of research issues
- ▶ Good support from small number of key academics
  
- ▶ Increased awareness of research support in the library
- ▶ Invited to contribute to other programmes

# Feedback 2011

Research Bites	Number of attendees	Response rate	Average score
Advanced Literature Searching	19	16%	4.1
Social Networks	13	23%	3.7
Choosing a journal	17	35%	4.1
Keeping up-to-date	8	25%	4.5
Company Research	7	71%	4.5
Scopus	10	50%	4.4
AURA	7	71%	4.1
Copyright	7	43%	4.1

# Feedback

...well delivered and interesting.

...significant importance to the efficiency of University members of all levels.

...could have been longer ...going into more detail...

Very useful seminars

...perfect length and very informative.

...very knowledgeable about the topic.

It has already proven its value...

Very useful / timely for me.

Well done and worthwhile.

...most helpful.

I think they are excellent and I use the information. They are also useful for sharing info between us.

It would be nice to have more in depth courses of this type

Just what I needed that week...you saved me a lot of time and hassle.



# Aston Replay

Research Bites 2014	Users >5 mins
Literature Searching	11
Measuring Research Impact	3
ORCiD	3
Open Access	7
Safeguarding Research Data	2
Get more citations	3
WoS/Scopus	2
EndNote	8

Review sessions with the slides are excellent.

I couldn't make all the sessions due to travel, so the recordings were very useful.

I ... was able to catch up soon afterwards.

# Challenges



- ▶ Attendance – currently low but enthusiastic!
- ▶ Time
- ▶ Collaboration across teams/departments
- ▶ Upskilling

# In the future?

- ▶ **Research Bites 2015...**
- ▶ Investigate new promotional routes
  - ▶ ResearchGate
- ▶ New topics
- ▶ More collaboration

**Any questions?**