

Reasserting the Value of the Expert

The role of Doctoral Research and Researchers in Promoting the Importance of the 'Expert' in Europe

In this proposed Doctoral Summer School, we will explore both the current and emerging threats to the role and value of the expert in Europe, and also the ways in which researchers, and especially early-stage researchers can respond to this. How, in other words, can the next generation of researchers *reclaim* the role of the expert and convince people (including the suspicious and the cynical) as to the value of expertise and thus of research and researchers?

In terms of content, it is proposed that, on each day of the summer school, there would be

- (a) A keynote lecture delivered by an 'expert' speaker
- (b) Facilitated Group discussions about the issues raised
- (c) A cultural event, including meeting with significant Irish politicians and other policy makers.

These events will help to generate the proposed output from the programme, namely the construction of a 'LERU DOCTORAL STUDENTS POSITION PAPER ON STRATEGIES TO RECLAIM THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EXPERT'. It is envisaged that, by the conclusion of this summer school, the group will have prepared and written such a position paper, to be submitted to LERU.