

ECF Professional Development Award – 2010 Testimonials

The ECF Professional Development Award funded my travel and attendance at Vital Signs 2: Engaging Research Imaginations, 7-9 September, University of Manchester. I presented a paper discussing how ethical issues intersect with social relations/contexts/settings of filming video which arose from a research project in which outdoor access experiences (walkers and mountain bikers) were studied using a headcam.

Dr Liz Dinnie
Macaulay Land Use Research Institute

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The Award helped me substantially to meet the expenses involved in attending an international, multi-disciplinary conference on 'Health as Religion' at Copenhagen Business School in September 2010, where a paper I had co-authored had been accepted, and in a context where no other sources of funding were forthcoming. The conference provided a great opportunity to air my work and to listen to and learn from others. I found the application procedure for the Award straightforward and user-friendly and received a response in a matter of weeks.

Dr Paul Stronge
Research Associate
GPPCRU, Dept of Public Health and Primary Care
University of Cambridge

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Thanks to the ECF Professional Development Award, I was able to present some early work on the role that ethnographic methods and critical theory can play in helping cultural workers articulate responses to new forms of repression in neoliberal cultural institutions, particularly universities and schools. Following comments received, and encouraged by interest from colleagues working in other countries engaged in comparable research, I am now rewriting the paper for inclusion in a new manuscript on The Politics of Possibility, which will be the first of my major post-PhD publications in the field of critical cultural sociology.

Dr Sarah S Amsler
Aston University

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The ECF Professional Development Award enabled me to attend and present a paper at the World Congress of Sociology held in Gothenburg in July 2010. Attending this conference was an intellectually stimulating experience and as well as presenting my own work, I was able to make contact with academics with similar research interests. It is great that there are funds available to assist sociologists in the earlier stages of their career who have limited access to funding from other sources. I would like to thank the BSA and the Early Career Forum for their support.

Dr Vicki Harman
Royal Holloway, University of London

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Thanks to the BSA Professional Development Award I was able to present my work around lesbian couple donor conception at the BSA Medical Sociology Group Annual Conference 2010. The award enabled me to meet UK and international researchers working in my field of work and I also received some very useful comments on my paper. This award is a great opportunity for early career researchers like myself; I really recommend applying.

Dr Petra Nordqvist
University of Manchester