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Eastern ARC Builds on Recent Partnership Bids for Doctoral Training Awards in the Natural and Environmental Sciences and the Arts and Humanities

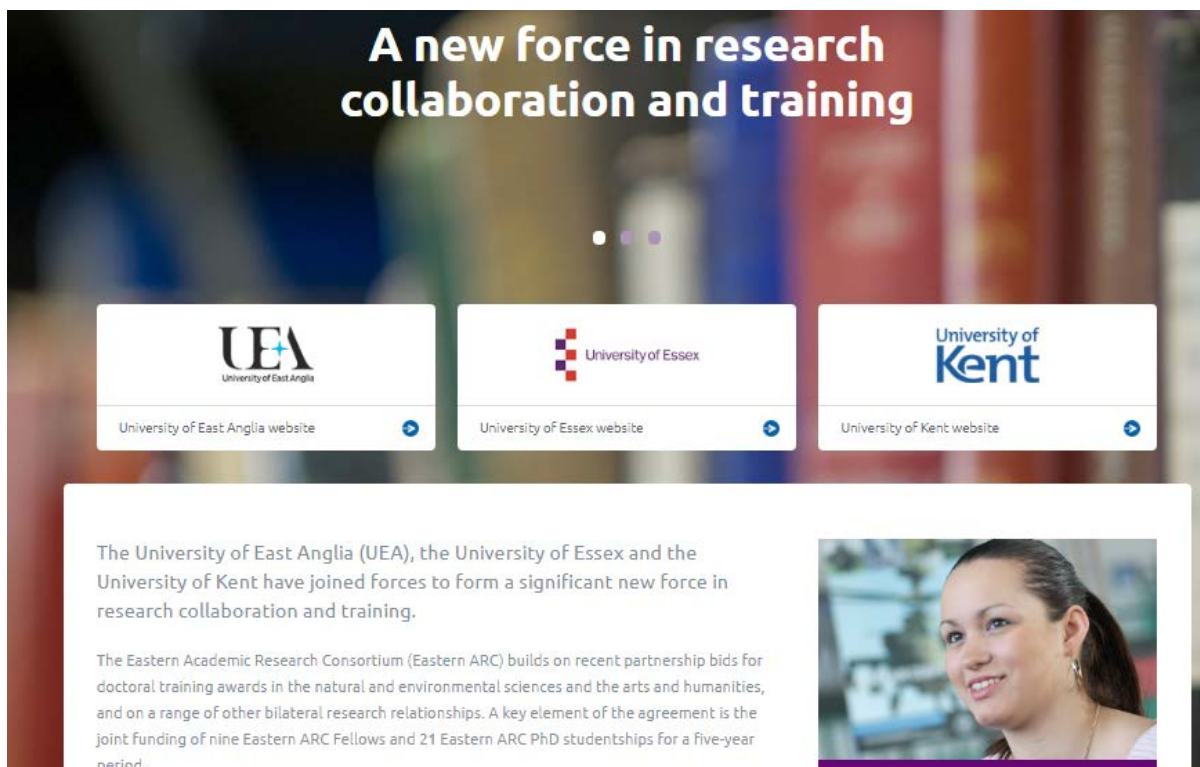


Eastern Academic Research Consortium (Eastern ARC)

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The University of East Anglia (UEA), the University of Essex and the University of Kent have joined forces to form a significant new force in research collaboration and training. The Eastern Academic Research Consortium (Eastern ARC) builds on recent partnership bids for doctoral training awards in the natural and environmental sciences and the arts and humanities, and on a range of other bilateral research relationships. A key element of the agreement is the joint funding of nine Eastern ARC Fellows and 18 Eastern ARC PhD studentships for a five-year period.



Source: <http://easternarc.ac.uk/>

The three partner institutions are all part of the group of British universities established in the 1960s that have thrived and grown extraordinarily in a relatively short time period, with each celebrating their 50th anniversary between 2013 and 2015. With a com-

bined turnover of £540 million, together they teach and train more than 50,000 students, supported by around 2,000 academic staff. In the last Research Assessment Exercise, they submitted 1,250 academic researchers to 41 of the disciplinary sub-panels. The Eastern ARC takes a five/50-year view – a commitment to growing cooperation over the next five years with the aim of enhancing our success over the next 50. By acting collaboratively, the consortium will respond creatively and effectively to key drivers that are changing the landscape of research and research training in UK higher education. The initial focus will be on three broad interdisciplinary areas, with each university acting as academic lead in one of the areas.

Vision

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- Digital Humanities, led by the University of Kent
- Quantitative Social Science, led by the University of Essex
- Synthetic Biology, led by the University of East Anglia

In a joint statement, upon the launch of the Eastern ARC, the universities' Vice-Chancellors, Prof Edward Acton, Prof Anthony Forster and Prof Dame Julia Good fellow, said:

“This is more than just a regional collaboration. It is a long-term agreement based on synergies between our world-class research portfolios. As we celebrate our 50th anniversaries, combining our considerable research expertise will enable us to respond better to the challenges of the research funding environment, and to make an even greater contribution to global wellbeing over the next 50 years.”

Citation:

Editorial Board,

“Eastern ARC Builds on Recent Partnership Bids for Doctoral Training Awards in the Natural and Environmental Sciences and the Arts and Humanities”;

Global Journal of Enterprise Information System. Volume-9, Issue-4, October-December, 2017. (<http://informaticsjournals.com/index.php/gjeis>)

DOI: 10.18311/gjeis/2017/19912

Conflict of Interest:

Author of a Paper had no conflict neither financially nor academically.