



ARIES

DOCTORAL TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

Welcome Supervisors to the ARIES DTP



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aries-dtp.ac.uk



Who are we?

A community of ~150 Postgraduate Researchers (PGRs) plus their supervisors, training staff, DTP personnel, etc.

University of East Anglia

- Environmental Science
- Biology
- Computing
- Mathematics
- International Development

University of Essex

- Life Sciences

University of Kent

- Durrell Inst Conservation & Ecology (DICE)
- National Centre for Statistical Ecology (NCSE)

University of Plymouth

- Marine & Biological Sciences
- Geog, Earth & Env

Royal Holloway

University of London

- Earth Sciences



Who are we?

“Hosting” Partners



British Antarctic Survey

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



British Geological Survey

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



ZSL
INSTITUTE OF
ZOOLOGY



Centre for Ecology & Hydrology

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



Earlham Institute

PML

Plymouth Marine
Laboratory



John Innes Centre

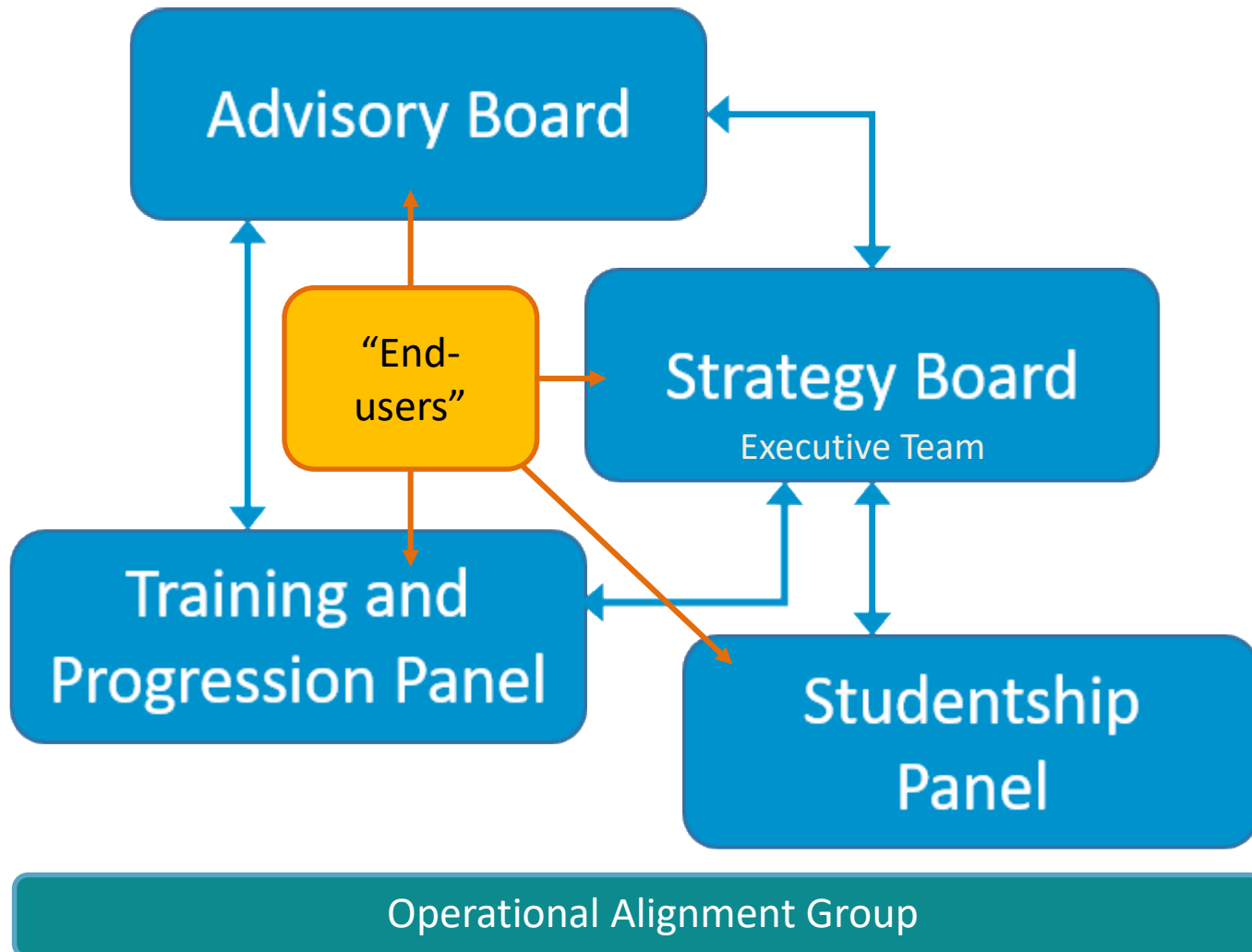
Unlocking Nature's Diversity

Who are we?

Collaborative Partners (“end-users”/stakeholders”):
mission-critical engagement for NERC and for the DTP



ARIES Governance



DTP-funded and “Associated” PGRs



- “DTP-funded” PGRs are recruited, interviewed and funded by ARIES
- “Associated ARIES” PGRs are funded from other sources, and nominated to join ARIES by their supervisor
- DTP-funded and Associated are treated equally in terms of training (small differences noted below)



Equality, diversity and mental wellbeing



“Everyone has a right to be treated with dignity and respect, and to be provided with equal opportunities to flourish and succeed in an environment which enables them to do so.” **ARIES E&D Statement**

We address this through, for example:

- Fair and inclusive recruitment policies
- Physical needs assessment & reasonable adjustments in training
- Mental wellbeing training
- Access fund for those with caring responsibilities
- Supervisor eligibility and training requirements

IRIAs

- IRIAs are **Independent Research Impact Advisors**; they offer a sounding board for the PGR **independent** of the supervisory team
- Help PGRs see the wider context of their research, and advise on skills and career development
- IRIAs are *preferably* **not** academics.
- Meet with the PGR a minimum of once per year



Who does what?

Training and Progression



ARIES	Host institute
DTP Induction	Institutional Induction
Funds stipend and research costs	Provides research & academic facilities; financial admin of stipends, purchasing
Provides mandatory DTP-specific training	Offers training suitable for science PGRs
Tracks training (Training Needs Analysis, TNA)	Monitors academic progress and compliance, deals with academic appeals/complaints and concessions
Provides guidance and training on wellbeing	Provides supervisory teams, pastoral and welfare support systems
Provides careers advice	Provides careers advice
Awards completion certificate	Arranges the PhD examination Awards PhD

See Handbook for more details

Who does what?

Reporting

ARIES

- Initial TNA
- Annual TNA
- Annual Activity Report

Host Institute

- Initial/Interim/Annual Meeting Reports
- Probationary or Continuation Meeting Reports (where applicable)
- Others as required



Research costs

ARIES-DTP funded only

- Research costs are those **necessary for the thesis work** and are set in advance based on that requested by the supervisor
- Expenditure must be broadly in line with the original budget, and must be eligible under NERC and institutional rules
- Must be spent **within period of study** (generally 3.5 y)



Travel/training costs I

For all ARIES PGRs, including Associated, *all* travel, accommodation, food is provided for:

- mandatory ARIES cohort training (induction, Winter and Summer Schools, etc.)
- ARIES-sponsored training activities e.g. our own advanced training, E3i Club activities, etc.



Travel/training costs II

For **DTP-funded PGRs** only:

- Up to £2,500 for external training, conferences, travel to science and *supervisory* meetings, 3-year student railcard, etc.
- UK-based supervisors can claim for attending supervisory meetings
- Must spend **within the period of study** (usually 3.5 years)
- No prior approval needed for <£500; just submit claim afterwards
- Funding may be denied if a PGR is **not up-to-date with their TNA and mandatory training** (Summer Schools, etc.)



Travel/training costs III

For **ARIES DTP-funded PGRs** only:

- Application for travel or training >£500 made via application form; PGR must evidence attempts to secure co-funding from other sources
- The need for “external” training costing >£500 **must have been foreseen in the TNAs**, and not be available at lower cost within the DTP, NERC, etc.



Supervisory expectations

- Plan research to allow PGR to attend **all** day of **all** cohort events
- Assist PGR finding alternative training if cohort event missed
- Work with PGRs in conducting their Initial TNA, and thereafter their Annual TNAs (a.k.a, continuing skills assessments)
- Provide written feedback on Initial and Annual TNA forms
- Contribute to Annual Activity Reports for NERC
- Encourage them in attaining their DTP training goals



Supervisory expectations

We may ask you to fulfill some of the areas of assistance you kindly offered on your Studentship application form, e.g.:

6. The Primary Supervisor agrees to offer at least two of the following over the course of the studentship (please mark at least one):	
(i) a training activity of their own to a wider group of DTP students (e.g. of a lab, field or computer modelling technique)*	X
(ii) provide input to an existing DTP training activity (typically a 2-4 hour session delivering transferable skills training)*	X
(iv) be part of a studentship interview panel (typically involves 1-2 days in February interviewing PhD candidates)	X
(v) be part of an institutional sift panel (typically 1 day actual or virtual meeting in August/September)	
(vi) assist in independent inspection of Training Needs Analysis (TNA) forms submitted by students (virtual task in either November or June)	X
(vii) act as an independent research impact adviser to another student (minimum one 'appraisal'-style meeting per year, plus 'sounding board' for independent advice)	
*Give brief details of any training you would like to deliver/be involved with:	



ARIES Training

- **Cohort training for all:**

- ❖ **Foundation skills** to support your PhD
- ❖ **Continuous professional development (CPD)** to become a rounded professional
- ❖ **Career and research profile** building to optimise your employability



- **Training tailored to you:**






- ❖ **Advanced skills** for your research and horizon-broadening
- ❖ **Experiential learning**, e.g. internships, innovation
- ❖ Self-evaluative '**Training Needs Assessment**' (TNA)



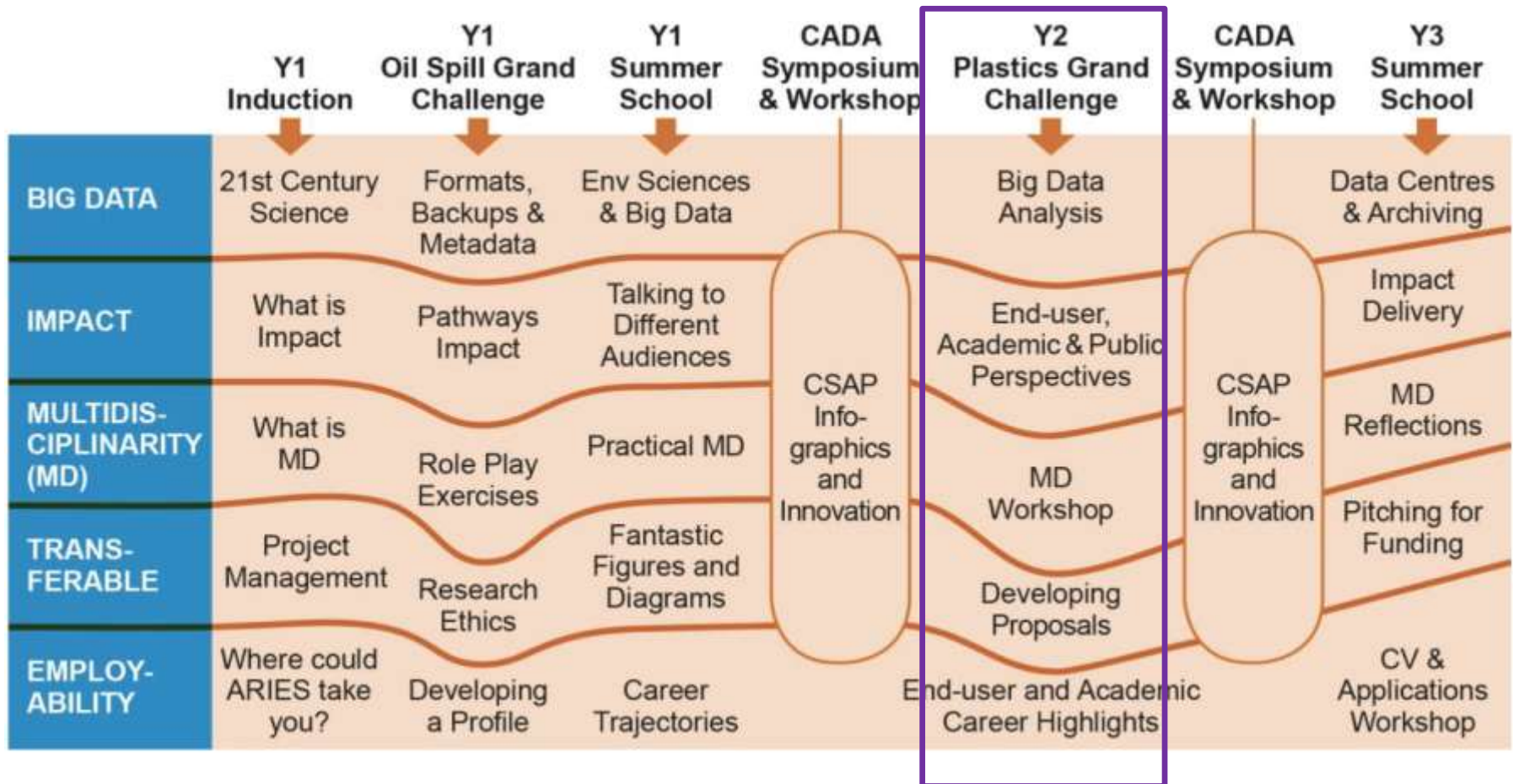
Our mission: training the 21st Century Scientist



You will graduate with a high quality PhD, world-leading research experience AND all of these qualities:

 ACKNOWLEDGED EXPERT	 EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATOR	 SKILLED WITH DATA	 BROAD IN VISION	 INNOVATOR
<p>Understands and creates new knowledge</p> <hr/> <p>Leader in their field</p> <hr/> <p>Independent, critical and creative thinker</p> <hr/> <p>Ethical scientist</p>	<p>Outstanding communication skills</p> <hr/> <p>Creates effective narratives and visualisations</p> <hr/> <p>Communicates with diverse audiences</p>	<p>Technical proficiency with large datasets</p> <hr/> <p>Knowledgeable of modern data tools: AI and machine learning; bioinformatics; cloud computing</p>	<p>Passionate about multidisciplinary approaches</p> <hr/> <p>Cross-disciplinary in team-working</p> <hr/> <p>Co-designs and delivers impactful projects with stakeholders</p>	<p>Innovative and versatile problem solver</p> <hr/> <p>Recognises and delivers research impact</p> <hr/> <p>Connects applied and fundamental research</p>

Cohort training plan



Y2 Grand Challenge is being replaced by a PGR-led “retreat” and additional elective advanced training courses. CADA is optional for 1st Years.

Mandatory training

- The cohort training encapsulates many of the key skills required to become a 21st Century Scientist
- Compressed in to intensives for efficiency and whole-cohort networking
- Especially designed by the DTP for optimal relevance to Environmental Science PGRs
- Mandatory for all ARIES PGRs



Y1 Induction

Hautbois, Norfolk; all ARIES HEIs + partners deliver

- Cohort and team building
- What to expect as an ARIES PGR
- Kick start your PhD
- Talks by current and former students and employers
- Wellbeing, diversity and equality



Y1 Winter School

Flatford Mill, Suffolk led by UoE with BAS, Cefas, OSRL

- Research ethics, statistics and data handling
- Making an impact with your research; building a profile
- Team building
- The Oil Spill Challenge – interdisciplinary teams represent stakeholders:
 - i. data analysis and modelling
 - ii. negotiation skills
 - iii. presentational skills



Summer Schools

Residential weeks Y1 & 3 in Norwich led by UEA

- Advanced presentational skills
- Scientific writing
- Multidisciplinary challenges with the SeNSS DTP
- CV and Fellowship development
- Water sports, geology tour, bat walk, 'green' brewing
- Mindfulness, wellbeing, resilience



CADA Symposium



CADA

C-CLEAR – ARIES Doctoral Alliance



Annual inter-DTP with the Cambridge DTP. E.g.:

Day 1: PGR-led Symposium

Evening: Social

Day 2: Workshops

- Science in to Policy
- Graphical design
- Innovation training

Other training

- UEA, Kent, Essex, Plymouth and Royal Holloway have extensive courses aimed at PGRs; as do BAS, CEH, BGS etc.
- You can take PGR courses at other ARIES Partner

For DTP-funded PGRs only:

- NERC Advanced courses and placements (e.g. NERC Policy Internship)
- Up to £2,500 available for 'external' courses, conferences



ARIES Certificate of Advanced Postgraduate Training



- Issued to all qualifying ARIES PGRs in the final 6 months of their period of study
- Requires:
 - completion of mandatory cohort training, TNAs, annual reports
 - suitable and sufficient additional training (see guidelines)



Questions?

- Handbook and all forms are on the website
aries-dtp.ac.uk

