The Doctoral College places fusion at the core of our activity so that our postgraduate research students (PGRs) are themselves motivated to inspire learning, advance knowledge and enrich society. By supporting colleagues to engage regularly with industry and professional organisations in their roles, we ensure that the team is well qualified to support our PGRs in developing their own professional practice.

Doctoral College team

Why engage in professional practice?
- To ensure our policy meets national and international standards
- To benchmark performance against the sector
- To gain professional accreditation
- To cascade best practice
- To comply with statutory compliance
- To upskill our team.

Who do we engage with?
We engage with a number of national & international organisations / professional bodies, including:
- Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)
- UK Council for Graduate Education (UKCGE)
- Association of Research Managers & Administrators (ARMA)
- European Universities Association (EUA)
- Home Office
- Advanced HE (formerly HEA).

Which external training opportunities do we carry out?
- Association of University Administrators (AUA)
- European Universities Association (EUA), Council for Doctoral Education (CDE)
- Mental Health First Aid England (MHFA)
- National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC)
- Society for Research in Higher Education (SHRE)
- UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA)
- VITAE

Research degree community

Why support wider professional practice?
- To upskill our PGRs
- To support our supervisors
- To match fund our studentships
- To offer subsidised, high quality research
- To provide access to BU’s knowledge and expertise
- To facilitate the development of specialised research collaboration opportunities with a deeper impact for the matched funder
- To comply with external requirements
- To deliver societal impact from our research.

Who do we engage with?
- Local businesses, organisations and charities
- National businesses, organisations and charities
- Global businesses, organisations and charities
- Other Higher Education Institutes – within the UK and globally.

Case Study: Professional Practice

The Doctoral College is committed to supporting colleagues to consolidate their personal development and reflect on and evidence their professional practice.

We recognise the necessity to demonstrate commitment to teaching, learning and the student experience, through engagement in a practical process that encourages research, reflection and development.

As such, currently three members of the team have HEA Fellowships (two at senior level). Further members of the team hope to gain recognition during the course of the year.