

# RESEARCH SUPPORT AMBASSADORS

## THE NEXT GENERATION OF LIBRARY SUPERHEROES

### WHAT IS THE RESEARCH SUPPORT AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME?

The role of the academic librarian is changing from providing access to material to supporting researchers in sharing their work with the wider world. This offers opportunities for library staff to develop their skills but how do they keep up? The **Research Support Ambassador Programme** offers training in the area of scholarly communication and helps equip staff to work in a 21<sup>st</sup> century library.

Enhanced level  
of scholarly  
communication  
literacy

Strengthened  
relationships  
across libraries

### BENEFITS

Increased  
professional  
confidence

Chance to  
challenge  
yourself

Higher level of  
research support  
across libraries

### OUTLINE....

- **Scholarly communication in context** – targeted training sessions on key areas
- **Transferrable skills** – valuable training in areas such as presentation skills, teamwork and leadership
- **Group project** – work to produce training materials to benefit libraries around Cambridge

### FEEDBACK FROM AMBASSADORS

"Provided a great way to develop and update my knowledge"

"It was invaluable to get new perspectives from colleagues and to have the chance to make new connections"

"I now feel better able to talk to researchers"

88% WOULD  
RECOMMEND

### EVIL\* FUTURE PLANS

In response to feedback we will be changing the programme to make Ambassadors stronger and better able to fight crime (and support the research community!).

Changes include:

- A longer programme with more time to train and complete tasks
- Scheduling in more time for group work
- Smaller project groups to make meeting up easier

(\* not really!)

### THE END?

It doesn't have to be!

The Research Support Ambassadors will return in 2017. Watch out for calls for interest or email Claire Sewell ([ces43@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ces43@cam.ac.uk)) for more details!

<http://bit.ly/ResearchSupportAmbassadors>