The KBS PhD Colloquium offers an opportunity to network, support and learn from fellow PhD researchers/candidates, and is in addition to the supports provided by Graduate Research Centre and the KBS Assistant Dean Research (ADR) Office.

The concept of the KBS PhD Colloquium was developed by Lisa Hickey and Helen McGuirk (both of which are PhD researchers in Economics), while they were on a scholarship to University of Essex Summer School in 2011. The initial objective was to continue the support and learning structure provided by the KBS Seminar Series in Research Methodology held in Spring Semester 2011. Upon return to the Graduate Centre Helen McGuirk and Lisa Hickey discussed the idea further with their fellow PhDs and Professor Helena Lenihan (ADR at the time), and after receiving strong support the first meeting was held in September 2011.

The aim of the KBS PhD Colloquium is to provide a forum for all KBS PhD researchers to get to know each other, support and learn from each other, and to discuss and present their research to their peers.

These innovative sessions are chaired and organised by PhD researchers for PhD researchers. The monthly meetings vary in structure, with the PhD researchers’ suggestions and research at the very core of the colloquium.

Examples of content include:

- Research Presentations by PhDs
- Book/article club
- Show and tell (ideas worth sharing)
- Discussion on contemporary issues in Business research
- News and up-coming events at the KBS, nationally and internationally including conferences, courses, seminars, jobs and special issues,
- Invited speakers

Examples of recent meetings included a presentation by a PhD Candidate on how he developed the idea for his research; two PhD candidates who had recently completed their PhDs told of their VIVA experience, and a second year PhD gave a talk on his experience of collecting data. We also organise an annual day-long colloquium were PhDs are invited to present their research in a semi-formal conference like setting. This gives participants the opportunity to practice their presentation before attending international conferences during the year.

All KBS PhD researchers and research Master students are welcome to attend and to participate in the meetings and their ideas will help to ensure that the KBS PhD colloquium benefits all those involved. Please contact Helen McGuirk on helen.mcguirk@ul.ie for more information on the KBS PhD Colloquium.

(March 2014)