Introduction

Events form an intrinsic part of our daily lives, they populate our working life and, at times, trouble our sleep. These may not be the grand planned events that articulate some form of cultural, sport or music celebration, but they are events nonetheless. Some events support us and help us complete tasks we set ourselves, or are set for us. Others come about at our own instigation, with some working out well, and others…less so. Events may thwart our objectives or carry us on to another level. It is only when we pause and consider the world from a perspective of the ‘event’ that we begin to gain a richer insight into that web of connections and interconnections that we are part of and our place within them.

In 2015, the PORESO conference challenged postgraduate researchers, early career researchers and other research academics to think through what the boundaries of the ‘event’ might be for them, their working practices and/or their research areas. It is by confronting those boundaries, redefining them and making progress through the events that cross our path that we gain a deeper insight into who we are and what we do.

The conference produced a host of fascinating papers that reached far, wide and deep into the spectrum of activities with which research active members of the university community were engaged. In this eBook we are merely giving a glancing look to some of the valuable insights shared by the people that attended, both those that delivered papers, and those that asked some thought provoking questions.

The process of moving from conference to publication has not been as straightforward as the two editors would have liked; it has been a very steep learning experience for us both, but it is one that has now come to completion. We are delighted to share with you now some of the papers presented at the 2015 PORESO conference: Redefining the boundaries of the ‘event’.

Ian R Lamond
Fern Pullan