The second SIGIR Doctoral Consortium will be staged as part of the SIGIR 2005 Conference in Salvador, Brazil. The main idea of the Consortium is to give Doctoral students the opportunity to discuss their proposed PhD research with experienced IR researchers and other Doctoral students. The objectives of the Doctoral Consortium are:

- To provide a forum where Doctoral students can discuss their proposed research with experienced IR researchers and other students
- To give students an opportunity to interact one-on-one with experienced IR researchers.
- To give students an opportunity to establish a supportive community of other students at the same stage as themselves.

The Consortium will take place on the same day as the Tutorials Day, with the format: student presentations with plenary discussions, lunch, one-on-one meetings with experienced researchers, and dinner.

Prospective student attendees should have written, or be close to completing, a proposal for the research they propose to do within their Doctoral programme. Attendance at the Doctoral Consortium will be based on a written submission (due 25 February 2005), and submission details will be provided on the SIGIR 2005 website (http://www.sigir.org/sigir2005). We hope that ACM SIGIR will again be able to offer financial support for the student attendees.

The following experienced researchers participated in the First Doctoral Consortium, and we are hoping that most will be available to participate in the Second:

Nick Belkin (Rutgers University, USA), Bruce Croft (U. Massachusetts, USA), Susan Dumais (Microsoft Research, Redmond, USA), Elizabeth Liddy (U. Syracuse, USA), Yoelle Maarek (IBM Research, Israel), Alistair Moffat (U. Melbourne, Australia), Doug Oard (U. Maryland, USA), Keith van Rijsbergen (U. Glasgow, UK), Steve Robertson (Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK), and John Tait (U. Sunderland, UK).

Chair: David J. Harper, The Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, UK
(email: david.harper@smartweb.rgu.ac.uk)