

## **SIGIR 2004 – FIRST DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM**

The first **SIGIR Doctoral Consortium** will be organised as part of the **SIGIR 2004 Conference** in Sheffield. The main idea of the Consortium is to give Doctoral students the opportunity to discuss their PhD thesis proposal 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 proposal 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 thesis proposal. Attendance at the Doctoral Consortium will be based on a written submission (due 27<sup>th</sup> February 2004), and submission details will be provided on the SIGIR 2004 website (<http://www.sigir.org/sigir2004/index.html>).

The following experienced researchers have agreed to participate in the Doctoral Consortium: 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), and Steve Robertson (Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK).

**David J. Harper (The Robert Gordon University, UK)  
Chair, Doctoral Consortium, SIGIR 2004**