Finding your research network

Susan Glen & Sam Oakley
Why network?
Why network?
How to find people?

1. Using publications to identify possible contacts
2. Networking online
3. Getting the most from conferences
Publication clues

- Web of Science
- Scopus
- Google citations
- Altmetrics
Online Research Networks

• Academic networks: ResearchGate / Academia.edu / Piirus
• LinkedIn
• Subject specific communities?
• Content sharing communities: Mendeley (references), Slideshare (presentations), YouTube (video), Instagram (photos), Pinterest (images) etc.
Conferences

• Connections can be made before, during and after
• Twitter provides a great “back channel”
• Other online spaces to interact (e.g. Slideshare)
• (Your online profile is important too)
• You don’t have to be there!
How to maximize your chances when contacting people?

• Check out their online profiles
• Be clear what you can offer them (Time? Co-authorship? Funding?)
• Make specific, concrete proposals (but be flexible)
• State your credentials & sound credible

Image by Mikeyp2000 on Flickr reused under CC-By-NC-ND-2.0
Tips for success?

• Think collaboratively = be open to ideas and new ways of working
• Think outside your research area
• Work openly?
• Twitter users have better ideas?