Appendix 3: Supporting quotes for themes

Theme	Sub-theme	Supporting quote [specific code]
Growth	Professional	teaching skills [] grant-writing and [] working as a team [] these are some of the courses that [] I was able to use [] immediately (P16) [New skills] I didn't know much about mentoring before that [] I was not sure if it is effective or not, but [now] I think that helps us a lot (P11) [New theory]
		[] to me it was a eureka [moment] in terms of learning [] I think it has made me realise that beyond the publications, beyond the good research, I also need to be able to disseminate these [] findings to the wider public (P7) [New theory]
		mentorship, the work-life balance sessions [] were also very impactful [] because they live beyond the PhD (P2) [Long-term development]

	Personal	it was insightful because I think with academic life at times it's easy to get lost with your studies, with your publications and all and neglect [] your immediate family at times (P7) [Self-reflection and insight] I think when you [] really prepare especially for things like presentations, it makes everything [] easy, you're more confident because now you can handle questions that people [are] asking [] I'm progressing very well, I think I'm more confident than before ACES (P16) [Self-confidence] the ACES program [] generally improved my skills, [] my competencies and my confidence (P9) [Self-confidence]
Application	Innovation	there are two papers I'm working on and I'm benefiting [] utilising skills from the writing workshop (P2) [Direct] I was really Twitter-shy. And after this [Digital media] session [] I'm now active on Twitter, I tweet, I re-tweet stuff that's relevant to my work in terms of mental health (P6) [Direct]

		I'm using some of those [mentoring] concepts when I'm supervising Master's students (P1) [Indirect]
		I can say about the teamwork, because I also sit in [] three boards for [healthcare delivery] in [country], I started to realise that we run into problems when we don't use people's characteristics [for] portfolios where they are best suited (P13) [Indirect]
		Like for example, with the policy writing, I think, yeah I'mI wouldn't say I'm too confident in that erm, yeah because I think the time allocated was just too short (P3) [Obstacles]
	Constraint	I've been trying to use [] both Facebook and Twitter [] I have not involved [them] as much [] because of the internet problems here, but I'll use them in the future, I'm planning to use them (P12) [Obstacles / Future intention]
		I've started the introduction [] when I'm done with data collection, I'll be able to put in the whole paper together (P4) [Future intention]

		we're planning now to find ways to engage policy makers. So, I think we didn't do much
		[] so far but I think we'll do something for the future (P9) [Future intention]
		these are sessions that are very interactive in nature, they're not didactic [] we talk, we discuss, we get input [] [we] also get to react and make our contributions [] it's quite interesting (P6) [Face to face]
Connection	Co-location	the [sessions] we had face-to-face [] they were more [] interactive and we could actually discuss things amongst ourselves as well as with [the facilitator] (P14) [Face to face]
		I think I'm much more confident now because during the workshop, we would [] read [] particular sections of a paper or a particular paragraph from somewhere and [] have examples of what's good writing and what's bad writing [] [and] how to [] use good grammar [] by doing that and really going back to those basics, now when I write [] I could really critique what I was writing and then apply all that we were learning (P3) [Practice builds confidence]

Mutual benefit	when [it] is presented with an experiential type of charge to it, I think I remember [] the presentation, mentorship done by [facilitator], you could relate to his own work and his own life experience, which [] gave it life [] even the work-life balance they had [] renowned researchers in the field, people whom we could identify with and that was what made it very much of good quality (P2) [Learning from others] I've got one supervisor who doesn't live in the country as well, so, getting a peer-mentor has been very helpful in that at least I get someone to talk to, our research [is] quite similar, [] So, I've found that very, very helpful because I've got someone to bounce my thoughts on (P5) [Learning from others] I've been involved with writing papers with other people on some of the other projects I've worked on [] and [] I'm trying to guide a couple of my students to publish now (P1) [Using skills with others]
	worked on [] and [] I'm trying to guide a couple of my students to publish now (P1)
	I'm using some of the [teamwork] skills in working with friends [] sharing tasks, allocating tasks and [] discussion on the points back and reaching an agreement (P12) [Using skills with others]
