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Do you have news or events that you would like to promote? Or would you like your lab/centre/unit to feature in a future issue of Lab Talk? For further information, please contact communications@medsci.ox.ac.uk

Copy deadline for next issue: 9:00am, Monday 9 June, 2014



DIVISIONAL SURVEY ON GENDER, CULTURE, AND LEADERSHIP IN MEDICINE (C-CHANGE)

From Professor Alastair Buchan, Head of Division and Dean of Medical School

The Medical Sciences Division has teamed up with the US National Initiative on Gender, Culture, and Leadership in Medicine (C-Change) at Brandeis University to conduct an assessment of the current culture in the Division. C-Change has been at the forefront of culture change in the US, and we are hoping to learn from their best practice in order to design evidence-based interventions to enhance the culture in the Division and to benchmark it against the leading US institutions. You can read more about C-Change here: <http://www.brandeis.edu/cchange/about/index.html>



All academic faculty and staff at Grade 6 and above, including academic, research, administrative and technical research staff in the Medical Sciences Division will soon receive an email describing the survey in detail. To help us in creating a more supportive, inclusive, and engaging culture for all academic faculty and staff, we will invite your candid and in-depth assessment of the current culture in the Division. Many of you will have already completed surveys for Athena SWAN purposes within your department. This survey aims to complement rather than duplicate that work by focussing on broader markers of culture and beginning to assess aspects of diversity beyond gender.

You will receive an invitation shortly from cchange@brandeis.edu with the link to the survey. The survey should take about 15 minutes. Your perspective is very important to the Medical Sciences Division. I therefore hope that you choose to participate in the survey and that you complete it as soon as possible.

SIXTY SECONDS WITH ...

Gillian Morris, Senior Assistant Registrar (Human Resources)/Senior HR Manager
This month, we meet Gillian Morris, the new Senior Assistant Registrar (Human Resources)/Senior HR Manager. Gillian joined the divisional office on a part time basis in April 2014 and will be working with us full time from the beginning of June 2014.



Tell us a little about your role
I work closely with your divisional Human Resources (HR) team to provide an effective HR service to both the divisional office and the 16 departments in the Medical Sciences Division. I have a

BOARD BUSINESS

In this regular feature, Dr David Bryan, Divisional Secretary, provides a summary of the Medical Sciences Board's activity

At its meeting on 6 May, the Medical Sciences Board:

- (1) agreed to co-opt to its membership, with effect from its next meeting until the end of Trinity Term 2015, Dr Alison Simmons, Professor Kia Nobre and Professor Sasha Shepperd.
- (2) welcomed the recent announcement that an Athena SWAN Silver award had been achieved by the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences and that six further departments now held a Bronze award; all of the Division's departments now held an Athena SWAN award.

dotted line reporting in to Helen Smith and her team based in Central Personnel in Worcester Street. [Read more...](#)

[Read more...](#)

LAB TALK

In this issue, we talk to Professor Ian Pavord, the newly appointed Statutory Chair in Respiratory Medicine. Professor Pavord recently joined the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine from the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust.



Tell us a little about the work in your group

We have been interested in measuring airway inflammation in patients with airway diseases (asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and cough) for 20 years and have shown that a response to our most effective treatment, corticosteroids, is only seen in patients with eosinophilic airway inflammation (<https://regid.org/discover/what-eosinophilic-disorder>). Eosinophilic airway inflammation is not closely linked to symptoms or patterns of airway dysfunction, so our current approach to using corticosteroids based on an assessment of symptoms and lung function is flawed. We have shown that outcomes are much better when treatment is based on objective measures of eosinophilic airway inflammation.

[Read more...](#)

ATHENA SWAN NEWS

In this issue:

- (1) [Congratulations to our latest award winners](#)
- (2) [Evaluating the effectiveness and impact of the Athena SWAN Charter](#)
- (3) [TUC Age Immaterial Report](#)
- (4) [New committee for OxFEST](#)
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[Networking evening and workshop on Effective Communication in the Workplace](#)
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[Oxford Safer Pregnancy Alliance \(OSPREA\) research open day](#)
[Your career – where next?](#)
- (7) [Articles & Resources](#)
[Forty years' co-education](#)
[SURVEY: Calling all scientists – what's it like being you?](#)



CONSULTATION ON SEMINAR COMMUNICATIONS

Do you receive too many emails announcing seminars, events or workshops? Have you missed a seminar because you didn't know about it?

Communication Officers and other administrative staff in your department and across the Medical Sciences Division are working together to streamline the way we circulate information about seminars (talks, workshops and other events) to you, and we'd like to hear your thoughts on how you'd like to find out about seminars both in your department and from other departments across the division.

Please take 1–2 minutes to complete our short [survey](#). Your responses will be used to inform our communication plans and we thank you enormously for helping us with this!

Link to survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Z3JBZLY>

Survey closes: Friday 16 May, 2014

Related content

[Updating Oxford Talks](#): Over the course of summer 2014, IT Services will be making Oxford Talks easier to use, adding some new features and creating a mobile app. We'd like your help...

LIBRARY NEWS

In this issue:

- (1) [RSL Space Survey](#)
- (2) [WISER sessions coming up](#)
- (3) [Library induction session at the Knowledge Centre: 11am Tuesday 27th May](#)
- (4) [Sir William Osler and the Bodleian](#)
- (5) [NIHR implements "Gold" approach to Open Access](#)
- (6) [Bank Holiday Staffed Hours](#)
- (7) [Resources of Interest: UpToDate](#)

[Read more...](#)



Bodleian Libraries
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

OPPORTUNITIES AND UPDATES

[Important Updates](#)

[Review of the Standard Undergraduate Medical Course – Your contributions welcomed?](#)

[Updating Oxford Talks](#) Over the course of summer 2014, IT Services will be making Oxford Talks easier to use, adding some new features and creating a mobile app. We'd like your help...

[Isis Innovation News](#) New fund available for investments into Oxford technology companies

[Research Professional](#) An online research funding opportunities database and alerting services

[Oxford University Hospitals](#) All MSD staff and students are invited to become members of the Trust and can stand for election to the Council of Governors

Funding Opportunities

[MRC New Investigator Research Grant](#) Applications require the Head of Department letter of support to be counter signed by the Pro-VC (Research), and to be submitted 10 working days before deadline

[Medical Research Fund](#) To support research conducted in the clinical departments of the Medical Sciences Division. Summer Long Vacation: Monday 28 July 2014

[Clinical Academic Training Programme \(CATP\) Internships](#)

[NIHR Training Bursaries for Research Nurses, Midwives, Allied Health Professionals & other research staff](#)

News From Funders

[BIS Consultation on Proposals for Long-Term Capital Investment in Science & Research](#)

[EPSRC Healthcare – community survey](#) EPSRC are in the process of identifying a number of 'Grand Challenges' in Healthcare Technologies

[CRUK Research Strategy](#) On April 29th 2014, CRUK launched their new research strategy Beating Cancer Sooner

[British Councils Researcher links programme](#) Provides funding for bilateral workshops and travel grants, both with a focus on early career researchers

Engagement Opportunities

[Oxford Sparks Public Engagement Training](#) Oxford Sparks (www.oxfordsparks.net) is running further training courses and networking events in public engagement and science communication during Trinity Term 2014

[Science Outreach Awards](#) Call for nominations. Are you, or is one of your colleagues, a passionate promoter of science to the public?

[MRC Max Perutz Science Writing Award](#) Opens Monday 12 May, closes Sunday 22 June

Volunteer Opportunities

[OxWATCH study now recruiting!](#) We are looking for women between the ages of 18 and 40 who are hoping to become pregnant with their first child, and have an Oxfordshire home address

[Clinical Vaccine Trials](#) The Jenner Institute are developing vaccines against major global diseases and want healthy volunteers aged 18 to 55 to take part in trials of them.

[Healthy volunteers needed for antidepressant drug study](#) Healthy volunteers aged 18–40 are needed for a study investigating the effects of the antidepressant drug tianeptine on the processing of emotions.

[Volunteers Wanted](#) We are conducting a research study at the University of Oxford to assess if a new medication affects performance on cognitive tasks

Other Items of Interest

[Medical Sciences Division D.Phil Day](#) Tuesday 8 July, 9 am–6 pm, Tingewick Hall, JR Hospital

[Nuffield Department of Clinical Neuroscience Courses](#) Oxford Neurology Course and Practical Cognition Course

[Things To Do With Data - a series of lunchtime talks](#)

[Leverhulme Lecture Series](#) 'An Unnatural History: The Re-Emergence of Infectious Disease in the 20th Century'

[Career Service Events](#) Postdoctoral Careers Mentors, Career workshops for research staff, Four steps to careers success for DPhil students, and other events

[Managing Your Mind](#) Thursday 15 May, 11am – 4pm. This one-day workshop tackles work-life balance through managing your mind

[Pitching for Success](#) Are you looking for funding? Need business support? Would like to find a collaborator for your idea? Require skills to get the business off the ground?

[Regulating Experimental Medicine during a Pandemic](#) 6, 7 June 2014. Royal College of Physicians, London

AND FINALLY...



Catch an Open Day in May

The [Biomedical Research Centre \(BRC\)](#) and [Oxford Safer Pregnancy Alliance \(OSPREA\) Research Centre](#) are both holding Open Days this month at the John Radcliffe Hospital.

Find out how mobile phones, strawberries and a wooden hand-loom are transforming healthcare the BRC Public Open Day, on Monday 19 May, from 12.30pm to 4.30pm.

Or learn about the research into pregnancy and the health of women and babies and meet the staff at the OSPREA Open Day, on Wednesday 21 May 2014, from 12:00pm to 4:00pm.

[Read more...](#)

Review of the Standard Undergraduate Medical Course – Your contributions welcomed?

Why the review?

At the instigation of the Head of Division, and in the context of the period of time that has elapsed since provision was last reviewed (2005) and in preparation for the GMC review visit in November, a major review of the Standard Undergraduate Medical Course is being conducted this year.

A Panel has been established to undertake the review, jointly chaired by Professor David Paterson, Associate Head of Division (Education), and Professor Peter Sullivan, Director of Medical Education, OUH NHS Trust.

How can I contribute?

It is intended that the review be as consultative as possible, seeking a wide range of opinion from tutors and students, alumni, departments and a range of bodies and individuals. There are a number of ways in which contributions will be sought, including:

1. Written Submissions

The review panel would welcome the views of all stakeholders on any or all of the main review themes, which are:

- (i) access and admissions, including the arrangements for competitive entry to the Clinical course and alternative approaches;
- (ii) overall aims of the course, curriculum design and course structure;
- (iii) the international, national and institutional context of the course;
- (iv) teaching, learning and assessment;
- (v) relationships with relevant NHS Trusts;
- (vi) the extent to which the course is successful in preparing its graduates to perform as Foundation doctors;
- (vii) the relationship between teaching and research;
- (viii) specific arrangements for the pursuit of pathways into professional clinical practice, graduate studies and academia;
- (ix) academic and pastoral support and guidance;
- (x) the provision and use of learning resources (including physical and staff resources);
- (xi) governance and administrative support;
- (xii) relationships with colleges;
- (xiii) quality assurance mechanisms.

Committees, groups and individuals are encouraged to make submissions to the Review Panel. Your comments should be sent **by Friday 6th June at the latest** to Ms. Jane Dale, Senior Assistant Registrar (Education), Medical Sciences Division: jane.dale@medsci.ox.ac.uk, who would be pleased to provide more information about the review upon request.

2. Discussion Forums

A series of three Discussion Forums were held in April and May. These were well-attended, and sparked some useful discussion. Thanks to all of you who attended.

The Medical Sciences Board and its Education Policy and Standards Committee will consider the Panel's report, its conclusions and recommendations at the beginning of Michaelmas Term.

Divisional Survey on Gender, Culture, and Leadership in Medicine (C-Change)

From Professor Alastair Buchan, Head of Division and Dean of Medical School

The Medical Sciences Division has teamed up with the US National Initiative on Gender, Culture, and Leadership in Medicine (C-Change) at Brandeis University to conduct an assessment of the current culture in the Division. C-Change has been at the forefront of culture change in the US, and we are hoping to learn from their best practice in order to design evidence-based interventions to enhance the culture in the Division and to benchmark it against the leading US institutions. You can read more about C-Change here:

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Sixty Seconds with ...

Gillian Morris, Senior Assistant Registrar (Human Resources)/Senior HR Manager

This month, we meet Gillian Morris, the new Senior Assistant Registrar (Human Resources)/Senior HR Manager. Gillian joined the divisional office on a part time basis in April 2014 and will be working with us full time from the beginning of June 2014.



Tell us a little about your role

I work closely with your divisional Human Resources (HR) team to provide an effective HR service to both the divisional office and the 16 departments in the Medical Sciences Division.

I have a dotted line reporting in to Helen Smith and her team based in Central Personnel in Worcester Street.

I am responsible for leading the divisional personnel team. The team supports academic departments, the Medical Sciences Board and the central university in their recruitment, management and support of academic staff and in the conferment of academic titles. We also oversee the provision of support for divisional office appointments.

And why is what you and your team do important?

Accurately paying our staff on time is always one of the most important functions for any HR team! Most of the (hard) work is carried out behind the scenes, but the result is all staff being paid correctly and on time.

Sometimes queries arise which have to be dealt with quickly and effectively. The HR team also undertakes a lot of recruitment activity and works closely with departments and the NHS to make academic appointments.

What's currently at the top of your to do list?

I'm in the process of finishing my role as Head of HR at the Ashmolean Museum and handing over to my successor. That will allow me to get to know my new team, my colleagues in the Divisional offices, and learn my way around the John Radcliffe Hospital. I plan to meet, at least one contact from each department in my first few months and hope that I don't get lost finding my way to all of the various buildings and locations!

How did you get to where you are today?

I am in my thirties and I live in Oxfordshire with my fiancée, a toddler and a cat. We relocated to Oxfordshire 6 years ago to allow me to take up a temporary role with the University and I am still here. I have enjoyed my role within the Academic Services and University Collections (ASUC) Division but Medical Sciences will be a completely different Division to work in and with.

My past experience includes mentoring adults within the workplace, BME staff within the NHS and students in secondary school/Higher Education. Previously, I worked in the NHS and the Finance sector and trained to become an HR professional by taking on more challenging roles and gaining on the job experience. I complemented this experience by completing a combination of taught courses and studying via distance learning.

I enjoy having something to occupy me outside of work and I have spent a lot of my adult years volunteering with youth groups, in Museums and most recently undertaking the role of school and nursery governor.

Who or what inspires you?

I have had some pretty inspiring managers and colleagues over the years and even those who have seemed less than impressive or particularly challenging have provided a blueprint for how not to do it!

I was very inspired by the Springboard Women's Development course I attended in 2009 and have become a real advocate for the programme. I am a Springboard speaker and mentor and would encourage those who have never heard of the scheme to find out more: <http://www.learning.ox.ac.uk/support/women/programmes/> (the equivalent programme for men is called Navigator).

I have recently discovered Mindfulness and would like to learn more about it. I think I am in the right Division to do that.

Life outside of work is currently dominated by my two year old daughter, Lillie, and unpacking boxes from a house move at the end of 2013.

Relaxation does not feature heavily in my schedule but it does mean that I really cherish the time I have alone or with family and friends. I currently enjoy Zumba and relaxing massages when I get some free time. If I weren't Head of HR I would probably be teaching primary school children.

Lab Talk

In this issue, we talk to Professor Ian Pavord, the newly appointed Statutory Chair in Respiratory Medicine. Professor Pavord recently joined the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine from the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust.



Tell us a little about the work in your group

We have been interested in measuring airway inflammation in patients with airway diseases (asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and cough) for 20 years and have shown that a response to our most effective treatment, corticosteroids, is only seen in patients with eosinophilic airway inflammation (<https://regid.org/discover/what-eosinophilic-disorder>). Eosinophilic airway inflammation is not closely linked to symptoms or patterns of airway dysfunction, so our current approach to using corticosteroids based on an assessment of symptoms and lung function is flawed. We have shown that outcomes are much better when treatment is based on objective measures of eosinophilic airway inflammation. Our findings could be translated to ordinary clinical practice as simple tests, such as the concentration of nitric oxide in exhaled air and the number of eosinophils in peripheral blood provides a robust and accessible estimate of the presence of eosinophilic airway inflammation. Our main goal is to determine whether use of these tests in primary care and in emergency departments is feasible and results in improved outcomes.

What are the challenges and implications of your research?

Important outcomes such as deaths from asthma and hospital admissions due to COPD have not improved over the last decade despite a 3-fold increase in spending on drugs used to treat airway disease. Treatment adherence rates for inhaled steroids are poor, suggesting that patients are not convinced by the need for long-term treatment. We can address this unsatisfactory state of affairs by continuing to spend more money on treatments or by targeting treatment more effectively. We will champion the latter approach. We believe that it should be possible to better stratify preventable risk and discuss this with patients using simple biomarkers.

Progress with new drug discovery for airway disease has also been frustratingly slow. Many of our most promising new treatments have not progressed because of failed early phase clinical trials. A good example is mepolizumab, a monoclonal antibody that blocks IL-5 and selectively inhibits eosinophilic airway inflammation. We suspected that mepolizumab failed because of poor targeting of treatment and showed in a single centre investigator lead trial that the effects of treatment are impressive if treatment is given to patients with evidence of eosinophilic airway inflammation. These findings have been replicated in phase 2b and 3 studies and mepolizumab is now likely to be an important new treatment for severe eosinophilic airway disease.

How do you hope being at Oxford will help your work?

One consequence of assessing airway disease thoroughly in large numbers of patients is that it helps identify potentially informative patterns of disease. My team described a number of previously unrecognised patterns of disease that look interesting and potentially tractable. One of my goals in Oxford is to investigate the mechanisms of these phenotypes, using the very considerable expertise in basic science and immunology available here.



Tell us about the key members of your department of Respiratory Medicine

We are a small but expanding department. Mona Bafadhel has moved with me from Leicester as a clinical Senior Lecturer and NIHR post-doctoral fellow. She has pioneered the use of the peripheral blood eosinophil count as a marker of corticosteroid responsive COPD and will be evaluating the use of this biomarker in everyday clinical practice. Luzheng Xue, a basic scientist and immunologist in Oxford, has joined the department and will be developing our laboratory techniques. Luzheng played a leading role in the development of CRTH2 antagonists, a class of drugs that might have utility in severe eosinophilic airway disease. Ling-Pei Ho is a clinician and basic science researcher with an established reputation in Oxford and beyond in interstitial lung disease and sarcoidosis. Naj Rahman leads a very successful Respiratory Clinical Trials unit and is a leading researcher in pleural diseases. Stacey Churcher is my PA and guide to all things important in Oxford and Samantha Thulborn has recently joined to lead development of laboratory airway assessments.

How did you get to where you are today?

I went to a comprehensive school in South Wales and from there read medicine at University College London and Westminster Hospital. I trained in General and Respiratory Medicine in the East Midlands and was a Consultant Physician at Glenfield Hospital in Leicester from 1995 and Honorary Professor from 2005 until 2013. I was very fortunate to be a visiting fellow at McMaster University in Canada where I learnt about new techniques to assess airway inflammation using induced sputum just before my consultant appointment. I was able to apply these measures in large numbers of patients in Leicester.

Links:

[Pavord Group webpage](#)

[Professor Pavord](#)

[Dr Mona Bafadhel](#)

[Dr Luzheng Xue](#)

[Dr Ling-Pei Ho](#)

[Dr Naj Rahman](#)

Would you like your lab/centre/unit to feature in a future issue of Lab Talk? For further information, please

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Athena SWAN News

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Congratulations to our latest award winners



Congratulations to the Athena SWAN award winners announced on 1 May. Seven Athena SWAN awards were awarded to departments and units in the Medical Sciences Division, bringing the total number of awards in the Division to 18.

The Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences received a Silver award, and Bronze was awarded to the Departments of Oncology, and Pharmacology, the Nuffield Departments of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences (NDORMS), and Population Health (NDPH), the Nuffield Division of Clinical Laboratory Sciences (part of the Radcliffe Department of Medicine) and the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology.

This announcement marks a significant achievement for the Medical Sciences Division as all component parts of the Medical Sciences Division now hold Athena SWAN awards in recognition of the commitment across the Division to advancing women's careers in science and medicine in academia.

The Head of the Medical Sciences Division, Professor Alastair Buchan, commented "We are extremely proud of the efforts and contributions of all of the members of the Division to achieve this important milestone on the road to creating and maintaining an inclusive working environment for all our staff and students".

<http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/news/medical-sciences-division-receives-seven-athena-swan-awards>

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Evaluating the effectiveness and impact of the Athena SWAN Charter

The Equality Challenge Unit (ECU) commissioned an independent study from Loughborough University in order to assess the impact of the Athena SWAN charter. Their findings show that career satisfaction, opportunities for training and development, knowledge of promotion processes and fairness in the allocation of workload was considered better in the Silver Award and other Athena SWAN category groups than in no award departments. However, Athena SWAN seemed to have had a limited impact on postgraduate students and had not yet reached the undergraduate population. The ECU plan to use these findings to further develop the Athena SWAN charter. For more information see www.ecu.ac.uk/publications/evaluating-athena-swan.

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TUC Age Immaterial Report

The TUC recently published a [report](#) from their Age Immaterial project which examined workplace issues facing women aged 50 to retirement. The report was compiled from information obtained using social media, polling, surveys of union members, case studies and focus groups and makes several policy recommendations regarding pay and conditions, flexible working, training opportunities and discrimination. A group has been meeting to discuss the findings from the report and are looking to hear from more women for whom this is relevant. If these issues affect you please get in touch with Alison.trinder@mpls.ox.ac.uk.

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New committee for OxFEST

OxFEST are looking for new committee members. Voting will take place on Tuesday 20 May at 6pm for an official handover for the new academic year starting Michaelmas 2014. This early set up of the new committee will enable a smooth handover so you will be equipped with lots of help from the last committee. There is so much that still needs to be changed for gender equality and OxFEST plays a huge role in this. Do consider joining the committee to play your active part in inspiring the next generation.

Please email oxfest@nexus.ox.ac.uk to express your interest or to ask about more details. Please add your subject, year in degree (undergraduate or graduate) and which position you are interested in and why. They are looking for:

President: overview all events of term and plan the symposium.

Secretary: organise the committee meetings and minutes.

Treasurer: budget events for the year and manage the account.

Event Coordinator (x2-3): helping with organising term-time events.

Conference Coordinators (x2-3): helping to co-ordinate next year's Symposium.

Website Officer: responsible of website updating and finding exciting resources.

Publicity Officer (x2): making all our exciting advertisements and planning where to distribute these best.

Sponsorship Officer: get in touch with potential sponsors.

Mentoring Representatives (x2): overview and manage the mentoring initiative.

Male Representative: coordinate events that will apply to all genders supporting gender equality.

Diversity fund deadline

Reminder that the deadline for applications to the VCs diversity fund is Saturday 31 May. Details and application form: <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/thevice-chancellorsdiversityfund>. Bids should be sent to athena-swan@medsci.ox.ac.uk.

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Talks and Events

Networking evening and workshop on Effective Communication in the Workplace

Do you find yourself overloaded because you have trouble saying 'no'? Is there some new work you'd like to take on but are not sure how to bring it up with your PI? Or is there a difficult conversation you need to have with someone in your team?

The next OxRSS (Research Staff Society) professional networking events will be a chance to learn and practise assertiveness techniques in a safe environment with other research colleagues. Hannah Boschen from the Oxford Learning Institute will run a workshop just for OxRSS to help you navigate some of these issues. The event will be run twice - once in the evening (including a drinks reception) and once at lunchtime - so you can choose when is best for you.

Evening workshop: Medical Sciences Teaching Centre, South Parks Road, Thursday 29 May, 5:45pm start - workshop 6pm-7pm, drinks reception 7pm-8pm (charge £4, payable on the door). Wine, soft drinks and nibbles will be available on arrival as well as after the workshop, and there will be plenty of time to chat informally with other researchers as well as develop some valuable skills.

Lunchtime workshop: Room D37, Department of Zoology, Thursday 12 June, 12:15pm start - workshop 12.30-1.30pm (charge £1.50, payable on the door). Tea, coffee, and juice will be available (please feel free to bring your own lunch).

To book, please email committee@oxrss.ox.ac.uk by Friday 16 May, saying whether you would like to attend the evening or lunchtime workshop.

Date: Thursday 29 May

Time: 5.45-8pm

Venue: Medical Sciences Teaching Centre, South Parks Road

Date: Thursday 12 June

Time: 12.15-1.30pm

Venue: Room D37, Department of Zoology

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OxFEST Garden Party

OxFEST are hosting a Garden Party together with all the Oxford Women Societies and OUSU. There will be free food, drinks and entertainment. More details to follow!

Date: Saturday 31 May

Time: 12–3pm

Oxford Safer Pregnancy Alliance (OSPREA) research open day

The Oxford Safer Pregnancy Alliance (OSPREA) is a team of midwives, nurses, doctors, scientists and support staff who are working together with women and their families to carry out research relating to pregnancy and reproduction. There will be talks, demonstrations and hands on activities throughout the event. Everyone is welcome including staff, students and members of the public. The event is free and refreshments will be available. If you would like to attend please register your interest at: enquiries@obs-gyn.ox.ac.uk. You can also drop in on the day. For more information, please see the website at www.osprea.ox.ac.uk

Date: Saturday 24 May

Time: 12–4pm

Venue: OSPREA Research Centre on Level 4 of the Women's Centre, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford

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Your career – where next?

What are you planning next for your career? A postdoctoral position, a fellowship? Or maybe you are considering other options. Designed specifically for bioscience doctoral and postdoctoral researchers, this workshop, organised by the *Society for Experimental Biology*, will show you options with your career, whether you are planning to stay in academia or considering other alternatives. It will also help you to make informed decisions about where to go next with your career, depending on your skills and interests. For more information and to register go to: <http://www.sebiology.org/meetings/biosciencefutures/careers.html>

Date: Monday 2 June

Time: 10.30am–5.30pm

Venue: Charles Darwin House, London WC1N 2JU

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Articles & Resources

Forty years' co-education

Feature on the first women students to be admitted to all-male colleges at Oxford 40 years ago. Brasenose, Jesus, Wadham, Hertford and St Catherine's were the first colleges to go co-educational in 1974. Prior to that, women studied at single sex colleges. A number of the first female students at these colleges are interviewed about their experiences.

http://www.oxfordtimes.co.uk/news/11148343.How_the_first_women_broke_the_all_male_mould_at_Oxford_University/

SURVEY: Calling all scientists – what's it like being you?

What motivates scientists and what pressures are they under? What effects are funding, publishing and governance systems having on the production of high quality, ethical scientific research? Is competition in science a good thing? These are some of the questions being explored in a survey www.surveymonkey.com/s/sci-research-culture to find out how the different features of the UK research environment are affecting, both positively and negatively, the work and behaviour of scientists at all stages of their career. The survey is part of a project nuffieldbioethics.org/research-culture involving the Nuffield Council on Bioethics, Royal Society, Society of Biology, Institute of Physics and Royal Society of Chemistry which will gather views and promote debate about the culture of scientific research in the UK.

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Consultation on Seminar Communications

Do you receive too many emails announcing seminars, events or workshops? Have you missed a seminar because you didn't know about it?

Communication Officers and other administrative staff in your department and across the Medical Sciences Division are working together to streamline the way we circulate information about seminars (talks, workshops and other events) to you, and we'd like to hear your thoughts on how you'd like to find out about seminars both in your department and from other departments across the division.

Please take 1–2 minutes to complete our short survey. Your responses will be used to inform our communication plans and we thank you enormously for helping us with this!

Link to survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Z3JBZLY>

Survey closes: Friday 16 May, 2014

Related content

Updating Oxford Talks: Over the course of summer 2014, IT Services will be making Oxford Talks easier to use, adding some new features and creating a mobile app. We'd like your help...

Library News

Contents

1. [RSL Space Survey](#)
2. [WISER sessions coming up](#)
3. [Library induction session at the Knowledge Centre: 11am Tuesday 27th May](#)
4. [Sir William Osler and the Bodleian](#)
5. [NIHR implements "Gold" approach to Open Access](#)
6. [Bank Holiday Staffed Hours](#)
7. [Resources of Interest: UpToDate](#)

RSL Space Survey

The RSL are conducting a survey to gather feedback on what readers like and dislike about the RSL's current use of space. The survey will run until **30th May 2014**, and will include a prize draw to win **5 £20 Amazon vouchers**. Further details can be found at

<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/science/tell-us-your-views-to-improve-your-library-space>.

The survey is at

www.surveymonkey.com/s/RSLSpaceSurvey

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WISER sessions coming up

- WISER: Mendeley for Reference Management, Tuesday 27th May 9.15am–12.15pm
- WISER: Finding and Converting Geospatial Data, Tuesday 27th May 2–5pm
- RefWorks for Sciences and Social Sciences, Wednesday 4th June 2–5pm

More details are at

<http://ox.libguides.com/workshopsbydate>

[Top](#)

Library induction session at the Knowledge Centre: 11am Tuesday 27th May

This session lasts about 20 minutes, and includes registering for library membership, a brief overview about the library services (catalogues, databases, etc), and an introduction to our online and outreach services.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided at the session. Please let Eli Harriss know if you would like to come to the session

eli.harriss@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

We can also offer bespoke tutorials for small groups on Mendeley, Endnote, open access and other information–retrieval topics. Please get in touch with us if interested.

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Sir William Osler and the Bodleian

Sir William Osler, physician and bibliophile (1849–1919), was one of the most famous and respected doctors in the world in the early 20th century. As Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford from 1905 until 1919 he took a keen interest in the work and collections of the Bodleian Library. On display will be a selection of books and manuscripts illustrating Osler's close relationship with the Bodleian as Curator, adviser, friend and benefactor.

Dates: 12 April 2014 –18 May 2014

Opening times:

- Monday to Friday 9am–5pm
- Saturday 9am – 4.30pm
- Sunday 11am – 5pm

Further details:

<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/whats-on/upcoming-events/2014/apr/sir-william-osler>

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NIHR implements “Gold” approach to Open Access

Any peer-reviewed research articles supported in whole or in part by [NIHR](#) funding, that are submitted for publication and published from 1st April 2014 should be made available under the “Gold” approach to Open Access – which means the report is free at the time of publication. This includes review articles not commissioned by publishers, final reports or executive summaries. The NIHR recognises that there will be progressive implementation, but expects full compliance in four years. NIHR Programmes will monitor compliance with this policy and will be providing further guidance on how to comply with the policy over the summer. Full details on the revised policy will be made available shortly.

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Bank Holiday Staffed Hours

The Cairns Library (JR) will be unstaffed on:

- Monday 26th May

The Knowledge Centre (Old Road Campus) will be closed on:

- Monday 26th May

24 hour access is available at the Cairns Library for all library members.

The RSL will be open 8.30am–7pm on Monday 26th May.

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Resources of Interest: UpToDate

[UpToDate](#) provides easy access to a comprehensive collection of evidence-based recommendations. Each review is linked to Medline abstracts and a complete drug information database. There are over 10,000 topic reviews covering a range of specialities.

You can access UpToDate at www.uptodate.com/contents/search. If you are not working from a University PC, you will need to enter your University of Oxford Single Sign-On Login.

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Opportunities and Updates

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Science Outreach Awards Call for nominations. Are you, or is one of your colleagues, a passionate promoter of science to the public?

MRC Max Perutz Science Writing Award Opens Monday 12 May, closes Sunday 22 June

Volunteer Opportunities

OxWATCH study now recruiting! We are looking for women between the ages of 18 and 40 who are hoping to become pregnant with their first child, and have an Oxfordshire home address

Clinical Vaccine Trials The Jenner Institute are developing vaccines against major global diseases and want healthy volunteers aged 18 to 55 to take part in trials of them.

Healthy volunteers needed for antidepressant drug study Healthy volunteers aged 18–40 are needed for a study investigating the effects of the antidepressant drug tianeptine on the processing of emotions.

Volunteers Wanted We are conducting a research study at the University of Oxford to assess if a new medication affects performance on cognitive tasks

Other Items of Interest

Medical Sciences Division D.Phil Day Tuesday 8 July, 9 am–6 pm, Tingewick Hall, JR Hospital

Nuffield Department of Clinical Neuroscience Courses Oxford Neurology Course and Practical Cognition Course

Things To Do With Data – a series of lunchtime talks

Leverhulme Lecture Series 'An Unnatural History: The Re-Emergence of Infectious Disease in the 20th Century'

Career Service Events Postdoctoral Careers Mentors, Career workshops for research staff, Four steps to careers success for DPhil students, and other events

Managing Your Mind Thursday 15 May, 11am – 4pm. This one-day workshop tackles work-life balance through managing your mind

Pitching for Success Are you looking for funding? Need business support? Would like to find a collaborator for your idea? Require skills to get

the business off the ground?

Regulating Experimental Medicine during a Pandemic 6, 7 June 2014. Royal College of Physicians, London

And Finally...

Catch an Open Day in May



BRC Public Open Day

Explore our world-class research and how it is changing lives for the better

Monday 19 May 2014, 12.30pm to 4.30pm

Location: West Wing, John Radcliffe Hospital

FIND out how mobile phones, strawberries and a wooden hand-loom are transforming healthcare at a special interactive exhibition.

Patients, staff and the public can explore our world-class research and how it is changing lives for the better at the Oxford Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) open day on **Monday May 19 at the John Radcliffe Hospital**.

Teams will be demonstrating the latest technology and techniques tackling conditions such as cancer, dementia, arthritis and diabetes.

Leading researchers and medical professionals will be on hand to answer questions on issues including DNA sequencing, the importance of sleep and how data drives new treatments and services.

Find out more – <http://oxfordbrc.nihr.ac.uk/event/public-open-day/>

The Oxford Safer Pregnancy Alliance (OSPREA) Research Centre Open Day



Wednesday 21 May 2014, 12:00pm to 4:00pm

Location: OSPREA Research Centre, Level 4, Women's Centre, John Radcliffe Hospital

Come to the Open Day to:

- Learn about the work we do with research into pregnancy and the health of women and babies
- Discover how research can impact on future healthcare
- See the facilities in the OSPREA Research Centre
- Meet the scientists, doctors and midwives carrying out the research

There will be talks, demonstrations and hands on activities throughout the event. Everyone is welcome, including staff, students and members of the public and the event is **free**.

Refreshments will be available.

If you would like to come along please register your interest at

enquiries@obs-gyn.ox.ac.uk

Spaces will also be available to drop by on the day.

Find out more – <http://www.osprea.ox.ac.uk/osprea-open-day/>

Related item

We are looking for women between the ages of 18 and 40 who are hoping to become pregnant with their first child, and have an Oxfordshire home address. If you are interested in taking part in the [OxWATCH study](#), please visit www.osprea.ox.ac.uk/oxwatch

Board Business

In this regular feature, Dr David Bryan, Divisional Secretary, provides a summary of the Medical Sciences Board's activity

At its meeting on 6 May, the Medical Sciences Board:

- (1) agreed to co-opt to its membership, with effect from its next meeting until the end of Trinity Term 2015, Dr Alison Simmons, Professor Kia Nobre and Professor Sasha Shepperd.
- (2) welcomed the recent announcement that an Athena SWAN Silver award had been achieved by the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences and that six further departments now held a Bronze award; all of the Division's departments now held an Athena SWAN award.
- (3) received the report of the Board's Finance and Physical Capital Committee and in particular (a) noted that a recent decision of Council's Planning and Resource Allocation Committee regarding the University's infrastructure charge system would stand for 2014-15, but that work would be done with a view to refining the system further for 2015-16; (b) endorsed the recommendation that an IP investment fund be approved in principle; and (c) approved a project to extend the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine's Clinical Bio-manufacturing Facility subject to receipt of a capital allocation from the Department of Health.
- (4) received and noted the report of the Board's Information Technology Committee.
- (5) received the report of the Board's Research Committee and in particular noted the preparation for the divisional Science (Away) Day in September and the discussion of ways of improving working relationships between the Division and Isis Innovation.
- (6) considered and, subject to further consultation with heads of department, approved a draft response to the university-wide consultation (see <http://www.ox.ac.uk/staff/statutexii.html>) on the future of Statute XII which currently applies to a wide range of staff within the University and provides for dismissal on grounds of redundancy or 'good cause', for disciplinary action short of dismissal, for dismissal on medical grounds, for appeals, and for grievances raised by individuals against their managers or the University.
- (7) agreed not to support OUSU's representation to the University asking it to consider divestment from all fossil fuel investments held by Oxford University Endowment Management on behalf of the University.
- (8) considered the draft Digital Strategy for the University and agreed to comment on its being anodyne and uncosted.
- (9) considered a draft updated Divisional Strategic Plan and approved this subject to further consultation with heads of department.

Updating Oxford Talks

Over the course of summer 2014, IT Services will be making Oxford Talks easier to use, adding some new features and creating a mobile app. We'd like your help...

Fill in our survey

We'd be grateful for 5 mins of your time, to tell us what features you're using and what features you'd like to see.

[Oxford Talks User Survey](#)

Join our User Group

If you could spare us about 10 hours in total in May and over the summer, please contact us (oxotalks-contact@it.ox.ac.uk) as we still have some places on our User Group

- participation involves attendance at a workshop in May and providing feedback for mock-ups and example features as we progress over the summer.

[Find out more](#)

Important Updates

Review of the Standard Undergraduate Medical Course – Your contributions welcomed?

Why the review?

At the instigation of the Head of Division, and in the context of the period of time that has elapsed since provision was last reviewed (2005) and in preparation for the GMC review visit in November, a major review of the Standard Undergraduate Medical Course is being conducted this year.

A Panel has been established to undertake the review, jointly chaired by Professor David Paterson, Associate Head of Division (Education), and Professor Peter Sullivan, Director of Medical Education, OUH NHS Trust.

How can I contribute?

It is intended that the review be as consultative as possible, seeking a wide range of opinion from tutors and students, alumni, departments and a range of bodies and individuals. There are a number of ways in which contributions will be sought, including:

1. Written Submissions

The review panel would welcome the views of all stakeholders on any or all of the main review themes, which are:

- (i) access and admissions, including the arrangements for competitive entry to the Clinical course and alternative approaches;
- (ii) overall aims of the course, curriculum design and course structure;
- (iii) the international, national and institutional context of the course;
- (iv) teaching, learning and assessment;
- (v) relationships with relevant NHS Trusts;
- (vi) the extent to which the course is successful in preparing its graduates to perform as Foundation doctors;
- (vii) the relationship between teaching and research;
- (viii) specific arrangements for the pursuit of pathways into professional clinical practice, graduate studies and academia;
- (ix) academic and pastoral support and guidance;
- (x) the provision and use of learning resources (including physical and staff resources);
- (xi) governance and administrative support;
- (xii) relationships with colleges;
- (xiii) quality assurance mechanisms.

Committees, groups and individuals are encouraged to make submissions to the Review Panel. Your comments should be sent **by Friday 6th June at the latest** to Ms. Jane Dale, Senior Assistant Registrar (Education), Medical Sciences Division: jane.dale@medsci.ox.ac.uk, who would be pleased to provide more information about the review upon request.

2. Discussion Forums

A series of three Discussion Forums were held in April and May. These were well-attended, and sparked some useful discussion. Thanks to all of you who attended.

The Medical Sciences Board and its Education Policy and Standards Committee will consider the Panel's report, its conclusions and recommendations at the beginning of Michaelmas Term.

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Isis Innovation News

New fund available for investments into Oxford technology companies
The University of Oxford Isis Fund (UOIF) is now open for applications from Oxford researchers seeking investment into technology companies. Established in 2014, the UOIF invests across all areas of technology and intellectual property from Oxford including new Oxford-based software companies. Managed by Parkwalk Advisors, with Isis Innovation as the Portfolio Advisor, this fund offers a tax-efficient opportunity to private investors, and provides an additional source of investment for spin-out and start-up ventures.



See Isis news article – <http://www.isis-innovation.com/news/UniversityofOxfordIsisFundraises1.25m.html>

More information about the fund:

<http://www.isis-innovation.com/researchers/UCSF-1.html>

Applying to the UOIF

A researcher wishing to apply for Funds should contact either the Technology Transfer Manager at Isis Innovation with whom they are already working or the Seed Fund Manager at Isis Innovation (andrea.alunni@isis.ox.ac.uk) to be put in touch with the appropriate Technology Transfer Manager.

Research Professional

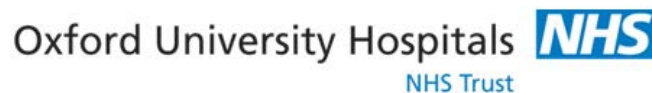
An online research funding opportunities database and alerting services

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Oxford University Hospitals

All MSD staff and students are invited to become members of the Trust and can stand for election to the Council of Governors



Do you have an interest in

health and healthcare?

Would you like to have a say in how our health services develop?

Would you like to be able to elect members to OUH's Council of Governors (or stand to be one)?

Would you like to be invited to events about local developments in healthcare?

If you answer 'Yes' to any of the above, **we want you to be part of our future.**

If you have a contract of employment with the **University of Oxford in a department within the Medical Sciences Division** or hold an **honorary contract award with OUH for at least 12 months**, you can join our staff constituency.

University of Oxford staff belonging to other departments and students can join us as public members.

To join us visit www.ouh.nhs.uk/ft or call 01865 743491 for a membership form.

Membership is free!

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Medical Research Fund

To support research conducted in the clinical departments of the Medical Sciences Division. Summer Long Vacation: Monday 28 July 2014
The Medical Research Fund supports research conducted in the clinical departments of the Medical Sciences Division.

Awards are made via three funding schemes towards the overall goal to promote work in the field of medical research and to extend medical research training opportunities.

The **bridging salary support scheme** accepts applications to augment existing externally funded research activity, by providing short-term (typically 3 months) funding to cover salary costs needed in order to retain experienced research staff between external research grants, and by providing a limited scheme to support maternity leave costs.

The **startup research funding scheme** accepts applications for small (up to £10k) awards in order to enable investigators to obtain pilot data to be used to support larger scale applications for external research funding in future. All non-staff research costs, including equipment, are eligible. Priority will be given to those applications that demonstrate matching funding from other sources. This scheme will not normally provide research support for students.

The **pre-fellowship scheme** accepts applications for short-term (up to 3 months) funding to cover the salary costs of clinicians who will shortly begin an externally funded research training fellowship at Oxford.

Please email applications to the secretary of the MRF Committee mrf@medsci.ox.ac.uk by the deadlines listed below. Awards will only be made with start dates that fall after than the relevant deadline; retrospective applications will not be considered. When emailing your application, please copy in your departmental administrator to demonstrate that your department is aware of the application.

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Clinical Academic Training Programme (CATP) Internships

Health Education Thames Valley, in partnership with the National Institute for Health Research, is currently seeking applicants for five funded CATP internships within the Thames Valley. This is a great opportunity for clinical academic researchers to gain support and experience in their career, whether they are just starting out in research, or seeking support to complete postgraduate study or postdoctoral research. Nurses, midwives, pharmacists and allied health professionals who fulfil the application criteria listed in the attached guidance document are invited to apply by **Friday 30th May 2014**. Interviews will be held on 17th June 2014.



NIHR Training Bursaries for Research Nurses, Midwives, Allied Health Professionals & other research staff



Oxford Biomedical Research Centre
Enabling translational research through partnership

The NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre and Thames Valley Comprehensive Local Research Network are making funds available to support the training and career development of Research Nurses, Midwives, Allied Health Professionals (AHPs), other professions engaged in research, and clinical trials administrators. Applications are welcome from all Research Nurses, Midwives, Allied Health Professionals (AHPs), other professions engaged in research, and clinical trials administrators currently involved in NIHR-funded research within the Thames Valley. If you are in any doubt as to your eligibility for this funding, please contact retg@medsci.ox.ac.uk for advice. The funding can be used for a short course or modules which will provide training and expertise in research skills or research management. The deadline for applications is the **27th of May 2014**.

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Narrative skills:

0930–1700, Tuesday 13 May 2014

Using your own research and interests, learn the essential ingredients of a compelling narrative, how draw an audience into a story and keep them involved, and how to turn your story into an effective 'pitch'.

For further details and to register: <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/course-signup/rest/course/4D00D40106>

Please note, there is a known problem with WebLearn, which may mean that sometimes the links return blank pages. Please use the various search functions within WebLearn to find the courses and sign up.



Sexy, sticky, stimulating – science outreach via dance and theatre

1000–1200, Saturday 7 June 2014

Dr Cedric Tan

Winner of several competitions, including "Dance your PhD" (<http://vimeo.com/30211782>)

Hear about how to use dance and theatre to engage an audience with your scientific research.

For further details and to register: <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/course-signup/rest/course/4D00D40123>

Translating your research into a hands-on activity:

1300–1600, Thursday 10 July 2014

This comprehensive introduction to working with hands-on activities will include thinking about how people learn, the value of a hands-on approach and consideration of the practical issues you may face. This course will be delivered in conjunction with the Botanic Gardens.

For further details and to register: <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/course-signup/rest/course/4D00D40105>

Networking event: Stand up science

1230–1330, Thursday 29 May

Dr David Legg (host of 'Science Slam <<http://www.scienceslam.net/de/>> ') and Jonny Brooks Bartlett (winner of FameLab <<http://www.famelab.org/>> regional final) explain how to use stand-up events to engage an audience with your scientific research. Have a go yourself, then have the opportunity to meet with other researchers from across the sciences.

Booking details TBC

Networking event: Making your lectures interactive

Dr Alison Woollard, presenter of the 2013 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures, gives hints and tips on getting away from PowerPoint and making your lectures fun and interactive. Have a go yourself, then have the opportunity to meet with other researchers from across the sciences.

Date and booking details TBC

These courses will be available to all graduate students and research staff, and are part of a wider range of researcher training opportunities: <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/portal/hierarchy/grad/> Further information on training opportunities in public engagement and science communication, at Oxford and further afield, can be found on the Oxford Sparks website: www.oxfordsparks.net/training-0

Volunteer Opportunities

OxWATCH study now recruiting!

We are looking for women between the ages of 18 and 40 who are hoping to become pregnant with their first child, and have an Oxfordshire home address

Clinical Vaccine Trials

The Jenner Institute are developing vaccines against major global diseases and want healthy volunteers aged 18 to 55 to take part in trials of them.

Healthy volunteers needed for antidepressant drug study

Healthy volunteers aged 18-40 are needed for a study investigating the effects of the antidepressant drug tianeptine on the processing of emotions.

Volunteers Wanted

We are conducting a research study at the University of Oxford to assess if a new medication affects performance on cognitive tasks

OxWATCH study now recruiting!

We are looking for women between the ages of 18 and 40 who are hoping to become pregnant with their first child, and have an Oxfordshire home address

The **OxWATCH Study** – a unique collaboration between the NHS and three departments of the University of Oxford: the Nuffield Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, the Department of Primary Care Health Sciences and the Cardiovascular Clinical Research Facility at the John Radcliffe Hospital – is the first of its kind to research the wellbeing and lifestyle of women planning a pregnancy in order to understand the likelihood of different diseases in later life. To build a full and detailed picture, thousands of young Oxfordshire women who have not yet started their families are invited to join the pioneering project.

Some women develop conditions such as diabetes, pre-eclampsia and depression during pregnancy. These women are more at risk of associated complications later in life. To better understand which women might develop these conditions, we are measuring cardiovascular, metabolic and psychological health throughout the pregnancy and comparing them to those noted before.

Study participants will be asked to complete a wellbeing and lifestyle questionnaire and will have simple and easy measurements taken including a blood pressure, a blood test and a heart scan. The research team will then follow the women through any subsequent pregnancy and beyond.

The team hopes this will lead to better preparation for pregnancy, improved methods of preventing complications and earlier detection of problems when they do arise.

The OxWATCH team wants to recruit 300 women in the first pilot-phase and then expand the numbers to 12,000 women in Oxfordshire and other national centres.

For more information on taking part in the OxWATCH study please visit www.osprea.ox.ac.uk/oxwatch and fill out the contact form, or call **01865 572259**



Clinical Vaccine Trials

The Jenner Institute are developing vaccines against major global diseases and want healthy volunteers aged 18 to 55 to take part in trials of them.

Participants will be paid compensation for expenses and time put aside to take part. Each study will require short visits to an outpatient clinic over 4-12 months. To find out more and register, visit the [Jenner Institute website](#).



Healthy volunteers needed for antidepressant drug study

Healthy volunteers aged 18–40 are needed for a study investigating the effects of the antidepressant drug tianeptine on the processing of emotions.

If you are interested in participating in the study please get in touch for more information.

Time and expenses will be reimbursed.

[✉daniel.whiting@psych.ox.ac.uk](mailto:daniel.whiting@psych.ox.ac.uk) 01865 223624

Other Items of Interest

Medical Sciences Division D.Phil Day

Tuesday 8 July, 9 am–6 pm, Tingewick Hall, JR Hospital

Nuffield Department of Clinical Neuroscience Courses

Oxford Neurology Course and Practical Cognition Course

Things To Do With Data – a series of lunchtime talks

Leverhulme Lecture Series

'An Unnatural History: The Re-Emergence of Infectious Disease in the 20th Century'

Career Service Events

Postdoctoral Careers Mentors, Career workshops for research staff, Four steps to careers success for DPhil students, and other events

Managing Your Mind

Thursday 15 May, 11am – 4pm. This one-day workshop tackles work–life balance through managing your mind

Pitching for Success

Are you looking for funding? Need business support? Would like to find a collaborator for your idea? Require skills to get the business off the ground?

Regulating Experimental Medicine during a Pandemic

6, 7 June 2014. Royal College of Physicians, London

Career Service Events

Postdoctoral Careers Mentors, Career workshops for research staff, Four steps to careers success for DPhil students, and other events

Postdoctoral Careers Mentors

Within Medical Sciences there are four Postdoctoral Careers Mentors who have been trained by the Careers Service to offer CV reviews and mentoring to DPhil students in their department. They can be contacted directly and their names and responsibilities are:

Myrte Merkestein – Biochemistry, Experimental Psychology, Pharmacology, DPAG, MRC Harwell

Elise Pegg – Nuffield Dept of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences, Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, Kennedy IBME

Sarah Floud – Population Health

Cheryl Hunter – Psychiatry, Primary Health Care, Old Road Campus Research Building

Careers workshops for research staff

Our core workshop programme for Research Staff is suitable for those interested in academic careers, non academic careers or still considering both. Book through [Oxford Learning Institute](#).

Job Search and CV Skills

Interactive workshop enabling you to more effectively search for and apply for jobs. Includes networking, CV and cover letter skills.

27 May 2.30–5.00pm

Interview Skills

Interactive workshop enabling you to more effectively prepare for and perform at interview.

18 June 2.30–5.00pm

Four Steps to Career Success for DPhil students

Our core workshop programme for DPhil Students is suitable for those interested in academic careers, non academic careers or still considering both. Book through [Career Connect](#).

Networking Skills for DPhil Students

Begin to identify what networking is, why it is important and how you can develop their own professional networks and use them effectively.

13 May 3.30–5.00pm

CVs and Cover letters for DPhil students

Focus on job search techniques as well as how to produce effective CVs and cover letters.

30 May 2.30–5.00pm

Interview Skills for DPhil students

Focus on understanding interview processes, effective preparation for interviews and tackling difficult interview questions.

11 June 9.30–12.00pm

Other events

Book through [Career Connect](#).

Academic Application and Interview Skills for Researchers

Interactive workshop covering skills required for academic applications – CVs, cover letters and research and teaching statements – and for effective preparation at academic interview.

22 May 2.00–5.00pm

MBTI workshop for Researchers

This workshop will give you an insight into your own personality using the Myers Briggs Type Indicator. This framework can help you to gain a better understanding of your natural preferences which can help you to identify the types of work and working environments that you may enjoy.

3 June 9.30–12.30pm

One to one appointments at The Careers Service/Old Road Campus/Churchill/JR

Call reception on 01865 274646 to book longer 30/45minute appointments, or book online through [Career Connect](#) for 15 minute appointments (only at Careers Service).

Pitching for Success

Are you looking for funding? Need business support? Would like to find a collaborator for your idea? Require skills to get the business off the ground?

If so, then why not look at the opportunity to pitch your need to the Venturefest audience as part of the Pitching for Success session in the Funding Stream from 2pm to 4.30pm. With total prize package in excess of £5K made up of cash and in kind business support.



What are we looking for?

We are not looking at investor ready companies, but those that have the ambition to become established businesses that will go on to seek Angel and Seed Stage VC funding or require support to grow your existing early stage business.

How do you enter your company?

To enter Pitching for Success, please provide a written, brief overview of who you are, contact detail and a one line overview and a 90 second video of what you are looking for from the pitch.

Send your entries to pitchingforsuccess@venturefestoxford.com. **The closing date is 13th June.** Those applicants, who have made it through to participate under the Funding Stream 'Pitching for Success' at Venturefest Oxford on 8th July 2014 will be informed on 20th June.

<http://www.venturefestoxford.com/stream-times/4/>

Clinical Academic Training Programme (CATP) Internships

Health Education Thames Valley, in partnership with the National Institute for Health Research, is currently seeking applicants for five funded CATP internships within the Thames Valley. This is a great opportunity for clinical academic researchers to gain support and experience in their career, whether they are just starting out in research, or seeking support to complete postgraduate study or postdoctoral research. Nurses, midwives, pharmacists and allied health professionals who fulfil the application criteria listed in the attached guidance document are invited to apply by **Friday 30th May 2014**. Interviews will be held on 17th June 2014.



NIHR Training Bursaries for Research Nurses, Midwives, Allied Health Professionals & other research staff



Oxford Biomedical Research Centre
Enabling translational research through partnership

The NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre and Thames Valley Comprehensive Local Research Network are making funds available to support the training and career development of Research Nurses, Midwives, Allied Health Professionals (AHPs), other professions engaged in research, and clinical trials administrators. Applications are welcome from all Research Nurses, Midwives, Allied Health Professionals (AHPs), other professions engaged in research, and clinical trials administrators currently involved in NIHR-funded research within the Thames Valley. If you are in any doubt as to your eligibility for this funding, please contact retg@medsci.ox.ac.uk for advice. The funding can be used for a short course or modules which will provide training and expertise in research skills or research management. The deadline for applications is the **27th of May 2014**.

Further information and the application form are available from <http://bit.ly/1faANOr>

BIS Consultation on Proposals for Long-Term Capital Investment in Science & Research

The Government are seeking responses to their [Consultation on Proposals for Long-Term Capital Investment in Science & Research](#). The Government plans to increase capital investment and they are seeking views and evidence to help identify priorities. Input to this consultation will inform the 'Science capital roadmap', which will set out their long-term plan for a world-leading science and research infrastructure in the autumn.

In consultation with Heads of Department, the University will submit an institutional response. Individuals are also welcome to respond.

Deadline 4th July 2014.

EPSRC Healthcare – community survey

EPSRC are in the process of identifying a number of 'Grand Challenges' in Healthcare Technologies

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/themes/healthcaretechnologies/strategy/grandchallenges/Pages/default.aspx>

This is a process they have used in many other areas to identify key research challenges within their portfolio requiring a multidisciplinary approach, with future funding aligned to these areas. To develop the set of challenges, they have launched a set of web surveys to collect views from across the community on a shortlist of 10 possible topics. They are:

- Data analytics and digital infrastructure for healthcare;
- Enabling technologies for regenerative medicine;
- Engineering healthy behaviours;
- Functional enhancement for safe and independent living;
- Infection prevention and control;
- Patient specific treatment;
- Prediction and early diagnosis;
- Smart surgeries and therapies;
- Systems to support and improve healthcare provision;
- Understanding and interventions in neurological function.

Full information, and a link to the surveys is here:

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/themes/healthcaretechnologies/strategy/grandchallenges/Pages/default.aspx>. We will mention this in our monthly newsletter but, in the meantime, please do disseminate to colleagues, as well as clinical and industrial partners – it's obviously critical that we input strongly into this. **Deadline for responses is 10 June.**

CRUK Research Strategy

On April 29th 2014, CRUK launched their new research strategy **Beating Cancer Sooner**

On April 29th 2014, CRUK launched their new research strategy **Beating Cancer Sooner**. The strategy sets out their agenda and priorities for the years ahead. Over the last 40 years survival rates in the UK have doubled. Today 1 in 2 people survive their cancer. CRUK's ambition is to accelerate progress and see 3 in 4 people surviving their cancer within the next 20 years.

CRUK will continue to support a broad spectrum of research across the pipeline, into all types of cancer, across all age groups, emphasising areas which they believe have significant life-saving potential. CRUK plan to grow their investment substantially, increasing their funding in existing areas, as well as establishing new areas of research. In the research strategy, CRUK outline their plans to launch six new funding schemes throughout 2014 and 2015 to support world-class research.

CRUK will increase funded research in areas such as early diagnosis where they will drive a major shift in the research effort by investing over £20 million a year by 2019, and cancers with substantial unmet need where they will increase their investment two- to threefold over the next five years.

CRUK will launch a new funding scheme to promote multidisciplinary approaches to research and stimulate collaborations between biomedical research and disciplines such as mathematics, physics and engineering.

British Councils Researcher links programme

Provides funding for bilateral workshops and travel grants, both with a focus on early career researchers

There are 19 partner countries involved, including Brazil. This is a really great opportunity for leading researchers in the UK and one of the involved partner countries to fund workshops on a bi-lateral basis, that will bring together early-career researchers and build international connections. **The deadline for applications is 09 June.**

Further information on this programme, including the latest call for proposals, can be found here: www.britishcouncil.org/society/science/researcher-links

Science Outreach Awards

Call for nominations. Are you, or is one of your colleagues, a passionate promoter of science to the public?

The MPLS Division has launched a new award to recognise the contribution made by people across the collegiate University who work in science outreach.

The awards are for any role, whether it's helping out behind the scenes or giving presentations to school children.

The criteria for assessing contributions include:

- demonstrating initiative and resourcefulness;
- developing new and innovative resources; and
- playing an exceptionally beneficial role in promoting STEM subjects.

All nominees will receive a certificate and an invitation to a drinks reception on 13 October, while outstanding science ambassadors will be awarded a cash prize. **Nominations should be made by 1 August 2014.**

For further details, visit the [MPLS science outreach awards website](#).

MRC Max Perutz Science Writing Award

Opens Monday 12 May, closes Sunday 22 June

This year's MRC Max Perutz Science Writing Award will open on Monday 12 May to **all MRC-funded PhD students**.

The competition asks MRC PhD students to write an 800-word article for a non-scientific audience, describing their research and explaining why it matters. They want their researchers to capture their passion and excitement for science and share this with a wider audience.

The winner will receive £1,500 and their article will be promoted in Metro newspaper. **The competition closes on 22 June.**

This is a real opportunity to showcase some of the work taking place across the MRC and enables our researchers to develop skills in communicating their science to the public, so please do submit an entry.

Students with queries can contact the MRC on [✉maxperutzaward@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk](mailto:maxperutzaward@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk)



Volunteers Wanted

We are conducting a research study at the University of Oxford to assess if a new medication affects performance on cognitive tasks. The study involves completing an online questionnaire and visiting our research facility in Oxford on 3 occasions.

You will receive compensation for your time and reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed.

To participate in this research you must be:

- Male or female aged between 18 and 45 (inclusive)
- Fit and well, both physically and mentally
- A light or a non-smoker
- Right handed
- A fluent English speaker
- Willing to take one dose of study medication or dummy medication

Please complete the online questionnaire here: <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/sep>

CONTACT:

Call: 07760486222

Email: sep_study@psych.ox.ac.uk to find out more.

Or Text STUDY to 70099

Medical Sciences Division D.Phil Day

Tuesday 8 July, 9 am–6 pm, Tingewick Hall, JR Hospital

Keynote speaker: Professor Sir Marc Feldmann, FRS

Online registration: <https://medscidphilday.eventbrite.co.uk>

Registration closes 27th June

Abstract submission, please email your abstract for a talk/poster: abstracts.medscidphilday@gmail.com

Deadline: 1st June

Facebook Search for: Medical Sciences Division D.Phil Day

Nuffield Department of Clinical Neuroscience Courses

Oxford Neurology Course and Practical Cognition Course



Oxford Neurology Course – 27th to 29th June 2014

The Oxford Neurology Course was successfully launched in 2010 and is now an annual event aimed at neurology trainees and consultants.

The course covers a wide range of neurological topics. Talks will cover practical issues as well as cutting-edge neuroscience, and include the popular 'Best of Oxford's Grand Round Archives'. Speakers are invited who are established experts in their field and always with the aim of promoting lively discussion. Attendees get to soak up the atmosphere of Oxford in Summer, living and dining formally one evening in College.

The 5th Oxford Neurology Course will take place on the **25–27 June 2014** at St Anne's College, Oxford.

Find out more, <http://www.ndcn.ox.ac.uk/courses/oxford-neurology-course>

Practical Cognition Course – 25th to 26th September 2014

The highly successful Practical Cognition Course will take place for the seventh year running on Thursday 25th to Friday 26th September 2014 at St Anne's College, Oxford. This course is for consultants and trainees in neurology, psychiatry, neuropsychology and rehabilitation medicine who want to develop their practical expertise in cognitive assessment and relate this to clinically relevant neuroscience.

Find out more, <http://www.ndcn.ox.ac.uk/courses/practical-cognition-course>

Things To Do With Data – a series of lunchtime talks

Throughout Trinity Term 2014, the IT Services [Research Support team](#) (in collaboration with the IT Learning Programme) will be hosting [Things To Do With Data](#), a series of lunchtime talks on a variety of topics relating to research data.

The series looks at some of the interesting things that researchers do with their data to unlock its potential and realize its value. Covering aspects of data management from planning to re-use, these talks are intended to inspire whilst also considering the practical requirements of research funders and the issues surrounding data sharing.

The talks are (mostly) aimed at researchers, including postgraduate research students, and will happen at 12.30pm on Wednesdays of weeks 1 to 9 (no talks in week 2 or 8). The full programme (with booking links) can be seen at <http://research.it.ox.ac.uk/datatalks>.

Leverhulme Lecture Series

'An Unnatural History: The Re-Emergence of Infectious Disease in the 20th Century'

Presented by Professor Christoph Gradmann, University of Oslo, Leverhulme Visiting Professor at Wellcome Unit for the history of Medicine, Oxford.

Hosted by *The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities*.

All lectures will take place at the Seminar Room, Radcliffe Humanities Building, Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, Woodstock Road.

Thursday, May 15, 2014 – 5:00pm to 5:45pm

Stalking Microbes: Antibiotic Resistance, Nosocomial Infections and the Demise of the Modern Hospital 1950–1990



Thursday, June 5, 2014 – 5:00pm to 5:45pm

The Return of Natural History: Re-Emerging Infections, the End of Antibiotics and New Public Health

Please visit www.torch.ox.ac.uk for more information. To sign up for the TORCH mailing list simply send a blank email to: torch-subscribe@maillist.ox.ac.uk

Managing Your Mind

Thursday 15 May, 11am – 4pm. This one-day workshop tackles work–life balance through managing your mind

The emphasis is on the need to maintain physical, mental and emotional health as a key to personal effectiveness through achieving concentration, clarity of mind and decisiveness in action.

Primarily aimed at postdocs, contract research staff and newly appointed academic staff, but open to the whole University.

For more information and to register, please go to: <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/course-signup/rest/course/4D00D40018>

Regulating Experimental Medicine during a Pandemic

6, 7 June 2014. Royal College of Physicians, London

Organiser: Sarah Edwards (sarah.edwards@ucl.ac.uk)

Coordinator: Elena Bedisti (e.bedisti@ucl.ac.uk)

Objectives for conference

- To bring together opinion leaders in politics, science, public health, pharmaceuticals, regulators and bioethicists to advance policy on this issue.
- To review suggestions and approaches proposed in the Meeting Report of the WHO Technical Consultation held in 2009 on Research Ethics in International Epidemic Response, and develop guidance in this area.
- To suggest training material for researchers and ethics committees based on this conference and on the resulting guidance.

Registration

To attend one or both days of the conference, please remember to register on [Eventbrite](#) before **31st May 2014**, as there are limited places available.

Registration free.