OxfordMedSci News



Issue 31 - March 2016

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***Sign up here for the MSD Weekly Events Digest: a comprehensive list of all department's seminars, talks, workshops and conference

Copy deadline for next issue: 09:00, Monday 4 April. Delivery date: Monday 11 April



TACKLING TRANSLATION - HOW BEING AN OXFORD HARRINGTON SCHOLAR HAS ENHANCED MY RESEARCH

In this issue we talk to Oxford-Harrington Scholar <u>Professor Claudia Monaco</u>, who reflects on the benefits of the <u>Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme</u> and how the <u>Harrington Discovery Institute's</u> drug development experts are helping her think translationally about her research in order to move her cardiovascular inflammation research from the lab to the clinic.



How has being an Oxford-Harrington Scholar enhanced your research?

Being an Oxford-Harrington Scholar has exposed me to the amazing guidance of the Harrington mentors who help me to think "translationally", e.g. to think which of the results that we can see in the lab have a true potential to move to the clinic. As a clinician-scientist this has always been a primary interest for me. However, we rarely get any training on how to make a sound decision on therapeutic targets. This is exactly the type of "forma mentis" that the Harrington Institute wants to support in the next generation of clinician-scientists.

OPEN ACCESS - ARE YOU READY TO ACT ON ACCEPTANCE?

The countdown to open access has begun! New REF requirement launches on 1 April.

Did you know that your open access choices not only affect the visibility of your research but also whether your outputs are eligible for the next RFF?

From the 1 April 2016 you will need to act on acceptance to make your outputs REF eligible. Articles and conference papers must be placed in an online repository within 3 months of acceptance for publication.

So while you're celebrating your next article being accepted for publication, make sure you deposit your work in the Oxford Research Archive repository. This free service for University of Oxford researchers allows you to quickly and easily deposit your work via Symplectic Elements.

You deposit, we'll take care of the rest.

For more information on open access at Oxford and how to make sure that your work is eligible for the next REF visit the <u>Open Access Oxford</u> <u>website</u>.

AWARDS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT DRUG DISCOVERY

The next call of the Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme is now open for applications (deadline, **4pm, Friday 1 April**).

The Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme supports clinical researchers at the University of Oxford to translate discovery science into medicines that improve human health. This collaboration between the University of Oxford and the Harrington Discovery Institute at University Hospitals in Cleveland will leverage their combined expertise and resources to advance drug discovery projects.

The Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme will provide support to researchers working on novel drug discovery research problems that have demonstrable potential to become new therapies, but may not be far enough along the drug development path to attract committed financial investors. Oxford-Harrington Scholars will have access to the Harrington Discovery Institute's Innovation Support Center (ISC) and its industry-seasoned drug development experts. A dedicated ISC team will be charged with advising on and materially helping the translational and drug development efforts of Oxford-Harrington Scholars.

Further information on the scheme including how to apply can be found here

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OPPORTUNITIES AND UPDATES

Important Updates

New 3Rs Resource for researchers New website to help researchers find study participants Online learning community for aspiring PIs

Funding Opportunities

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Innovation in Immunotherapy, 11 April

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MSD has been prominent at OxTALENT for a number of years, with five awards in 2015 alone: Psychiatry Podcasts, CSlide, Dr Richard Harrington, Dr Peter Judge and PULSE (OxfordMedSci News July 15). Be recognised for your innovation at #oxtalent2016.

 $For further information and an entry form, please visit the \ \underline{OxTALENT\ website}: \underline{http://bit.ly/oxtalent2016} - closing\ date\ 6th\ May.$

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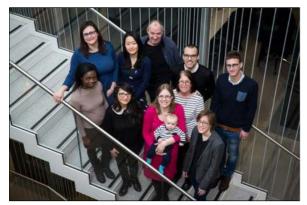
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Tell us a little about the work in your lab:

The <u>Cardiovascular Inflammation lab</u> studies inflammation in metabolic diseases such as atherosclerosis by looking at immune cells in blood vessel walls. Atherosclerosis is one of the main causes of cardiovascular disease and a major cause of death worldwide. We know that the body mechanism to fight infections, the "immune response," is a key contributor to the outcome of atherosclerosis. The challenge is that the



immune response during atherosclerosis does not precisely follow the rules of "textbook" immunology but has specific quirks and cell phenotypes requiring accurate definition. In my lab we believe that sensing the microenvironment is an important determinant of the outcome of the inflammatory response in atherosclerosis and we use a combination of human and experimental models, deep cell phenotyping via mass cytometry (CyTOF) and signalling approaches to identify new therapeutic targets.

How are you identifying these new potential drug targets?

In our lab we use human vascular tissues to perform direct mechanistic assays on live cells with a view to find the ultimate activators or modulators of the immune response. It turns out that specific sensors of pathogens called toll-like receptors and their signalling can offer therapeutic opportunities to modulate

the disease outcomes. We also uncovered that toll-like receptor 3 signalling might have a protective effect on the vessel wall by limiting the vessel response to damage and atherosclerosis. Exploiting this endogenous immunoregulatory signalling might constitute the basis for new therapeutics for cardiovascular disease and restenosis (the recurrence of abnormal narrowing of an artery after corrective surgery).

What have been the benefits of being an Oxford-Harrington Scholar so far?

Being an Oxford-Harrington Scholar gives you the opportunity to access the resources and experience of the Harrington Discovery Institute's Innovation Support Center where dedicated drug development experts from a scientific and industry background can help you steer your project in a more translational direction. Their advice might be experimental or practical and aim overall to ensure that you are thinking about the right steps towards drug development both at the experimental and communication level.

Last year you attended the Harrington Scientific Symposium in the US. What were the highlights of the symposium? What did you learn?

The Symposium was highly energising and inspiring due not only to the scope and extreme talent of the Scholars but also the amazing ethos and professionalism of the Harrington Discovery Institute personnel. I learned that drug discovery can happen from many different paths of research and walks of life and requires true sacrifice, focus and determination. Many years of hard work and determination can be necessary to take things from your key scientific discovery to the clinical application of your work. I also learned that often this pathway requires you to learn new skills in communication and motivation.

Awards Available to Support Drug Discovery

Harrington Discovery Institute



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Further information on the scheme including how to apply can be found here

Athena SWAN News

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 - 3. Parent Carer Scientist

News

Follow @DivOXPortraits on twitter to learn more about the project to explore, highlight, and promote diversity in portraits around the University of Oxford.

Divisional Mentoring Scheme: Open for Applications

The Medical Sciences Division runs a peer mentoring scheme for research staff, which involves the formation of mentoring circles comprising 3–4 members of research staff matched with one, more senior, researcher or academic.

Mentoring circles aim to support the development of research staff across the Division by:

- Encouraging self-reflection
- Increasing networking opportunities through peer circles
- Providing access to mentors outside of the researcher's home department

Mentors often gain as much as their mentees from the process and find that it provides an opportunity to review their own experience.

For more information and application forms please go to $\underline{www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/mentoring-circles}$

Deadline for applications 5 April 2016.

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Careers Support Network

A new area of provision open to staff in support roles and in a first or second administrative role. The Careers Support Network is staffed by volunteer mentors, all of whom are experienced recruiters.

The network is operated by OLI and aims to match a mentee with a volunteer mentor on one of these three topics:

- 1. Preparing an application for a post
- 2. Preparing for interview
- 3. Considering feedback offered after an unsuccessful interview or application

More information, including how to apply for a mentor, is available at:

www.learning.ox.ac.uk/resources/careers/

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Funding Opportunities

Royal Society Athena Prize 2016

Nominations are now open for the <u>Royal Society Athena Prize 2016</u>. The Prize is a new national award which recognises individuals and teams in the UK research community who have contributed towards the advancement of diversity in science, technology, engineering and

mathematics (STEM). The award aims to inspire innovation and leadership in diversity issues and joins the Society's prestigious set of medals and awards announced each summer. The winner/s of the prize receives a medal and a gift of £5,000 and runners-up will receive a gift of £1,000. The closing date for nominations is 6pm Tuesday 29 March.

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BFWG Scholarships 2016

The British Federation of Women Graduates (BFWG) awards scholarships annually to women studying for doctorates at British universities. The awards are given on the basis of overall academic excellence determined from information given on application forms, in referee reports and, for shortlisted candidates, at interview, and usually range between £2,500 and £6,000.

The 2016 BFWG scholarships competition is now open. Please go to www.bfwg.org.uk and look under 'Scholarships' to find out details of the application process and of eligibility. The competition is open to women doctoral students at British universities who began full time doctoral studies between 1 September 2013 and 31 October 2014 (or the part time equivalent) and who will not be submitting their thesis before the end of February 2017. Further queries should be addressed to awardsqueries@bfwg.org.uk. The closing date for applications is **Friday 18**March.

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Events

Unconscious bias: Diversity and Recruitment

A free training session offered by the CIPD Thames Valley Branch. Led by Rob Barkworth, a business psychologist from Pearn Kandola who specialises in diversity in the workplace, the session will explore the concept of unconscious bias and discuss methods to manage bias. For further information and bookings see: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/oxford-group-unconscious-bias-diversity-and-recruitment-tickets-20921628153

Date: Tuesday 15 March Time: 6.30-8.00pm

Venue: Oxfam House, John Smith Drive, Oxford, OX4 2JY

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Expanding horizons in biomedical research

Do you want to know more about careers in academic medicine and biomedical science? Are you interested in the options available to you, such as biotechnology or working on large cross-disciplinary collaborations? Would you like to develop your network of contacts and support?

This event will provide a space for biomedical academic trainees to network, discuss issues such as transforming cultures in medicine, working on large collaborations, working internationally and in industry.

The event will be chaired by Professor Barbara Casadei FMedSci FRCP, British Heart Foundation Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Oxford, and is open to all clinical trainees from Foundation Doctors to Clinician Scientists. Early career researchers with a non-clinical background are also welcome to attend.

Speakers include:

- Professor Sir Pete Downes OBE FRSE FMedSci, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, University of Dundee
- Professor Christopher Pugh FMedSci, Professor of Renal Medicine, University of Oxford
- Professor Sarah Rowland-Jones, Professor of Immunology, University of Oxford
- Dr Andrew Heron, Director of Advanced Research, Nanopore Technologies
- Professor Irene Tracey FMedSci, Nuffield Professor Anaesthetic Science and Head, Nuffield Division Anaesthetics, University of Oxford.

$\underline{www.acmedsci.ac.uk/more/events/expanding-horizons-in-biomedical-research/}$

This event is free but spaces are limited. If you have any questions please email <a> actriona.hands@acmedsci.ac.uk

Date: Wednesday 16 March

Time: 12:30 - 17:30

Venue: Ruth Deech Building, St Anne's College Oxford, Oxford, OX1 3UJ

Тор

MPLS Impact through Enterprise Programme: Enterprising Women

Are women entrepreneurs different or do women have to be different to be entrepreneurs? The aim of this workshop is to explore what

women bring to enterprise (in all settings – start-ups, academia and corporate life). The course will use inspirational female case studies and will address factors which typically hold women back. It is however open to all and will look into the enterprising mindset – risk taking, leadership, bringing ideas to fruition. Intended especially for DPhil students and Research Staff in MPLS. For further details and booking see: weblearn.ox.ac.uk/course-signup/rest/course/4D004D101198

Date: Thursday 17 March
Time: 9.00am-2.00pm

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The 2nd Lorna Casselton Memorial Lecture: Global Challenges in Modern Medicine and in Revealing the Origin of Life

Professor Ada Yonath

Professor Ada Yonath, Nobel Laureate, will deliver the 2nd Lorna Casselton Memorial Lecture. To register for this free lecture, please complete the booking form at: www.stx.ox.ac.uk/lorna-casselton-memorial-lecture-booking-form

Date: Wednesday 4 May

Time: 5.00pm

Venue: Mathematical Institute, Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, Woodstock Road

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Articles and Resources

Publication of the 2014/15 Equality Report

The University's annual Equality Report provides an overview of all equality and diversity-related activity, together with comprehensive staff and student data. Section A of the Equality Report focuses on targets and action in support of the University's high-level equality objectives on gender and ethnicity, while Sections B and C provide data and analysis on staff and students, benchmarked against the rest of the higher education sector. The report is available to download from the Equality and Diversity Unit website.

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More women in senior university jobs

Times Higher Education, 03/03/2016, p.9, Jack Grove

Many more women are taking leadership positions in universities but still remain heavily outnumbered by men in higher education's top jobs, a study shows. One in three vice-chancellors hired over the past two years have been women, meaning that 22% of universities are now led by women, up from 17% in December 2013.

A report, titled **Women Count: Leaders in Higher Education 2016**, published on 2 March, was carried out by Women Count, a not-for-profit organisation that indexes gender representation in public, private and third-sector bodies. It states that 36% of university governors are now women compared with 32% in late 2013.

 $\underline{www.timeshighereducation.com/news/more-women-senior-university-jobs-says-report}$

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Parent Carer Scientist

The Royal Society's Parent Carer Scientist project celebrates the diversity of work life patterns of 150 scientists across the UK with the aim of increasing the visibility of people combining a career in science with a family life. The stories are being launched in small groups to allow more focus for the individual profiles so more will be added over the next few months. The project aims to encourage and inspire current and future talented scientists to succeed in science regardless of their commitments outside work. Providing information on both their career and their personal journey through a timeline of academic, career and family milestones, this resource highlights the various formulas utilised by mothers, fathers and carers in the efforts to balance a career in science with family life. The recurring themes across the profiles also highlight the vital role that a supportive employer and family friendly policies and funding play in enabling researchers to combine a vocation for science with family life.

https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/diversity-in-science/parent-carer-scientist/

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Library News

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Countdown to Act on Acceptance - 1 April 2016

HEFCE's OA policy takes effect on 1 April 2016, and requires action by all researchers.

In order to be eligible for the next REF, the final peer-reviewed version of journal articles and conference papers (with an ISSN) must be deposited in an open access repository within three months of acceptance for publication. HEFCE's requirements are designed to 'increase substantially the amount of scholarly material that is made available in an open-access form'.

'Act on Acceptance' is Oxford's mechanism to help researchers comply with open access using our new quick deposit form. From now on researchers should use Symplectic Elements to deposit all newly-accepted articles and conference papers into ORA.

The Bodleian team will check copyright and licensing conditions, create an ORA record and make the full-text available after the embargo period.

For more information and to get started visit the Open Access Oxford website: http://openaccess.ox.ac.uk.

Training & help

Library staff are also very happy to come and talk in MSD departments to groups and individuals about Open Access. Please contact sowen.coxall@bodleian.ox.ac.uk (clinical depts.) or swarine.barker@bodleian.ox.ac.uk (non-clinical depts.) if you'd like one of our team to come and talk to you or your colleagues.

You can also get help and advice from our open access helpline ■openaccess@bodleian.ox.ac.uk.

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Extended loans for Medical Students on Electives

A reminder that if you are going on electives, then we offer extended loans for the period of the elective. This needs to be arranged before you leave Oxford, as we can't guarantee that we will be able to renew any loans whilst you are away and therefore you may incur fines. Please note that in order for us to offer the extended loans, ideally you need to have no outstanding fines, or at least fines below £5.00. You can now pay Bodleian Health Care Library fines online at: http://tinyurl.com/BHCLfines.

Should you wish to arrange for extended loans for Bodleian Health Care Libraries books, you can do so in one of the following ways:

- _ Calling: 01865 22193601865 221936
- Email: ■hcl-renewals@bodleian.ox.ac.uk
- Visiting one of the Bodleian Health Care Library sites.

Our self-issue machines will only issue items for the standard loan period - so if you wish to have them longer please ask a member of staff. Please remember to let us know when you are returning, and we wish you well for your elective. Also, don't forget that you can download BMJ Best Practice app before you leave, giving you access to the full content offline without any need for a Wi-Fi or data connection. Please contact us or go to www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/medicine/bmj-best-practice for more information on how to register.

Тор

Easter Staffing 2016

Friday 25 to Monday 28 March 2016

- Cairns Library (John Radcliffe Hospital) and Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre Library: UNSTAFFED
 - Accessible 24/7. Cairns Library with card. NOC Library with fob.
- Knowledge Centre (Old Road Campus) and Horton Library (Banbury)
 CLOSED

All libraries will reopen at 9am on Tuesday 29th March.

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Watch this space - World Book Night, April 2016

The Bodleian Health Care Libraries will be participating in World Book Night in April.

World Book Night is an annual celebration of reading and books that takes place on 23 April. It sees passionate volunteers give out hundreds of thousands of books in their communities to share their love of reading with people who don't read regularly or own books. World Book Night is run by The Reading Agency, a national charity that inspires people to become confident and enthusiastic readers to help give them an equal chance in life.

The Health Care Libraries will have a selection of books to give out - keep an eye on our website www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/hcl for more details.

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Bodleian Libraries Reader Survey

Thank you for participating in the recent survey. We are very pleased to have received 505 responses from MSD out of a total of 3497. The overall response rate for undergraduates and postgraduates was higher than the 2012 survey. All departments of the division participated. Population Health and Primary Care Health Sciences are the winners for hitting the 20% response rate – they were rewarded with a number of "coffee and cake" vouchers. Half of the ten £50 Amazon voucher prizes were won by MSD members – from Surgical Sciences, Clinical Medicine, Population Health and Experimental Psychology. Initial results will be available by the end of Easter Vacation. A full report will be completed by the end of Trinity Term.

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Clinical and Translational Science and Health Expectationsnow available free via open access

Wiley has announced the conversion of two more of its journals to the Wiley Open Access programme (http://www.wileyopenaccess.com/view/journals.html). From 1 January 2016, all articles in Health Expectations and Clinical and Translational Science will be free to read, download and share, joining existing Wiley open access titles such as Cancer Medicine, EMBO Molecular Medicine and Aging Cell. The addition of these journals to Wiley Open Access brings the total number of Wiley's open access titles up to 61. These titles will also be available via SOLO and Oxford e-journals."

Тор

Improved Library Services at the NOC

The Girdlestone Memorial Library at the NOC is now part of the Bodleian and work is progressing well to improve the library's facilities for MSD and NHS students and staff. Bodleian reader PCs and new NHS PCs have been installed for all library users and a MSD IT medical student terminal is also now available. Printing/scanning facilities are in place and the NOC will be joining the Bodleian PCAS printing and scanning service over the summer vacation. We are also working to install Bodleian WiFi and a laptop is now available for loan. All of the books in the library are now on SOLO (select "Health Care Libraries-Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre") and can be borrowed using University or Bodleian cards. New shelving has been installed and we'll be updating the collection with new books and updated editions over the coming weeks. The library is located beside the lecture theatre on the first floor in the main building of the NOC and our new library staff, Lucinda and Isabella, look forward to meeting you!

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Opportunities and Updates

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Online learning community for aspiring PIs

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MSD has been prominent at OxTALENT for a number of years, with five awards in 2015 alone: Psychiatry Podcasts, CSlide, Dr Richard Harrington, Dr Peter Judge and PULSE - see <u>OxfordMedSci News July 15</u>

Entries are invited from members of the University - both staff and students - in the following categories:

- Use of WebLearn to support teaching, learning, or outreach
- Innovative teaching with technology
- Academic podcasting
- Outreach & engagement
- Research posters
- Data visualisation
- Student IT innovation



Awards can be given either to individuals or to groups. Eligibility is by no means restricted to academics and researchers; entries are welcomed from the University's libraries and museums, and also from administrative and support staff. You can either submit an entry yourself or nominate a colleague who has impressed you with their use of technology.

For further information and an entry form, please visit the OxTALENT website: http://bit.ly/oxtalent2016.

The closing date for entries is Friday 6th May. In the meantime, you can keep up to date on Twitter by following the hashtag #oxtalent2016.

OxfordMedSci News



Important Updates

New 3Rs Resource for researchers

A new 3Rs Resource has been launched on SharePoint for researchers and anyone working with animals at the University of Oxford.

The 3Rs Resource contains;

- Live news feeds from FRAME, NC3Rs and UAR
- Comprehensive list of website links with a 3Rs theme,
- Primary literature on species specific refinement and reduction methods as well various replacement methods
- Archived NC3Rs and Oxford 3Rs newsletters
- . Documents and guidelines promoted by NC3Rs, RSPCA, FELASA on 3Rs methods and animal welfare
- Topic of the term a topic chosen and submitted by researchers, Vets, technicians or NACWOs which would be useful to highlight to the rest of the University animal research community. The first topic of the term highlights the importance of effective communication between animal technicians and researchers regarding the welfare of the animals on a daily basis.

The 3Rs Resource is available to anyone working with animals within the University and the resource will rely on information supplied by researchers to ensure it is dynamic and useful.

The 3Rs Resource can be accessed by the SharePoint link https://sharepoint.nexus.ox.ac.uk/sites/bms/SitePages/Home.aspx

All license holders have automatic access to the resource, if you would like to be given access please e-mail == headoxhoadmin@bms.ox.ac.uk

New website to help researchers find study participants

Researchers conducting studies within the OUH Foundation Trust can now advertise for volunteers via the OUH <u>Trials Seeking Volunteers</u> pages.

To submit a request to advertise you study please go to: http://www.ouh.nhs.uk/research/researchers/trials-form.aspx

If you are conducting studies outside of the OUH Trust and would like to advertise for volunteers please contact 🖾 Alison Brindle.

Online learning community for aspiring PIs

A new online community for Oxford postdocs considering becoming Principal Investigators has been developed by the Oxford Learning Institute. The community is designed to share useful links and resources on key topics such as Proposal writing and Making the transition to research independence, and will be a place where aspiring PIs can share their ideas and seek advice and support from each other. To join the community simply email bill.dunn@learning.ox.ac.uk and he will send you an invitation.

Funding Opportunities

Internal Funding Available for Translational Research

MRC Confidence in Concept Fund: EOI Deadline 18 April.

The next call of the MRC Confidence in Concept Fund is now open. The MRC CiC is an internal fund that will support the earliest stages of translational research projects. It is intended to accelerate the transition from discovery research to translational development projects by supporting preliminary work or feasibility studies to establish the viability of an approach.

Applications for interdisciplinary research are particularly welcomed, it is anticipated that half of the funding available will be awarded to interdisciplinary projects.

Expression of interest deadline Monday 18 April.

For more information about the scheme and how to apply click here.

Awards Available to Support Drug Discovery

Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme. Deadline 1 April 2016.

The next call of the Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme is now open for applications with a deadline of 4pm on Friday 1 April.

The Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme supports clinical researchers at the University of Oxford to translate discovery science into medicines that improve human health. This collaboration between the University of Oxford and the Harrington Discovery Institute at University Hospitals in Cleveland will leverage their combined expertise and resources to advance drug discovery projects.

The Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme will provide support to researchers working on novel drug discovery research problems that have demonstrable potential to become new therapies, but may not be far enough along the drug development path to attract committed financial investors. Oxford-Harrington Scholars will have access to the Harrington Discovery Institute's Innovation Support Center (ISC) and its industry-seasoned drug development experts. A dedicated ISC team will be charged with advising on and materially helping the translational and drug development efforts of Oxford-Harrington Scholars.

Further information on the scheme including how to apply can be found here

Novo Nordisk Fellowship now open for applications

Deadline: Friday 8 April

The Novo Nordisk Fellowship programme aims to support the development of a new generation of exceptional young diabetes researchers, who will become future leaders in the field, while further developing scientific excellence within diabetes and ultimately improving the lives of patients. As part of this fellowship programme we are currently recruiting 4 postdoctoral research fellows and one clinical research training fellow.

For more information, please see http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/research/internal-research-funding/novo-nordisk-fellowship-programme

Deadline 12.00 (noon) Friday 8 April 2016

UK/South Africa PhD exchange opportunity

Application deadline: Friday 15 April

Congratulations to Professor Helen McShane (Jenner Institute, Nuffield Department of Medicine) and the 39 Principal Investigators across the University of Oxford and University of Cape Town, who were successfully awarded funding for a PhD exchange programme, to start in 2016. This is a 3 year scheme supporting 10 University of Cape Town PhD students spending 3–6 months in a collaborating group at the University of Oxford; and 10 Oxford students spending 3–6 months in a collaborating group at Cape Town. The scheme will cover the costs of these exchange visits, a stipend, a contribution to research and bench fees or equivalent and additional partnering activities. It will also include multiple networking opportunities, including a conference in South Africa in 2018.

Initially the application process will be open to existing PhD students working with Pls named in the application. If you are a PhD student, within the Medical Sciences Division at the University of Oxford, and you are not sure if you are eligible for this exchange, then please contact your supervisor and ask them. An email will have been sent to all of the Principal Investigators involved in this programme explaining the application process. The deadline for the first round of applications is **Friday 15 April 2016.**

If you have any questions relating to this exchange, then please contact Helen McShane's PA = Jennifer.McNulty@ndm.ox.ac.uk

James Tudor Foundation

£60,000 funding for medical research. Deadline Thursday 31 March.

The James Tudor Foundation (https://www.jamestudor.org.uk/) has invited an application for funding from Oxford. Projects can be in any area of medical research with a high probability of a positive clinical outcome. Any grant is likely to be in the region of £60,000 over three years, beginning in 2017. The Trustees are keen to see the impact of the Foundation's funds, which should make a notable difference to the project. Ideally a grant would act as seed funding to test a concept before further, larger grants are secured. To be considered as the

University's submission to the Foundation, please send a short outline of your project and a budget to Robert Dixon in the Development Office (Probert.dixon@devoff.ox.ac.uk) before Thursday 31 March.

Oxford Biodesign Fellowships

Are you interested in healthcare technology and innovation? Would you like to be supported to develop a medtech solution to an unmet healthcare need? The University of Oxford are launching a Biodesign Programme, and are looking to recruit 4 Fellows to be employed full-time (at Research Associate grade) for 1 year from September 2016. Fellows should have a background in a related discipline (e.g. clinical professionals, medical sciences, engineering, computer science, business) and can currently be students, employees in the public sector, academia or industry.

Fellows will form a team that will be guided through the identification, invention and implementation of a novel healthcare digital technology product. The programme is linked to a similar programme that has been running at Stanford University for 15 years (biodesign.stanford.edu). The Stanford programme has produced over 30 flourishing medtech companies. The Oxford programme website will shortly go live at oxfordbiodesign.com.

The first round of applications for 2016 Fellowship positions close on 31st March. Further details can be found at http://www.eng.ox.ac.uk/jobs/current-vacancies/vacancy/122046-Oxford-Biodesign-Research-Assistant

Engagement Opportunities

Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Kick-Off Event

Tuesday, 15 March, 2016 3pm – 5pm St Luke's Chapel, Radcliffe Infirmary, Woodstock Road, Oxford, OX2 6HT 60 spaces available

http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/three-minute-thesis-competition.

Prizes to be won in the University 3MT competition

An 80,000 word thesis would take 9 hours to present; would you be able to explain yours in just 3 minutes with the aid of a single slide? We're inviting DPhil students to do just that. The 3MT challenges doctoral candidates to present a compelling spoken

do just that. The 3MT challenges doctoral candidates to present a compelling spoken
presentation on their research topic and its significance in just three minutes to a non-specialist audience. You can read about it here:



Would you like to find out more? If so, come along to our 3MT launch event, which will give you all the information and guidance you need to get started on putting together an entry into the competition. You will hear from a senior academic on the virtues of taking part in the competition and how it can help you learn to publicise your research better, and also from previous 3MT entrants on their experiences and their top tips for new competitors, followed by Q&A.

To book your place, please see https://bookwhen.com/humanitiestraining/e/ev-s2ox-20160315150000

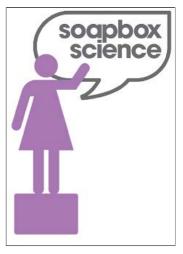
Call for Soapbox Science 2016 speakers now open!

Applicable for women working in all areas of science

Now entering its 6th year, Soapbox Science 2016 promises to bring a summer of excitement, fun, and fantastic science. Soapbox Science is growing and expanding to be bigger and better than before! This year they are holding events in more cities around the UK and Ireland than ever before! This includes our first international event in Brisbane, Australia!

Soapbox Science is looking for woman in all areas science, from PhD students to Professors, and from entry-level researchers to entrepreneurs, who are passionate about their work and want to spread the word.

For more information, please see http://soapboxscience.org/?page_id=135 (Oxford's event is scheduled for 18 June)



FOUNDED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OUEENSLAND

Become a Stand-Up Comedian for the Night!

Can you turn your work into a short stand-up comedy set? Bright Club Oxford are looking for researchers, academics and experts from all disciplines (science, arts, humanities - the more the merrier!) to take to the stage and show us the funny side of their work.

No experience is necessary. There's a free training session, and we offer an additional 'set surgery' workshop where you can try out your ideas and get some friendly feedback a couple of weeks before the show. If you're interested or need more information, get in touch at brightcluboxford@gmail.com

Volunteer Opportunities

Fun computer game project for children on the autism spectrum

We are looking for children on the autism spectrum aged 6-14 years to take part in a project looking at how autistic children combine information about what they see. This ability is important for making sense of the world, like when working out the overall movement of a flock of birds. Our research may give insights into why children with autism sometimes experience sensory overload.

Children would play some fun under-the-sea themed computer games where they work out the overall direction of a shoal of fish or a group of jellyfish. Children can be seen wherever is most convenient - be it at home, at school, or at the University of Oxford. Travel expenses will be reimbursed to families travelling to the University, and children will be given a certificate and a small gift to thank them for taking part.

If you and your child are interested in taking part and would like to find out more, please contact Dr Cathy Manning by email (=catherine.manning@psy.ox.ac.uk) or by phone (01865 271 442).

Ethics approval reference: MS-IDREC-C2-2015-007

Mindfulness for IBS (MIBS) study now recruiting

Researchers at the University of Oxford have developed a mindfulness training specifically for people with irritable bowel syndrome. We are interested in finding out if this training is effective at reducing the symptoms of IBS and how the training achieves its effects. Interested? Please keep in reading to find out what is involved for you:

What is involved?

- . A six week mindfulness course
- Regular study assessments

About the mindfulness course:

Mindfulness for IBS is a new mindfulness course specifically for people with irritable bowel syndrome. The course consists of 6 x 2 hour group sessions over 6–7 weeks. During the course you will develop awareness of your mind and body through the cultivation of mindful awareness. The aim of the course is to reduce the symptoms of IBS and help you increase your mental and physical wellbeing.

Study Participation: The course is provided at no cost to you as participant

About the assessments:

You will be asked to do 3 assessment visits at the Department of Experimental Psychology and 4–8 online questionnaires before, during and after the course. Each assessment visit takes 1–1.5 hours. Each questionnaire takes 30–45 minutes.

Are you eligible?

- Do you have a diagnosis of IBS?
- Are you interested in trying mindfulness as a treatment for IBS?
- Are you a woman between 18 and 65 years of age?

Location:

Course: Oxford Mindfulness Centre, Oxford University

Assessments: Department of Experimental Psychology, Oxford University

Dates and Registration:

To find out more about the study, when the courses take place and to register, please contact Julia Henrich via email **Julia.Henrich@psy.ox.ac.uk**. You can also sign up here:

 $\underline{\text{http://limesurvey.msd.ox.ac.uk/index.php/476452/lang-en}}$

NHS REC Reference: REC: South Central - Oxford A, 15/SC/0618

Are you interested in the effects of nutrition on your health and well-being, and don't regularly take dietary supplements?

We are looking for healthy volunteers aged 18-55 for a study investigating the effects of naturally occurring amino acids on the way we solve problems and process emotions.

If you would like to find out more or participate in the research, please contact Liliana Capitao at:

nutrition.study@psych.ox.ac.uk

01865 223 62201865 223 622

Unfortunately we are unable to include volunteers with either a current or previous psychiatric or psychological illness, who are taking

certain medications or have certain illnesses, who are pregnant or who suffer from dyslexia. Please contact us if you are unsure as to whether or not the study would be suitable for you.

Time and expenses will be reimbursed.

Ethics reference: MS-IDREC-C3-2015-02

Call
Send SMS
Call from mobile
Add to Skype
You'll need Skype CreditFree via Skype

Are you interested in taking part in clinical research?

Applicable for male volunteers aged between 18-65

We are currently looking for male volunteers aged between 18-65 for a clinical study currently being run at Churchill Hospital, Oxford.

The purpose of this study is to see if an enzyme in the body (5-alpha reductase, $5\alpha R$) is important in controlling how the body handles sugar and fat. We would therefore like to demonstrate the effect of inhibiting $5\alpha R$ on the regulation of insulin, glucose and fat in the body using a drug that inhibits of $5\alpha R$. We will also use a steroid hormone (prednisolone) for a short time to compare results. Importantly, these drugs are already widely used in clinical practice today for other indications.

Participants will need to attend the Clinical Research Unit at the Churchill Hospital three times over a period of 1–2 weeks. The first visit will be a short 30 minute visit with two further visits which will take all day. The total duration of treatment with a medication is 7-days.

Participants will be compensated for their time and inconvenience at the completion of the study and will be refunded for all reasonable travel costs that result from taking part.

If interested please contact:

Dr Thomas Marjot, = thomas.marjot@ouh.nhs.uk, 01865 857202

OR

Professor Jeremy Tomlinson, = jeremy.tomlinson@ocdem.ox.ac.uk

Oxford Centre for Diabetes, Endocrinology & Metabolism, Tel: 01865 857359

A bit tense or worried?

The Department of Psychiatry are looking for healthy volunteers aged 18–50 years to take part in a study investigating how a single dose of the medication losartan affects learning and information processing, using simple computer tasks, EEG and MRI. Losartan is currently used to treat high blood pressure. However, it may also enhance the effectiveness of psychological therapies such as Cognitive–Behaviour Therapy. The study involves two appointments of about 5 hours in total.

For more information, please contact us (01865 223627/ acaroline.nettekoven@psych.ox.ac.uk). You will be reimbursed for your time.

Version 2, 22/04/2015, MSD-IDREC-C3-2015-832





Vaccines Against Salmonella Typhi

You are invited to take part in a study to investigate how different vaccines prevent infection with Salmonella Typhi.

The study is being run by the Oxford Vaccine Group which is part of the University of Oxford.

If you are aged 18 to 60 yrs old and in good health then you may be eligible to take part in the study. We will provide reimbursement for your time, inconvenience and travel. The total study participation time is 13 to 15 months.

Before you decide whether you would like to take part, it is important for you to understand exactly what the



study is about and what participation would involve.

If you would like further information please visit:

http://trials.ovg.ox.ac.uk/trials/vaccines-against-salmonella-typhi
or contact us:

Telephone: 01865 857420 Email: ■info@ovg.ox.ac.uk

Vaccines Against Salmonella Typhi; 2014/08; Recruitment text short, REC reference 14/SC/1427, Version 1.0, Dated 20/Nov/2014

Volunteers needed for study of the genetics of social brain function

We are looking for healthy volunteers to improve our understanding of how different genes affect social brain function. Certain genes are involved in the activity of chemicals in the brain – we want to know whether individuals with certain genes process social information in different ways. The study will take up to 1.5 hours of your time. You will be asked to come in for a 30-minute session to collect saliva for genetic analysis, answer questions about your social network, and have your hands digitally scanned (Session 1). You may also be asked to come back (Session 2) to lie still in an MRI scanner for 40 minutes and perform simple social cognitive tasks.

MRI is a type of brain scan that allows us to see how the brain is organised, processes information and performs skills like speech or memory. This scan is safe and does not involve any needles or injections.

Who are we looking for? Healthy individuals over 18 who do not currently use recreational drugs, drug replacement therapy (e.g. methadone), or medication for depression, psychosis or anxiety (Session 1); and who are right-handed, aged 18-45, do not have any metal in their head or body (except fillings) or any metallic implants, are not pregnant (Session 2).

If you are interested and would like more information please, go http://bit.do/genetics_research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) or square-research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) or square-research, or square-research, or square-research, or sq

Participants will be reimbursed for their time.

Approved by the Oxford Ethics Committee, ref no. MSD-IDREC-C2-2015-026

Take part in Jenner Institute trials testing vaccines

The Jenner Institute, part of the University of Oxford, is looking for healthy volunteers to participate in clinical trials testing vaccines against diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis and Ebola. If you are aged 18–50, in good health, and are interested in participating in research, get in touch to find out more. Email succinetrials@ndm.ox.ac.uk or visit the website at:

http://www.jenner.ac.uk/recruiting-trials



Other Items of Interest

MSD and BMS 3Rs Research Day a Success

On February 26, 2016, the Medical Sciences Division and Department of Biomedical Sciences hosted the second annual Oxford 3Rs Research Day in the Department of Pharmacology lecture theatre.

The day was a success – it featured University researchers whose work involves animals and focused on the areas of refinement, reduction and replacement of animal research. The day's talks also included invited speakers; Dr Emma Large from CN Bio Innovations speaking about replacement technology, Liver on a Chip, Wendy Jarrett from Understanding Animal Research (UAR) talking about the importance of public engagement in animal research, Dr Robert Dallmann on non–invasive reporting methods on animals in longitudinal studies. Keynote addresses featured Dr Nathalie Percie Du Sert from NC3Rs on the NC3Rs Experimental Design Assistant and the importance of appropriate reporting on animal studies and Professor Malcolm Macleod from the University of Edinburgh providing a thought provoking talk on how to improve experimental design in animal research.

In addition to the talks focusing on effective 3Rs methods adopted in research, Karen Clifford (Head, Home Office Administration Unit) and April Shipton (Animal Technician) launched the University's 3Rs Resource on SharePoint with the aim to improve how the University fulfils some of its commitments to the 3Rs as well as improve engagement of researchers with adopting advances and developments in the 3Rs.

The 3Rs Resource contains;

- Live news feeds from FRAME, NC3Rs and UAR
- Comprehensive list of website links with a 3Rs theme,
- Primary literature on species specific refinement and reduction methods as well various replacement methods
- Archived NC3Rs and Oxford 3Rs newsletters
- Documents and guidelines promoted by NC3Rs, RSPCA, FELASA on 3Rs methods and animal welfare
- Topic of the term a topic chosen and submitted by researchers, Vets, technicians or NACWOs which would be useful to highlight to the rest of the University animal research community. The first topic of the term highlights the importance of effective communication between animal technicians and researchers regarding the welfare of the animals on a daily basis.

The 3Rs Resource is available to anyone working with animals within the University and the resource will rely on information supplied by researchers to ensure it is dynamic and useful.

The 3Rs Resource can be accessed by the SharePoint link https://sharepoint.nexus.ox.ac.uk/sites/bms/SitePages/Home.aspx

Efficient Cycling in Oxford and Headington

Tuesday 26 April, 1pm-2pm

Lecture Theatre 2, Academic Centre, JR Hospital (http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/support-services/facilities-booking)

Whether you're an experienced cycle commuter or have never ridden on two wheels, there's something for everyone in this engaging talk. Sam Chappell, an experienced cyclist and trainer of Bikeability (http://bikeability.dft.gov.uk/), will be giving two presentations on effective, safe, and enjoyable cycling. He will explain how to efficiently negotiate bus, car, and pedestrian traffic, how to position yourself on the road, how to work around other cyclists, and how to cycle more easily anywhere in the world. Afterwards, you will have the opportunity to sign up for practical sessions where an experienced cycle training instructor from Broken Spoke (http://bsbcoop.org/) will review your road skills one-on-one or teach you how to balance for the first time.

Booking not required, just turn up on the day.

Sign up for an innovative Digital Health Networking event

Monday 20 June, Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford

University of Oxford researchers are invited to participate in an exciting new networking even in the fast moving field of Digital Health.

- Focussed, 1 hour meetings with like-minded scientists
- A chance to forge new connections and collaborations

How does it work?

Step 1: Companies can participate by submitting questions for academics to answer.

These questions can be as specific or as general as you like and can relate to your technology needs. There is no set list of topics. The aim is for industry inspire the agenda.

Step 2: Oxford's Scientists can then sign up to answer one or more or the questions.

The questions will be visible to the full breadth of Oxford's academic and clinical research community

Step 3: An email update will be sent out. Each questions will form the basis for face to face, 60 minute meetings.

These meetings will be focussed, non-confidential discussions around the chosen topic.

Step 4: The day will conclude with an informal networking session with refreshments provided.

 $To find out more please contact either \underline{ {\color{red} \underline{=} Chandra. Ramanujan@innovation.ox.ac.uk}} \ or \ \underline{{\color{red} \underline{=} Oliver. Voss@medsci.ox.ac.uk}} \ or \ \underline{{\color{red} \underline{=} Oliver. Voss@medsci.ox.ac.uk}}} \ or \ \underline{{\color{red} \underline{=} Oliver. Voss@medsci.ox.ac.uk}} \ or \ \underline{{\color{red} \underline{=} Oliver. Voss@medsci.ox.ac.uk}} \ or \ \underline{{\color{red} \underline{=} Oliver. Voss@medsci.ox.ac.uk}}} \ or \ \underline{{\color{red} \underline{=} Oliver. Voss@medsci.ox.uk}}} \ or \ \underline{{\color{red} \underline{=} Oliver. Voss@meds$

Further details of past and future AIM days click here

BRC Public Open Day - Celebrating Biomedical Research

Thursday 21 April 2016, 12.00-17.00, JR Hospital

Oxford Biomedical Research Centre

Enabling translational research through partnership

The NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre will hold a public open day "Celebrating Biomedical Research in Oxford" on Thursday April 21 from midday to 5pm at the John Radcliffe Hospital. The event, at Tingewick Hall in the Academic Block, will include interactive stands and lectures about the work of the Oxford BRC, which funds medical research across areas including cancer, diabetes, stroke and genetics.

To book online please click here

To book by telephone: 01865 743341

University Apprenticeship Scheme

Tuesday 15 March, 12-1:45pm

The University is delighted to invite you to a presentation by our new Vice-Chancellor supporting University Apprenticeships and their role in effective staff recruitment and development. There will also be presentations from other Senior University Members, Managers and Apprentices.

Richard Doll Building, Lecture Theatre

RSVP to <a>kathryn.mccallum@admin.ox.ac.uk

Free Innovation Consulting Clinic

Monday 16 May, Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics

Booking Essential - limited places: To book a place for the lunchtime seminar or to register for a 1-2-1 consulting session contact Paul Whyte at:

Paul.Whyte@medsci.ox.ac.uk. 01865 572759

1:00pm - 2:00pm: Seminar Presentation and Lunch 2:00pm - 5:00pm: 1-2-1 clinics on your projects

For further details see: http://oxfordbrc.nihr.ac.uk/event/free-innovation-consulting-clinic/

The Oxford Biomedical Research Centre (a partnership between Oxford University and the Oxford University NHS Hospitals Foundation Trust) is organising a "Free Innovation Consulting Clinic" aimed at NHS and University staff with an interest in developing their research into new products or software. This is an opportunity to receive one to one feedback and mentoring from a panel of industry experts and also to explore the possibilities for working with an industrial partner to apply for product development grant funding.

Designing and Running Streamlined Randomized Trials

Course now accepting participants

Are you planning or running a randomized trial? On this course, you will learn how to design and run streamlined, efficient trials to provide reliable answers which change practice.

This course has been approved for 15 CPD points. Final deadline extended to Wed 16 March.

Please see website for more information and to register.

Big Healthcare Challenges in chronic disease

Hold the date! Isis Innovation, Oxford AHSN & BRC Technology Showcase Innovation with Impact 2016

Wednesday 6th July 2016

12.00pm - 6.30pm

Venue: Saïd Business School, University of Oxford

Big Healthcare Challenges, the 2016 Isis Innovation, Oxford AHSN and BRC Technology



Showcase, will highlight the most exciting commercial opportunities and projects in this field. Oxford University, the Oxford Academic Health Science Network and the NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre will co-host and partner for the event.

The event theme is chronic disease and four areas will be covered including:

- Diabetes and obesity
- Cognitive health (neurodegenerative)
- Cardiovascular and stroke
- Ageing and frailty

The programme and keynote speakers will be announced at a later date, and details of previous Tech Showcase events can be found at: http://isis-innovation.com/isis-news/events/technology-showcase-2016/

Researchers, have you thought about using the NIHR BioResource for your next study?

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) BioResource is a resource of thousands of volunteers, both with and without health conditions, who are willing to be approached to participate in research studies investigating the links between genes, the environment, health and disease. The NIHR BioResource centres are established in the heart of the NIHR Biomedical Research Centres and Units across England, in locations such as Cambridge, London, Leicester, Newcastle and Oxford.

Headquartered in Cambridge, the NIHR BioResource oversees other centres in England; the aim is to support the recruitment of volunteers into research studies based on their genotype and/or phenotype. By the end of 2017 the goal is to have 100,000 volunteers enrolled. The BioResource can speed up the process of study recruitment by targeting specific cohorts of people, reducing recruitment time and aiding the smooth running of the study. Volunteers have already taken part in a number of major studies researching a wide range of disease areas, so could yours be next?

Applications are considered for studies looking to recruit participants based on their genotype and/or phenotype and will be reviewed by our Scientific Advisory Board. If approved, we will work with you to ensure that your ethics submission and volunteer paperwork are appropriate for recruitment via the BioResource before screening our extensive database and inviting eligible volunteers to take part in your study. For more information visit our website www.bioresource.nihr.ac.uk or email moresource.nihr.ac.uk what are you waiting for? Let the BioResource be the tool to your discovery.

Oxonbike sponsorship opportunity



As some of you may be aware, OXONBIKE is a self-service bike hire scheme in Oxford, offering 50 bikes for short-term rental at 11 docking stations across the city, including Thornhill Park & Ride, the JR, Old Road Campus, and the University Science Area. They've just launched a sponsorship package, giving local businesses and organisations the opportunity to advertise on the bikes, which may be of interest to those of you looking to promote services to the local community. More details at http://bit.ly/1mgl5Fo.

Innovation in Immunotherapy, 11 April

Immunotherapy has been hailed as the biggest breakthrough in cancer treatment for decades. The remarkable clinical efficiency of immunotherapy agents coupled with advances in academic research, growth of biotechs and pharmaceutical partnering all indicate that immunotherapy has the potential to revolutionise modern medicine. Innovation Forum Oxford is bringing together leading experts from academia, industry, the NHS and investors to discuss current trends and the future of immunotherapy followed by networking opportunities.

This unique event will take place in Lecture Theatre 2 at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford on the 11th April 2016.

This is a fantastic opportunity to build links between industry, academia and the NHS; we hope you will be able to join us. Space is limited to 300 places.

More details and reserve your place.

Programme

17:00 Registration

17:30 Welcome from IFO

17:35 Immunotherapy: the past and the present

Prof Vincenzo Cerundolo (Professor of Immunology at Oxford University and Consultant Physician)

17:50 Immuno-oncology, harnessing the immune system to combat cancer

Dr Robert Wilkinson (Director of Oncology Research, MedImmune Ltd)

18:10 Development of a novel immunotherapy from bench to bedside

Prof Paresh Vyas (Professor of Haematology at Oxford University and Consultant Haematologist)

18:30 ImmTACs for targeted cancer therapy

Dr Bent Jakobsen (CSO of Immunocore Ltd)

18:50 Next-generation engineered CAR T-cells

Prof Martin Pule (Clinical Senior Lecturer, UCL and Consultant Haematologist, Founder of Autolus Ltd)

19:10 Selected start-ups

19:20 Panel discussion: The Future of Innovation in Immunotherapy

Prof Paresh Vyas (Professor of Haematology at Oxford University and Consultant Haematologist)

Dr Eliot Forster (CEO of Immunocore Ltd)

Prof Mark Middleton (Lead Cancer Clinician for the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and deputy director of the Cancer Research UK Oxford Centre)

20:20 Networking opportunities over drinks and nibbles