OPdA
Office of Postdoctoral Affairs
“Our postdocs, alongside our postgraduate students, embody our future and our world-class scholarly ambition, and they deserve the ambition on our part to match it.

They are, and will be, successful but we must also want them to think of Cambridge as the place that changed their lives, and helped and supported them in all aspects at this critical time in their careers.

In achieving that, we empower them to ensure the continued international standing of the University.”

Prof. Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, V-C  
an annual address to Regent House, 1 October 2012
An introduction – the University’s profile

- In top 5 of THE World University Rankings 2014/2015
  2nd in THE World Reputation Rankings 2015
- First in The Complete University Guide, UK 2015
- More Nobel Prize Winners than any other institution – 92 since 1904
- 87% of permanent academic staff deemed ‘world-leading’ or ‘internationally excellent’
- Excellence across the sciences and humanities
- Partnerships with many industries, enterprises, other universities
- Total income over £900M (excludes CUP, Cambridge Assessment, Trusts)
- Stepping stone for many towards an academic career
- Place where industry and public service look for the best
The composition

- 31 interdependent Colleges, self-governing within the University
- 150+ faculties and departments within six Schools
  - Arts and Humanities, Biological Sciences, Humanities & Social Sciences,
  - Physical Sciences, Clinical Medicine, Technology
- Non-School institutions
  - University Library, Fitzwilliam Museum, Botanic Garden
- University businesses
  - Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Assessment, Cambridge Enterprise
- Unified Administrative Service – managed by the Registrary
Senior members of the University

Chancellor
Lord Sainsbury of Turville

Vice-Chancellor
Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz

The Pro-Vice-Chancellors

Professor Duncan Maskell
Planning & Resources

Professor Eilis Ferran
Institutional & International Affairs

Professor Andy Neely
Enterprise & Business Relations

Professor Chris Abell
Research

Professor Graham Virgo
Education
Complex structure, simple principles

- Evolved over 800 years
- Self-governance
- At times bureaucratic – but highly democratic

www.cam.ac.uk/univ/works
A national and an international University

• A British University
  - 72% academic staff
  - 89% undergraduates

• An international University
  - 28% academic staff
  - 37% ‘overseas’ postgraduates
  - more than 50% postdocs
Cambridge’s people

- **Total number of resident students ~ 19,000**
  - undergraduates 12,000
  - postgraduates 7,000

- **Total staff ~ 10,000**
  - academic (including clinical) 1,650
  - academic-related 1,700
  - postdoc research 4,000
  - assistant 3,600
Organisations that can help and support you

OPdA
Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

PdOC
Postdocs of Cambridge

NVS
Newcomers and Visiting Scholars
# The postdoc journey

## Pre-Arrival
- Recruitment, Visa and work permits

## Arrival
- Location information, accommodation, settling in, family support

## Settling in to work
- Induction, probation, Individual development plan, careers and training introduction

## During your post
- Review, mentoring, personal and professional development, advancement, entrepreneurship, career planning

## Engagement
- Representation, college life, social activities, family life

## End of contract & next step
- Renewal, alumni benefits, mentoring

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[UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE]
Set of agreed principals to support the Career Development of Researchers

- Recruitment and retention
- Essential part of human resources and research strategies
- Adaptable and flexible in global research environment
- Personal and career development and lifelong learning
- Shared responsibility for careers
- Diversity and equality
- Regular and collective progress review

HR Excellence in Research Award
What are we doing?

- Communications
- Departmental postdoc committees & expanding representation
- Alumni benefits package
- Research recognition
- Review of researcher development
- Teaching and Leadership
- Entrepreneurial activities including EPOC
- Liaising with Colleges regarding postdoctoral affiliation
- Mentoring and internship pilot schemes
- Partner Volunteer Scheme
- Social enterprise
The Postdoc Centres – Mill Lane & Biomedical Campus

Your spaces – open now
Come and visit!
Planning for the future – North West Cambridge

Phase 1 in spring 2017
700+ units for key worker housing

- Supermarket, shops, café, health centre, primary school, nursery, community centre
- Sustainable buildings and landscape by outstanding architects
- Priority for walking, cycling and bus access to City
Cambridge is not just about your research

• Lectures & seminars – open to all University members, regardless of subject
• Teaching opportunities – supervising, demonstrating in labs, lecturing
• Outreach and engagement – e.g. Rising Stars course, Festival of Ideas
• EPOC and Enterprise Tuesdays (Judge Business School, Cambridge Enterprise)
• PdOC activities
• Volunteering
• Cambridge museums and libraries – including training course programmes
• Events through many societies and clubs – both University and “town”
• Music, theatre, cinemas, sport, dining
College affiliations

Junior Research Fellowships
- Stipendiary
- Non-stipendiary

Other postdoctoral affiliations
- College Research Associate
Questions

• Are you getting the most out of your time at Cambridge?
• Are you even aware of the opportunities?
• Are you exploring and doing?
• What could the University do better?
• Are you ready for your next position?
• What can the OPdA do to help you?
Contact us

contact.opda@admin.cam.ac.uk

www.opda.cam.ac.uk

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