• There are far too few academic positions for the number of postdocs.
• Making these postdocs innovative and entrepreneurial will improve career prospects.
Our Aims

1) Bursting Bubbles
   *There’s a lot more around than just your research*

2) Changing Mindsets
   *From “look what they’re doing” to “that could be me”*

3) Creating Skills and Opportunities
   *Everything to take postdoc business ideas to reality*

Stuff to make postdocs aware of the opportunities around them

Stuff to inspire postdocs to get involved in entrepreneurship and business

Training and skills for postdocs who want to learn entrepreneurship and business
Who we are

EPOC Committee

- 7 Cambridge postdocs, 2 start-up employees, 2 start-up founders

EPOC Advisory Board

- Cambridge Enterprise, OPDA, Vice Chancellors, Ideaspace, Independents

EPOC Community

- >800 postdocs from across the university
- Supporters from across the cluster
What we do: Monthly events

- Aims to open minds and inspire interest in entrepreneurial and commercial careers
- Audiences include postdocs, students and industry from across Cambridge

Previous speakers include:

- Deep Science Ventures
- Cambridge Innovation Capital
- INDIE BIO
- AstraZeneca
- astex pharmaceuticals
What we do: p2i European Network

• Joint initiative between 6 universities and 6 global enterprises
• Establishing EPOC-like organisations in all partner universities
• Developing European-wide training, skills and enterprise opportunities for researchers
What we do: Postdoc Enterprise Competition

- Annual competition attracting the best postdoc-run start-ups in Cambridge
- Previous finalists include:
  - Immaterial
    - Gas storage and separation: Cheaper. Greener. Safer.
  - Netwookie
    - Peer-to-peer job facilitation solution for the world’s biggest labour force
  - Waterscope
    - Combatting water inequality with fast, inexpensive water testing kits
  - SPIRE
    - Smart polymer platform for controlled delivery of drug combinations
What we do: Training & Courses

• Courses offered through Judge Business School, Cambridge

• Equip postdocs with the basic knowledge and language of business and entrepreneurship

• Postdoc-specific course developed through p2i collaboration
What we do: Milner Innovation Reps

- Grassroots network of early-career scientists
- Facilitate translation of Cambridge therapeutics research
- Great opportunity to work closely with pharma industry during postdoc tenure
Get involved
entrepreneurial postdocs

Email: EPOC@admin.cam.ac.uk
Twitter: @EPOCambridge
Facebook: @EPOCambridge
Linked-In: EPOC

Next committee meeting:
3rd April 6 pm
Pdoc centre
Mill Lane