



Welcome to the Easter term newsletter.

### **CROS survey – your views are needed!**

Launched by Vitae to gather the views and feedback of research staff in UK higher education institutions, you can find out more about this national survey [here](#).

Participate in the Careers in Research Online Survey (CROS) and help us ensure we continue to support your research community. Don't miss this valuable opportunity to give feedback to your institution!

### **PARTICIPATE IN THE CROS SURVEY HERE**

CROS gathers the anonymous views of research staff in UK higher education institutions about their experiences, career aspirations and career development opportunities. Your views will:

- Inform policy and practice in employment, management and career development
- Offer essential information about the views and experiences of researchers
- Enable the University to respond more effectively to the needs of researchers and to ensure that any policy developments are evidence-based
- Give insight into the research environment element of the Research Excellence Framework
- Enable measurement of progress over time
- Provide evidence to support institutional submissions, such as for the [European HR Excellence in Research Award](#), the implementation of the [Concordat](#) and the [Athena Swan](#) scheme.

### **Postdoc leaver benefits update**

We are officially launching the University Postdoc Alumni Benefits package in June with an expected roll-out in mid-July. For a review of these benefits, [click here](#).

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## Postdoc Academy Series

### Q&A session with Cambridge Enterprise

7 May, 12-1:30pm

Cambridge Enterprise provides a range of services to university students and staff to help make their ideas commercially successful. This Q&A will offer an overview of the organisation and focus on Consultancy Services. There will then be an opportunity to ask questions and continue the conversation informally over lunch. Book [here](#).

### Getting Yourself Out There: Engagement, Communications and Impact

7 May, Postdoc Centre, 6-7:30pm - wine and nibbles to follow

OPdA is pleased to host an introductory session on User Engagement and Impact, providing information on various aspects of user engagement, including personal webpage, public engagement and policy engagement. Facilitators from OEAC, CSAP & UIS will present and answer questions on the following topics:

- Public Engagement: Nicola Buckley, Head of Public Engagement at University of Cambridge
- Policy Engagement: Ben Earley, Research Assistant, Pathways to Impact at Centre for Science and Policy
- Personal Website: Helen Sargan, Webmaster at University of Cambridge.

To book [click here](#).

### STOP PRESS! How to Train Your PI

OPdA is pleased to host a conversation with Professor John Todd at the Postdoc Centre. He will be giving a personal account of academic life in Cambridge. This includes communication between PI and postdoc, lab dynamics, negotiation skills, Professor Todd's transition from postdoc to PI, and other advice for postdocs. Date, time and booking information will be publicised on [our website](#) and through Twitter at [@opdacam](#).

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## Postdocs of Cambridge Society (PdOC)



### We need your help!

- Would you like to shape the PdOC Society for the year ahead?
- Would you like to represent postdocs at Cambridge?
- Do you have ideas for PdOC events and activities?

The PdOC Society committee invites all Cambridge postdocs to the 2015 Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 17 June from 5.15-6.45pm at the Postdoc Centre.

At the AGM the current PdOC committee will show you what we have been doing all year, discuss how PdOC should develop in the next year, elect a new committee for the year ahead and have a glass of wine!

**The PdOC Society is run by postdocs for postdocs.** There will be a number of committee vacancies where we need your help. This is your opportunity to shape PdOC and improve the experiences of postdocs in Cambridge. If you're interested in joining the committee please have a look at the website for further details and contact the existing committee. We will be very happy to receive your emails! Further details on the vacancies and how to register can be found at: [www.pdoc.cam.ac.uk/what/2015AGM](http://www.pdoc.cam.ac.uk/what/2015AGM).

We would encourage as many postdocs as possible to attend so that we get input from a wide cross section of the current postdoc community. The more postdocs who contribute to the AGM, the larger the mandate for the new committee to influence decisions within the University. Your opinion and support would be greatly appreciated.

We hope to see you on Wednesday 17 June. Find out more about PdOC and join our mailing list at [www.pdoc.cam.ac.uk](http://www.pdoc.cam.ac.uk).

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## Newcomers and Visiting Scholars (NVS)

On Wednesday 6 May we are holding an art workshop at 1 pm at the Postdoc Centre. It's open to anyone who would like to know the basic principles behind drawing a portrait. Art teacher Lisa will encourage you to learn to draw portraits of yourself and others. There will be a sandwich lunch and then we will make our way to the Portrait Exhibition at Girton College, finishing with tea at the College. Cost is £5 to include all refreshments.

On Wednesday 3 June, 4-6 pm, we have the NVS Annual Family Summer party for adults and children - from babies to teenagers - held in the beautiful grounds of Corpus Christi's Leckhampton in Grange Road. The party is open to all postdocs and their families on a first-come-first served basis.

All children come FREE and can enjoy a homemade tea with savouries and cakes, strawberries and cream. Parents pay just £3 and this includes a glass of sparkling wine and afternoon tea. This is a very popular and beautiful place to hold a party; there will be games and running races with lots of prizes, a bouncy castle, face painting, live music, a treasure hunt and much more.

For further information and to book a place for these events, please email Julie on [jrd32@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:jrd32@admin.cam.ac.uk).



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## Careers Service

This term we are covering all career areas. Briefing sessions and workshops include the US academic job market, academic interview skills, CV workshops for academia, industry and non-research roles.

### Your Personality and Career

Find out about these and all our events under 'What's On' at [www.careers.cam.ac.uk/pdoc](http://www.careers.cam.ac.uk/pdoc).

Don't forget that we can see you for individual, confidential careers appointments, including practice interviews at any stage. Just visit our website for more details.

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## Personal Professional Development (PPD)

The personal and professional development programme for postdocs/research staff has now been released. [Click here](#) or visit [www.training.cam.ac.uk/gdp](http://www.training.cam.ac.uk/gdp).

Please feel free to browse the course titles on offer. If the course is not scheduled to run, please click on the 'register my interest' link so that we can schedule more courses according to demand.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If the workshop or programme is showing as full, please click again on the name of the workshop or programme to be taken through to the link that allows you to put yourself on the waiting list. Please do take the time to complete this extra step so we can anticipate and meet the needs of postdocs/research staff for our future workshops and programmes.

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## Entrepreneurial Postdocs of Cambridge (EPOC)

The Entrepreneurial Postdocs of Cambridge Society (EPOC) held its first AGM at the Postdoc Centre on Tuesday 21 April. The newly elected committee approved EPOC's Constitution and the Society is now gearing up to deliver an exciting range of events and initiatives in the coming year. To find out more about EPOC, visit [www.opda.cam.ac.uk/epoc](http://www.opda.cam.ac.uk/epoc).

[Careers Service - Researcher Development Programme – Subscribe/Unsubscribe](#)

[Postdoc Academy Series - www.opda.cam.ac.uk](http://www.opda.cam.ac.uk)

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