

Welcome to our Spring newsletter, featuring events, training opportunities, funding information and the announcement of EPOC's (Entrepreneurial Postdocs of Cambridge) first AGM.



Please join us in congratulating Dr Alice Hutchings, a **Research Associate in the Computer Laboratory**, on her election to the University Council.

In other news, the Postdoc Centre will be one year old in May and we are delighted to report over 350 room bookings for postdoc events to date. Our rooms are available free of charge to postdocs, seven days a week. See pictures of the rooms and find out more about booking them [here](#).

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## Postdoc Academy Series

### Industry Forum with GSK

Briefing Session: 16 April, 5:30pm, [Postdoc Centre@Mill Lane](#)

Industry Forum: 21 April, 5-7pm, [Postdoc Centre@Mill Lane](#)

OPDA is pleased to host a unique discussion with the science-led global healthcare company GSK at the Postdoc Centre. GSK recruits undergraduates, graduates and postdocs from Cambridge and is keen to talk with you about opportunities and engagement. This will be a forum for networking and sharing information about the unique skills postdocs have, by virtue of their roles, and how these can be mutually beneficial. The meeting in April will

provide an opportunity for a handful of postdocs to explain what their present post entails and in return get a briefing about the work that GSK does, and the multitude of ways in which you could engage.

**Deadline to RSVP for this event: 14 April 2015.**

Spaces are limited. [You can reserve your spot here.](#)

## **Getting Connected in Cambridge: insights and opportunities for Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences research staff**

**22 April, 11-12:30 plus optional lunch, CRASSH**

Researchers on fixed-term and open-ended contracts are one of the largest staff groups in Cambridge, and face distinctive challenges both in orientating themselves within the University and in developing their careers. Whether a first-time postdoc or on your first research contract in Cambridge, 'Getting Connected in Cambridge: insights and opportunities for arts, humanities and social sciences research staff' will provide invaluable information on how to navigate life as a researcher here. The induction will be informal. As well as an official welcome from the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, there will be brief interactive presentations from the Careers Service and Personal and Professional Development (PPD).

The event will be followed by a [welcome lunch](#) from 12.30pm in the atrium of the Alison Richard Building, hosted by the [CRASSH postdoc forum](#) - an opportunity to meet new and returning postdoctoral researchers in the arts, humanities and social sciences. Registration is essential - and includes lunch. If you are unable to stay for the lunch, please specify on the registration form. You can register online by clicking on the link at the right hand side of the page.

For administrative enquiries please contact [Kate Nichols](#) and the [Office of Postdoctoral Affairs \(OPdA\)](#).

## **A 'Psychology Course' for Postdocs with Philip Guildford, Director of Research for the Department of Engineering**

**28 April, 6-8pm, [Postdoc Centre@Mill Lane](#)**

Before coming to Cambridge, everyone has had the experience of being top in their class. On arrival, as a new PhD student, postdoc or academic, everyone has to face the likelihood of being just average. People find different ways to behave in order to cope with this change. Some of these behaviours can be unhelpful and can last a lifetime. This session by Philip Guildford aims to take a good-humoured look at these behaviours, so that we are better placed to make conscious decisions about how we want to be. Philip is not a psychologist but has been through the Cambridge experience, has thought a lot about it and will offer personal reflections that strike a chord. For more information about the speaker, [please click here.](#)

Wine and nibbles to follow. To reserve your spot [click here](#).

## **Q&A session with Cambridge Enterprise**

**7 May, 12-1:30pm, Postdoc Centre@Mill Lane**

Are you interested in learning more about Cambridge Enterprise, the University's commercialisation arm? Cambridge Enterprise provides a range of services to students and staff to help make their ideas commercially successful. The first of three sessions, this Q&A will offer an overview of the organisation and focus on Consultancy Services. You will hear from members of the consultancy team, as well as from University postdocs who have used their services to facilitate consultancy work. There will then be an opportunity to ask questions and continue the conversation informally over lunch.

To register and reserve your spot, [please click here](#).

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

**7 May, 6-7:30 pm, Eastwood Room, Postdoc Centre@Mill Lane**

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 Wine and nibbles to follow. Spaces are limited. To register and reserve your spot, [please click here](#).

For full details on any the events above, you can visit [www.opda.cam.ac.uk/postdocacademy/2015events](http://www.opda.cam.ac.uk/postdocacademy/2015events).

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## **Postdocs of Cambridge Society (PdOC)**



The  
PdOC

Society aims to represent postdocs from all faculties, schools and departments at the University of Cambridge and University Partner Institutions (UPIs). PdOC, in collaboration with the OPdA, has established the Departmental Postdoc Committee Chairs Network to represent your views and needs. The network meets once a term to focus on specific postdoc needs and make recommendations. It has agreed that the top four priorities are that:

1. postdocs have the opportunity to achieve research excellence and recognition
2. postdocs have support for their strategic career plan and progression
3. postdocs have leadership and teaching opportunities
4. postdocs are represented at a departmental and University level.

The current list of departmental postdoc committee contacts can be found at [www.pdoc.cam.ac.uk/what/departementcommittees](http://www.pdoc.cam.ac.uk/what/departementcommittees). If you are a member of departmental postdoc committee that is not currently represented, or would like to establish a postdoc committee in your department, please email Dr Joy Warde on [joy.warde@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:joy.warde@admin.cam.ac.uk). The OPdA and PdOC Society can offer you support and training to establish a new committee.

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## Newcomers and Visiting Scholars (NVS)

More than 40 nationalities are represented on our Tuesday morning events and all are keen to find out more about life in Cambridge. All want to meet others and make the best of their stay, whether it's for a few weeks, a few months or a few years. Download our programme [here](#).

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## Careers Service

Our focus this term is on careers in industry.

## Physical Sciences and Technology Postdocs: R&D in industry -

## Careers Panel, Wednesday 18 March, 5.30-8pm

Are you interested in a career in R&D? Maybe you have already decided that this is the career path for you, or perhaps you are interested in exploring what opportunities exist to continue your research away from the academic environment. Through the eyes of former postdocs who are now working in industry, this event will help you to:

- find out what working in R&D in industry is really like, how it compares with life as a postdoc, and whether it might be an attractive career option for you
- consider the flexibility of working in both industry and academia during your career.

Book online at [www.careers.cam.ac.uk/notice/SessionText.asp?Code=8153](http://www.careers.cam.ac.uk/notice/SessionText.asp?Code=8153).

## Life science postdocs: Careers in Biotech and Pharma, Wednesday 25 March, 8.30am-5pm

Do you enjoy research but are keen to work on team projects with a tangible health-related or commercial focus? Are you interested in finding out about roles outside the lab in industry? Book your place now for our flagship Biotech and Pharma event. Hear from 10 former postdocs working either in R&D or non-research roles. Our contributors will give you their own insights and experiences about career paths and research projects in industry. AstraZeneca is coming to talk about its open Innovation and postdoc scheme. Other confirmed speakers include representatives from Roche (Switzerland and UK), GSK, Fahy Gurteen Labs, Generics (UK), Unipraxis, Abcam, Olympus, Discuva, Medimmune and Unilever. Book online [here](#).

## Wondering how to find a job that suits you?

**Arts Humanities and Social Science research staff:** Come along to our upcoming lunchtime sessions on interviews and career options. Find out more at [www.careers.cam.ac.uk/notice/Diary.asp?listing=ASSH](http://www.careers.cam.ac.uk/notice/Diary.asp?listing=ASSH).

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## Personal Professional Development (PPD)

### Getting Connected in Cambridge: Insights & Opportunities for Research Staff

29 April, 2-5pm, Postdoc Centre

Are you a postdoc who has arrived in Cambridge in the last six months? Are you a Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine researcher? If you answered yes to both questions, you are warmly invited to this induction event. To find out more and book a place, visit [www.training.cam.ac.uk/gdp/event/1206982](http://www.training.cam.ac.uk/gdp/event/1206982).

## **PPD is pleased to announce two programmes under the leadership theme:**

### **Emerging Research Leaders' Development Programme (ERLDP), May-October 2015, Postdoc Centre.**

This is an event for postdoctoral researchers/research staff in the Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine and Mathematics (STEMM) disciplines. ELIGIBILITY: it is expected that you will have applied or are aiming to apply for independent research funding and you are currently responsible for managing/supervising students or others (officially or unofficially). You will also need to demonstrate your motivation for wanting to be a participant on this programme. The Emerging Research Leaders' Development Programme (ERLDP) has been designed for you as a postdoctoral researcher/member of research staff if you are aspiring to achieve research independence in order to lead your own research group and/or to become a research leader in your field through a variety of career pathways, including academia. It is a unique opportunity for you to develop and reflect upon your personal leadership style in the context of those who you lead in either an official or unofficial capacity. We will provide tailored training workshops and one-to-one coaching sessions so you can develop solutions relating to your current situation and your future needs. More information at [www.training.cam.ac.uk/gdp/event/1228678](http://www.training.cam.ac.uk/gdp/event/1228678).

Please apply at [www.survey.bris.ac.uk/cambridge/erldp2015](http://www.survey.bris.ac.uk/cambridge/erldp2015) by 9am, Thursday, 19 March 2015.

### **Leadership in Action, 15-17 June 2015, Centre for Mathematical Studies, University of Cambridge.**

This is a new three-day intensive programme led by a director and team of tutors. Every participant will experience leadership in action through case studies in small groups in a supportive, reflective, coached environment. Participants will have the opportunity to explore and develop their leadership potential, and the programme focuses on identifying and honing your own leadership style. ELIGIBILITY: mid-2nd year PhD students and above, and postdoctoral researchers with up to two years' postdoctoral experience.

Apply at [www.survey.bris.ac.uk/cambridge/lia2015](http://www.survey.bris.ac.uk/cambridge/lia2015) by Midnight, Friday 20 March 2015.

Please direct any queries about these programmes to [researcher.development@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:researcher.development@admin.cam.ac.uk).

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## **Entrepreneurial Postdocs of Cambridge (EPOC)**

EPOC successfully held its first event on 21 January. About 80 delegates listened to four of Cambridge's successful entrepreneurs tackling the thorny issue of venturing off from

academia. Stuart Evans, Victor Christou, Andrew Lynn and Tuomas Knowles used their personal experience of starting/funding multiple tech-based companies to explore the dilemmas postdocs face when deciding to take an entrepreneurial path. Stuart Evans has kindly agreed to make his presentation public, please [click here](#) to view it.

More events of this kind are expected this year. We will publish an announcement in the next newsletter and on our [web page](#), so please stay tuned!

EPOC will hold its first Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 21 April 2015 at 6pm at the Postdoc Centre. In this meeting we will discuss and approve our constitution, decide roles for committee members and plan our activities for the rest of the year. This event is open to all postdocs. If you have an interest in meeting/supporting/joining our club or simply want some information on who we are and what we are doing, please feel free to join. Drinks and refreshments will be provided.

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## Public Engagement Events

### Introduction to the Media

**15 April 2015, 2.30-4.30pm, followed by drinks reception, Alison Richard Building, 72 West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DT**

Are you an academic working in the arts, humanities or social sciences? Do you have a story to tell about your research? Are you looking to create a wider impact by reaching non-academic audiences? The Research Communications team and CRASSH invite you to join our panel of experts as they discuss how you can work with the media – print, broadcast and digital – to promote your research. What does it take to get your story into the newspaper? What do you need to know before you agree to do a radio interview?

Our guests include:

- Maev Kennedy – Special Writer, The Guardian
- Bev Purcell – Producer, BBC Woman's Hour
- Matt Elton – Section Editor, BBC History Magazine
- Professor Simon Goldhill – Director, CRASSH
- Lesley Steinitz – Faculty of History.

Book your place at: [www.CRASSHmedia.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.CRASSHmedia.eventbrite.co.uk). *Priority will be given to postdocs and academics working in the arts, humanities or social sciences.*

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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