

IN THIS ISSUE

[Changes to Medical Research Fund \(MRF\)](#)
[Message from Head of Division](#)
[Sixty Seconds with...Graham Ross, Divisional Safety Officer](#)
[Lab Talk – Professor Elspeth Garman, Department of Biochemistry](#)
[Athena SWAN News](#)
[IT News](#)
[Library News](#)
[Opportunities and Updates](#)
[And Finally...Join the Divisional Office staff at the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support](#)

CHANGES TO MEDICAL RESEARCH FUND (MRF)

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The Medical Research Fund (MRF) is an internal fund to support medical research conducted in departments of the Medical Sciences Division. It supports research through three funding streams: the [bridging salary scheme](#), the [pump priming funding scheme](#) and the [clinical pre-fellowship scheme](#) (university networks only). [Read more...](#)

Please read the [Medical Research Fund guidance](#) and the [FAQ](#) for information on how to apply. The new application forms must be used for applications for the next round which closes on the Monday 13 October 2014.

Do you have news or events that you would like to promote? Or would you like your lab/centre/unit to feature in a future issue of Lab Talk? For further information, please contact

communications@medsci.ox.ac.uk

Copy deadline for next issue: 09:00, Monday 6 October

An almost complete listing of seminars, workshops and events taking place across the division can be found [here](#) (Divisional What's On calendar), and [here](#) (Oxford Talks).



MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF DIVISION

From Professor Alastair Buchan, Dean of Medicine and Head of Division

I hope that you have all had wonderful and relaxing breaks during the summer, and feel energised and ready for the new term! I should also like to extend a hearty welcome to all new staff and students joining the division. I hope you find your time here in Oxford stimulating and rewarding. And please join me in congratulating Professor Georg Hollander who has been appointed as the new Head of the Department of Paediatrics. Professor Hollander is the Action Research Professor of Paediatrics.



At the end of last term, DPhil students from across the division attended the 10th Medical Sciences DPhil Day at the John Radcliffe Hospital. This year's successful day included talks, poster sessions, and a keynote address delivered by Professor Sir Marc Feldmann. Congratulations to all the DPhil students who received prizes (see full details [here](#)).

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Additionally, I should like to encourage all staff members and their families to sign up to become members of the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust. The Trust is applying for Foundation Trust status and hopes to achieve this early next year. By becoming a "public member" you will be kept up to date with what is happening at the Trust, be invited to the associated events and more importantly be able to vote in the elections for the Council of Governors or even stand for election. Staff working specifically within the Medical Sciences Division can sign up to become "staff members" of the Trust and vote (or stand for election) in the elections within the Governors' staff constituency. Further information can be found at www.ouh.nhs.uk/ft. Please sign up and help the Trust and indeed the University.

Finally, please join the divisional office on Friday 26 September at the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Divisional office staff will unleash their baking prowess on MSD and JR staff and students, so please do come along, buy a coffee or cake, and help support this annual fundraising event (for further details see [here](#)).

SIXTY SECONDS WITH ...

When Health and Safety goes mad, Dr Graham Ross, Senior Divisional Safety Officer is here to help guide us through and keep our departments and staff compliant.

Tell us a little about your role

I am a Senior Divisional Safety Officer for the Clinical Departments of the Medical Sciences Division and am based in the Divisional Office in the John Radcliffe Hospital. My role is to help Heads of Department fulfil their health and safety responsibilities and ensure compliance with University Safety Policies. I work closely with Departmental Safety Officers and Laboratory Managers to help achieve this through safety inspections, reviewing risk assessments and local training initiatives and am a member of each Department's safety advisory and genetic modification safety committees. I have close links with my very supportive colleagues in the University Safety Office and Occupational Health Service and our counterparts within the various Trusts and Private Finance Initiatives in whose estate our clinical departments are embedded.



[Read more...](#)

LAB TALK

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Tell us a little about the work in your lab

The group is largely engaged in improving experimental methods for structural biology, both for three-dimensional structure determination of large biologically relevant macromolecules such as protein and protein complexes by X-ray crystallography, and also for identifying metals in these proteins using a technique more commonly used in nuclear physics research: proton induced X-ray emission (PIXE). Additionally we also determine novel structures, most recently of an enzyme called TBNAT (arylamine N-acetyltransferase), a protein involved in the formation of the waxy coat formed round *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in its latent phase in human cells.

[Read more...](#)

ATHENA SWAN NEWS

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- (1) [Reminder – Returning Carer's Fund](#)
- (2) [Talks and Events](#)
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- (3) [Articles and Resources](#)
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- (1) [IT Courses – October – December Schedule](#)
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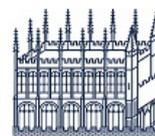
[Read more](#)

LIBRARY NEWS

In this issue:

- (1) [Information for new Clinical Medicine students](#)
- (2) [Need help with referencing?](#)
- (3) [OUP Oxford Medicine Online is allowing free access to articles related to Ebola virus until 25th November](#)

[Read more...](#)



Bodleian Libraries
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

OPPORTUNITIES AND UPDATES

Important Updates

Changes to Medical Research Fund (MRF)

10th Medical Sciences DPhil Day Prize Winners announced

Research Services Science Area team moves to Robert Hooke Building

Bringing Isis Innovation closer to researchers Isis Innovation is pleased to announce the opening of five new hot-desks in Oxford University departments

Oxford University Hospitals wants you! Did you know that staff working for the University of Oxford in a department within the Medical Sciences Division can apply to become a member of the staff constituency?

Funding Opportunities

Reminder: Returning Carer's Fund

Changes to Medical Research Fund (MRF)

Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, Modular training partnerships These enable research organisations to collaborate with industry to develop industrially-relevant short training courses at master's level, mainly to industry employees. Closing date: 15 Oct 14

BIAL Award in Medical Sciences and in Clinical Medicine 200,000 and 100,000 Euro respectively. Deadline: 31st October

Fellowship Opportunities

RSIV [and clinical equivalent] College Associations University College is inviting applications from senior researchers for fixed-term, but renewable fellowships at the college

Colt Foundation Fellowships in Occupational/Environmental Health

Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) Flowers Fellowship 3 month fellowship available to PhD student

Engagement Opportunities

Oxford Sparks Public Engagement Training Oxford Sparks (www.oxfordsparks.net) is running further training courses and networking events in public engagement and science communication during Michaelmas Term 2014.

Wellcome Trust Provision for Public Engagement The Wellcome Trust now provide dedicated funding for public engagement within research projects

Volunteer Opportunities

Clinical Vaccine Trials The Jenner Institute are developing vaccines against major global diseases and want healthy volunteers aged 18 to 55 to take part in trials of them.

OxWATCH study now recruiting! We are looking for women between the ages of 18 and 40 who are hoping to become pregnant with their first child, and have an Oxfordshire home address

Other Items of Interest

Attention all Twitter users Keep up to date with news from across the Division

Introduction to Research Ethics Monday 6 October, 14:30–17:30, John Radcliffe Hospital. Medical Sciences Skills Training Course. More courses available, see <http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/skillstraining/coursecatalogue/coursecalendar>

ERC Starting and Consolidator Workshops: October/November

Oxford Medical Alumni Weekend and Osler Lecture 19–21 September, with Osler Lecture, "Good Ageing: How should we pay for care when we are elderly?" on 20 September

Navigator Development Programme for Men

2014 Annual Uehiro Lectures Series title: Fellow Creatures: The Moral and Legal Standing of Animals. Speaker: Professor Christine M. Korsgaard (Harvard University)

AND FINALLY...

Join the Divisional Office staff at the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support



Friday 26 September, 10:30am–12 noon, Entrance Foyer Level 3 (opposite lecture theatre 2, Academic Centre), John Radcliffe Hospital

The Divisional Office staff will unleash their baking prowess on MSD and JR staff and students at the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Please pop by and show your support for this annual fundraising event, by treating yourself to a coffee, cake or cookie!

If you'd like to donate a baked good to sell, please bring it along to the Level 3 foyer at 10:15am.

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Please read the [Medical Research Fund guidance](#) and the [FAQ](#) for information on how to apply. The new application forms must be used for applications for the next round which closes on the Monday 13 October 2014.

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Sixty Seconds with ...

Dr Graham Ross, Senior Divisional Safety Officer

When Health and Safety goes mad, Dr Graham Ross, Senior Divisional Safety Officer is here to help guide us through and keep our departments and staff compliant.



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Tell us more about your team?

I currently work as part of a team of two and I am most fortunate to have a very dedicated colleague in Dr Julie Hamilton who is based on the Old Road Campus but together we cover all sites. In response to the considerable expansion in the level and complexity of research within the Division, I will be recruiting an additional team member next term.

What's currently at the top of your to do list?

My post is often reactive as much as it is proactive, so my to-do list priorities are ever changing. Recently it was discussing the safety of members of staff planning to travel to areas where the current Ebola outbreak is centred. Now it will be back to collaborative work with OUH NHS Trust on a safer system of transportation of cryogenic material within shared space. I am also developing a series of local training programmes and workshops to help deliver bespoke training within departments. And recruiting a new team member will be a key task in the new term.

Debunking the myths, mistruths and misrepresentation of the 'health and safety gone mad' culture will always be a key aim ... safety is mostly just common sense ... unfortunately, common sense isn't always that common! Maintaining a safety culture within departments and educating staff that my team are here to assist them in getting on with their work safely NOT preventing them doing their work, will always be high on my agenda.

How did you get to where you are today?

Following my degree in Anatomy from the University of Aberdeen, I came to Oxford in 1984 to read for my D.Phil. in Radiobiology and never left! I stayed in Radiobiology research and became Departmental Safety Officer, Biological, and Fire Safety Officers. I 'defected!' to full time safety in 1998 when the Safety Office created a new post to look after the clinical departments and my transformation into a full time safety officer began.

What do you like to do to relax?

I have always been a keen sportsman and became an avid oarsman on coming to Oxford. Due to injuries, I am now more of a casual spectator in sport rather than an active participant. I love comedy, music and the theatre and attend as many live events and shows as possible.

If I wasn't Divisional Safety Officer I would like to live by the seaside, walk my dog on the beach, make driftwood art by day and have a café-bar where I could play cool music in the evening.

Lab Talk

In this issue, we talk to Department of Biochemistry's Professor Elspeth Garman about her research and teaching career, which spans both the Medical Sciences Division and the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division.

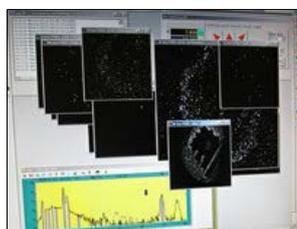
Tell us a little about the work in your lab?

The group is largely engaged in improving experimental methods for structural biology, both for three-dimensional structure determination of large biologically relevant macromolecules such as protein and protein complexes by X-ray crystallography, and also for identifying metals in these proteins using a technique more commonly used in nuclear physics research: proton induced X-ray emission (PIXE). Additionally we also determine novel structures, most recently of an enzyme called TBNAT (arylamine N-acetyltransferase), a protein involved in the formation of the waxy coat formed round *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in its latent phase in human cells.



Why does this research matter?

Structural biologists determine the three-dimensional structures and functions of medically important biological macromolecules: proteins and nucleic acids. The problems being tackled nowadays are much larger and more complex, and the crystals used much smaller and more radiation sensitive than in the past. The structural research only becomes tractable by continually improving the experimental techniques that we use. Thus our efforts contribute to underpinning the advances in the biological information that can be obtained from 3-D structures.



What's one of the more interesting techniques you are using?

The PIXE technique, which we carry out at the [Ion Beam Centre](#) at the University of Surrey in Guildford, is unique and very powerful. We have now analysed over 250 proteins and can calibrate the stoichiometry to within 10% of the metals in the protein by using the X-ray signal from the known number of cysteines and methionines in the primary sequence. Protein function surmised from sequence identity with another similar protein can be incorrect, and unambiguous knowledge of the metal contact can help avoid misidentification.

What challenges do structural biologists face?



Currently the big challenges in the field of structural biology include the determination of the structures of large functionally relevant complexes and of more membrane bound proteins. Traditionally we have 'divided and conquered' by studying individual proteins, but to understand mechanistic pathways, knowledge of interactions between the different proteins involved is key. Membrane proteins are difficult to crystallise due to their lack of solubility in water, upon which most crystallisation techniques depend, but new techniques development is gradually making this more tractable. Taking a wider view, very recently significant improvements in the detectors used for electron microscopy vastly extend the level of information and detail that can be obtained from both single particle imaging and 2-D crystals, with the combined information from crystallography and electron microscopy enlightening the function and pathways of biologically important

entities. I recently published a review on likely future developments in macromolecular crystallography for journal *Science*:

<http://www.sciencemag.org/content/343/6175/1102>

How many people are there in your lab?

As of October 2014, I will have 7 in total: 4 graduate students, one 5 month Wellcome Trust rotation graduate student and 2 undergraduate Part II Biochemists (M.Biochem final year 18 week projects). The background of the graduate students is wonderfully mixed: I have one Biochemist, shared with Dr. Simon Newstead, who is working on membrane proteins, one computer scientist, and two Mathematicians who fell in love with crystals during 11 week rotations in the group as part of their MPLS Doctoral Training Centre first year programme. This mixture is wonderful: we have weekly Journal Clubs and discuss our way through the relevant literature. I encourage the students to work cooperatively: each student brings a different expertise to the group, and the whole is much more effective than the sum of the parts.



What's a typical day like in the lab?

Rich and varied! No two days are the same and that is what I love about the job. I frequently plan my day whilst cycling in to work, and realise on the return journey that nothing I had imagined doing during the day has been achieved, but other aspects have moved forward. Typically I have meetings with the graduate students, a Skype call or two with collaborators elsewhere, answer email queries from other researchers round the world about



our widely used software for calculating the radiation dose in protein crystals (RADDOSE), deal with my Journal editing and refereeing responsibilities, discuss the status of the crystallographic facilities in Biochemistry with Dr. Ed Lowe, our facilities manager, as well as moving forward our group publications and our experimental plans for our next synchrotron run.

How has being at Oxford helped your work?

The main benefit of being in Oxford is the fantastically high standard of the undergraduate and postgraduate students that have worked in my group, and who have enabled us to move much further forward than I had hoped. I also think that the international atmosphere is very positive and enhances productivity and lateral thinking in the lab.

Are there any collaborations/partnerships you'd like to pursue with colleagues in Oxford?

I already have quite a few collaborations with various scientists around the University. If anyone reading this would like to know what metals are in their protein/nucleic acid samples, please do get in touch!

How did you get to where you are today?

I loved Physics at school (a Church of England Convent in North Yorkshire), and decided to do a Physics degree. Before starting, I had a 'gap year' and went to Swaziland in Southern Africa to teach in a big Secondary School in Manzini. I had to fill in for all the other teachers and ended up teaching everything except for Zulu! I loved it there and came to realise that I very much enjoy teaching. I then went to Durham University for a 3 year degree in Physics. I did a summer studentship at CERN in Geneva at the end of my second year and decided that although I was very interested in nuclear physics, I wanted to control more of the experiments myself, and High Energy Nuclear Physics involved too many people per experiment, so I came to Oxford Nuclear Physics Department to do a DPhil in Experimental Nuclear Structure, which I got in 1980. I married my landlord in 1979, and he had a permanent research position in atmospheric physics in Oxford which he loved, so I also wanted to stay working in Oxford if at all possible.



For 7 years after my D.Phil, I had various posts in Nuclear Physics: a Science Research Council Fellowship and then a Research Officership (6 year advanced postdoc). I also taught Physics round the University, including at Somerville College, where I met the late Professor Dame Louise Johnson, who was a Biophysicist and with whom I talked about what I would do next. At the time (1987) funding for Nuclear Physics was drying up, and I said 'Oh, I don't know, I suppose I will have to change fields'. [I really didn't want to think about what would happen when my contract with them ran out the following year: I had a 3 year old (born 1984) daughter and an aged mother-in-law living with us, and I had my hands full.] Louise said that her lab (Molecular Biophysics) was looking for a technical person to run the new X-ray equipment for protein crystallography that would be delivered soon, and they had not found anyone suitable. Would I come to the lab the next day and have a look? Well, I moved there 4 weeks later, having never done any Biology and not knowing what an amino acid was! I worked part-time for the next 16 years, looking after and managing the X-ray facilities until 1999, when I started my own group, and then went full time in 2003.

Meanwhile I had another daughter in 1991, and acquired a 13 year old Swazi foster daughter in 1995, when her mother, whom I had taught in 1973, died. She stayed in Swaziland and went to boarding school, so did not come and live with us.

By 2003 I had worked to establish the techniques involved in cryo-crystallography, taught all over the world, and had a few papers published (about 80). I was then fortunate to obtain a teaching/research post in the Department of Biochemistry, for whom I lecture a first year Principles of Mathematics course for Biochemists and (now) Biomedical Scientists. In 2008 I was awarded the title of Professor and in 2009 I ventured on a 50% secondment for 5 years to the MPLS Division to direct the Life Sciences Interface Programme at the Doctoral training Centre, moving to the Systems Biology Programme in 2011. This secondment, is about to end and I am looking forward to being in Biochemistry 100% again and spending more time with my group and colleagues there, although I have hugely enjoyed supervising over 80 different graduate students over the last 5 years during their first DTC year.

Earlier this year, Professor Elspeth Garman was announced as the 2014 'Most Acclaimed Lecturer' in Medical Sciences at the Oxford University Student Union (OUSU) Teaching Awards and she also received a 2014 'Individual Teaching Award' from Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences (MPLS) Division. Professor Garman also delivered the 2014 Rose Award Lecture at the University of Kingston, which recognises the contribution of distinguished female scientists and Engineers.

Links:

[Professor Garman's group website](#)

Examples Professor Garman's public engagement activities:

[Dorothy Hodgkin Memorial Lecture 2010](#)

[Royal Institution video for the International Year of Crystallography](#)

[BBC World Service Radio *The Forum* July 2013](#)

[BBC Radio 4 *Material World* June 2014](#)

[Oxford Sparks animation for the International Year of Crystallography](#)

Professor Garman will also feature on Radio 4's *Life Scientific* with Jim Al-Khalili in October 2014.

Images:

Top right: Professor Elspeth Garman

Top left: Computer screen showing protein metal content measurements at the Ion Beam Centre in Guildford at the University of Surrey

Middle left: Black beam marks following X-ray irradiation of a 400 micron sized crystal of avian influenza neuraminidase subtype N9 (isolated from a Noddy Tern)

Middle right: Professor Garman with her research group

Bottom left: Prof Garman in the tunnel under Hamburg in which the Free Electron laser will be built

Bottom right: Professor Garman receiving the Rose Lecture Award, with University of Kingston Vice Chancellor and Dean of Science, Professor Edith Sim

Would you like your lab/centre/unit to feature in a future issue of Lab Talk? For further information, please contact communications@medsci.ox.ac.uk.

Athena SWAN News

Contents

1. [Reminder – Returning Carer’s Fund](#)
2. [Talks and Events](#)
 1. [Women in Academic Medicine Conference](#)
 2. [Work–Life Balance talk](#)
3. [Articles and Resources](#)
 1. [Biochemical Society’s new Diversity in Science grants](#)
 2. [More women and minority STEM graduates leave jobs for postgraduate degrees](#)
 3. [The living–wage plight of women with degrees](#)

Reminder – Returning Carer’s Fund

A Returning Carer’s Fund has been established as part of the Vice–Chancellor’s Diversity Fund for the advancement of diversity among academic and research staff at Oxford. Applications are invited from women and men for funding of up to £5k to support the development of their research career following a break to care for a child or close relative. In exceptional circumstances, larger amounts may be awarded, up to an absolute maximum of £10k.

Support could include, but is not limited to: teaching buy–out, training or professional development, short–term secondments, conference attendance, short–term research or administrative assistance, funding visits to Oxford by your research collaborator(s).

The next closing date for applications is **February 28 2015**. For further details and a copy of the application form see <http://intranet.medsci.ox.ac.uk/returning-carers-fund> or contact Jennifer Anderson (Athena SWAN advisor and facilitator) at jennifer.anderson@medsci.ox.ac.uk or athena-swan@medsci.ox.ac.uk.

Image: [Ulla Räisänen](#) (Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences) and her daughter at the department's family summer party. Taken by Nasir Hamid. Copyright: Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences



[Top](#)

Talks and Events

Women in Academic Medicine Conference

The British Medical Association is organising a one–day conference to celebrate and promote women in academic medicine. The conference will provide a national forum for female medical academics to raise issues, share experiences and celebrate achievements with the aim of supporting and empowering female academics. Although the conference will be of specific interest to women working in academic medicine, all those interested in attending are welcome to apply. For more information and registration details see <http://bma.org.uk/events/2014/october/masc-women-in-academic-medicine>.

Date: Friday 17 October

Time: 9.30am–6pm

Location: BMA House, London



Work–Life Balance talk

Speaker: [Professor Gil McVean](#), Head of Bioinformatics and Statistical Genetics

The aim of these talks is for the speaker to share their own experience of a career in science & how they have balanced career with lifestyle, and for them to provide advice to scientists.

This talk is modelled on the same format as the Women in Science talks of 20–25 minutes talk, followed by a Q & A session with a chance to chat informally over a sandwich lunch. There will also be an opportunity to chat with members of the Gender Equality Committee and raise topics and ideas which you think could be taken forward in the Centre.

Please advise Donna (brcpa@well.ox.ac.uk), if you would like to attend the lunch (for catering purposes).

Date: Wednesday 1 October

Time: 1200 – 1300

Location: Rooms A & B, Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics

[Top](#)

Articles and Resources

Biochemical Society's new Diversity in Science grants

The Biochemical Society is providing three grants of up to £500 to support and address issues relating to diversity in science. Potential uses for the grant include events or activities to encourage diversity in science or research into the lack of representative diversity within the science sector. You do not need to be a member of the Biochemical Society to apply and grants are open to individuals, groups, charities and businesses.

The deadline for applications is **30 September 2014**. For more details please see <http://www.biochemistry.org/Grants/DiversityinScienceGrants.aspx>

More women and minority STEM graduates leave jobs for postgraduate degrees

Analysis of the annual 'Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education' survey shows that female STEM graduates are 48% more likely than men to leave their job and return to university to undertake a postgraduate qualification within 3 years of leaving university. Black or minority ethnic STEM graduates were 50% more likely to return than white graduates. The authors of the study suggest that these results could be a result of women and minorities seeking more education generally or because they feel that they require extra qualifications to compete in the workplace as a result of discrimination.

The living-wage plight of women with degrees

The Fawcett Society, a women's rights charity, recently published a report, which shows that a quarter of low-paid women are graduates forced to work in jobs below their ability because of a shortage of posts in the professions they trained for. The problem is causing widespread under-employment of professional women in the UK. The study found that 3m women, equivalent to one in four women working in the UK, were earning less than £7.44 an hour, the national rate when the research was conducted. Of those, 22% had a degree. The full report can be found [here](#).

[Top](#)

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Contents

1. [IT Courses – October – December Schedule](#)
2. [Data management courses from the IT Learning Programme](#)
3. [Portfolio – the place to find IT study materials](#)
4. [Research Skills Toolkit](#)
5. [Databases – a practical series of taught courses from the IT Learning Programme](#)

IT Courses – October – December Schedule

The [IT Services IT Learning Programme \(ITLP\)](#) offers over 200 different IT courses that can help you with your studies, research, and future careers. From fundamental courses in the use of standard office packages through to programming, database design, academic use of office software, on-line presence, and digital media skills

The schedule for October–December will be available from mid-September. For full course descriptions and booking visit <http://courses.it.ox.ac.uk>

[Top](#)

Data management courses from the IT Learning Programme

Excel can be a powerful data analysis tool but getting to grips with some of the advanced features can take a lot of time. Our set of Excel courses covers a range of key topics, including data cleansing and auditing, summarising large data sets using pivot tables and making use of Excel's statistical functions. The courses can help you develop your skills from basic use of Excel through to using advanced tools for data analysis. Excel can also be a powerful research project management tool, where its date and financial functions can help ensure projects run smoothly. As a flexible and powerful tool for supporting research, Excel can play a valuable role in a wide range of projects.

INVOICE NUMBER	DATE	FIRM	COMPANY	BUDGET CODE	AMOUNT
1	11/11	John A to B		440	\$3.00
2	11/11	Sign to A		440	\$3.12
4	11/11	Sign to A		440	\$3.22
5	11/11	Sign to A		440	\$2.38
6	11/11	Clear Filter From 'C:\Documents\...		440	\$3.15
7	11/11	Filter for Color		440	\$4.24
8	11/11			440	\$7.88
9	11/11			440	\$4.22
10	11/11			440	\$4.22
11	11/11			440	\$3.40
12	11/11			440	\$3.40
13	11/11			440	\$3.40
14	11/11			440	\$3.40
15	11/11			440	\$3.40
16	11/11			440	\$3.40
17	11/11			440	\$3.40
18	11/11			440	\$3.40
19	11/11			440	\$3.40
20	11/11			440	\$3.40
21	11/11			440	\$3.40
22	11/11			440	\$3.40
23	11/11			440	\$3.40

New and updated courses available as part of the IT Learning Programme:

- Spreadsheets: Essential techniques for working with data
- Spreadsheets: Creating professional data views
- Spreadsheets: Managing and checking data
- Spreadsheets: Working with pivot tables
- Spreadsheets: Organising and displaying data
- Spreadsheets: Advanced data analysis and modelling

[Top](#)



Portfolio – the place to find IT study materials

UPSKILLING? The [ITLP Portfolio](#) is the place to find IT study materials to build up your own IT skills: help yourself to downloadable course packs, hints and tips and how-tos.

[Top](#)

Research Skills Toolkit

NEW LOOK! The Research Skills Toolkit website has relaunched with a completely new interface, so be among the first to visit and explore the resources on offer!

In the Research Skills Toolkit (www.skillstoolkit.ox.ac.uk), researchers can explore a variety of IT & Library tools and online services to help you improve your IT and library skills for research.

Listen out for news during the autumn about the hands-on Research Skills Toolkit workshops, coming in December and January.



[Top](#)

Databases – a practical series of taught courses from the IT Learning Programme

DO YOU NEED to build a database to get your research data properly organised? Or are you taking over an existing database or data collection? Learn how to design and build an effective database where the data can be collected efficiently and analysed flexibly.

The series of taught courses on databases in the IT Learning Programme now takes you through the process from designing a structure that will be flexible and robust, through building the tables and an efficient user interface to reporting on the data and a range of ways of querying and analysing to discover what your data is telling you.

Look out for these titles in the IT Learning Programme:

- Databases: Concepts of database design
- Databases: Building a database using Access
- Databases: Building a user interface using Access
- Databases: Reporting on data using Access
- Databases: Querying and analysing data using Access

[Top](#)

Library News

Contents

1. [Information for new Clinical Medicine students](#)
2. [Need help with referencing?](#)
3. [OUP Oxford Medicine Online is allowing free access to articles related to Ebola virus until 25th November.](#)

Information for new Clinical Medicine students

We look forward to welcoming the new Fourth Year Clinical Medicine students and Graduate Entry Medicine students at their inductions in September. There is a wide range of facilities available to our students, including:

- 24/7 access to the Cairns Library with your University Card.
- Bookable [Group Study Rooms](#) at both the Cairns Library and Knowledge Centre.
- Multiple copies of [Clinical Reading Lists](#) texts available in print, and online where available.
- [Laptop](#) and [iPad](#) lending service at both the Cairns Library and Knowledge Centre.



[Top](#)

Need help with referencing?

Endnote is a reference management programme widely used throughout the MSD and University. It lets you store, organise and retrieve your references, cite them in your dissertations and articles, and produce bibliographies and reading lists in the style of your choice.

Librarians at the Knowledge Centre and the Cairns Library will be running training sessions for EndNote throughout the autumn. At the end of the introductory session you'll be able to import references from PubMed and Google Scholar, de-duplicate references in an Endnote Library, and be able to cite references in Word documents.

Eli Harriss ([✉eli.harriss@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:eli.harriss@bodleian.ox.ac.uk)) will be running sessions in the Knowledge centre (Old Road Campus) at the end of September, please contact her for more details.

We will also be arranging sessions at the JR from October onwards, keep an eye on future editions of the newsletter for more details, or contact us at [✉hcl-enquiries@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:hcl-enquiries@bodleian.ox.ac.uk).

[Top](#)

OUP Oxford Medicine Online is allowing free access to articles related to Ebola virus until 25th November.

In response to the outbreak of the Ebola virus in West Africa, Oxford University Press has made [50 articles from leading journals and online resources](#) freely accessible to assist researchers, medical professionals, policy makers, and others working on the containment, treatment, and prevention of Ebola hemorrhagic fever. While all members of the Medical Sciences Division have access to Oxford Medicine Online already, colleagues elsewhere may be interested in free access to these articles.

[Top](#)

Opportunities and Updates

Important Updates

Changes to Medical Research Fund (MRF)

10th Medical Sciences DPhil Day Prize Winners announced

Research Services Science Area team moves to Robert Hooke Building

Bringing Isis Innovation closer to researchers Isis Innovation is pleased to announce the opening of five new hot-desks in Oxford University departments

Oxford University Hospitals wants you! Did you know that staff working for the University of Oxford in a department within the Medical Sciences Division can apply to become a member of the staff constituency?

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RSIV [and clinical equivalent] College Associations University College is inviting applications from senior researchers for fixed-term, but renewable fellowships at the college

Colt Foundation Fellowships in Occupational/Environmental Health

Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) Flowers Fellowship 3 month fellowship available to PhD student

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Oxford Sparks Public Engagement Training Oxford Sparks (www.oxfordsparks.net) is running further training courses and networking events in public engagement and science communication during Michaelmas Term 2014.

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Volunteer Opportunities

Clinical Vaccine Trials The Jenner Institute are developing vaccines against major global diseases and want healthy volunteers aged 18 to 55 to take part in trials of them.

OxWATCH study now recruiting! We are looking for women between the ages of 18 and 40 who are hoping to become pregnant with their first child, and have an Oxfordshire home address

Other Items of Interest

Attention all Twitter users Keep up to date with news from across the Division

Introduction to Research Ethics Monday 6 October, 14:30–17:30, John Radcliffe Hospital. Medical Sciences Skills Training Course. More courses available, see <http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/skillstraining/coursecatalogue/coursecalendar>

ERC Starting and Consolidator Workshops: October/November

Oxford Medical Alumni Weekend and Osler Lecture 19–21 September, with Osler Lecture, "Good Ageing: How should we pay for care when we are elderly?" on 20 September

Navigator Development Programme for Men

2014 Annual Uehiro Lectures Series title: Fellow Creatures: The Moral and Legal Standing of Animals. Speaker: Professor Christine M. Korsgaard (Harvard University)

And Finally...

Join the Divisional Office staff at the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support

Friday 26 September, 10:30am–12 noon,

Entrance Foyer Level 3 (opposite lecture theatre 2, Academic Centre), John Radcliffe Hospital

The Divisional Office staff will unleash their baking prowess on MSD and JR staff and students at the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Please pop by and show your support for this annual fundraising event, by treating yourself to a coffee, cake or cookie!

If you'd like to donate a baked good to sell, please bring it along to the Level 3 foyer at 10:15am.



10th Medical Sciences DPhil Day Prize Winners announced

On the 8 July, 2014, 150 DPhil students from across the division attended the 10th Medical Sciences DPhil Day at the John Radcliffe Hospital. This year's successful day included talks, poster sessions, and a keynote address delivered by Professor Sir Marc Feldmann.

The following prizes were awarded:

1st Prize Talk: Matthew Frise, Department of Physiology Anatomy and Genetics

2nd Prize Talk: Alexandra O. Constantinescu, Oxford Centre for Functional MRI of the Brain, Nuffield Department of Clinical Neuroscience.

Poster Prizes went to Friederike Winter, Department of Physiology Anatomy and Genetics and Sarah Dixon-Clarke, Structural Genomics Consortium, Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine.

And the prize for Best Question went to Ella Fung, Cancer Research UK and Medical Research Council Oxford Institute for Radiation Oncology, Department of Oncology.

Important Updates

Changes to Medical Research Fund (MRF)

We have made some changes to the Medical Research Fund (MRF) to encourage applications from across the Medical Sciences Division and also to make it easier to apply for family leave bridging costs. If you are planning on applying to the MRF please ensure you read the updated guidance, which includes a clearer application process and criteria.

The Medical Research Fund (MRF) is an internal fund to support medical research conducted in departments of the Medical Sciences Division. It supports research through three funding streams. The [bridging salary scheme](#) accepts applications to augment existing externally funded research activity, by providing short-term (typically 3 months) funding to cover salary costs. This can be used to retain experienced research staff between external research grants and to support family leave costs. The [pump priming funding scheme](#) accepts applications for small awards (up to £10k) to enable investigators to obtain pilot data to support larger scale applications for external research funding in the future. Non-staff research costs, including equipment, are eligible. Priority will be given to those applications that demonstrate matching funding from other sources. The [clinical pre-fellowship scheme](#) accepts applications for short-term (up to 3 months) funding to cover the salary costs of clinicians who will shortly begin an externally funded research training fellowship at Oxford. (All weblinks only available on university networked systems.)

Please read the [Medical Research Fund guidance](#) and the [FAQ](#) for information on how to apply. The new application forms must be used for applications for the next round which closes on the Monday 13 October 2014.

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And the prize for Best Question went to Ella Fung, Cancer Research UK and Medical Research Council Oxford Institute for Radiation Oncology, Department of Oncology.

Research Services Science Area team moves to Robert Hooke Building

The Research Services Science Team has now moved offices to new space on the **second floor** of the **Robert Hooke Building**, Parks Road (the building is also home to the Department of Computing Science and the MPLS Business Development team).

Their new telephone numbers can be found on the RS website at <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/researchsupport/contacts/rs/science/> (please note, all extensions should be prefixed with the number 6, not 2 as currently shown, for external calls). The door security/buzzer system has not yet been fitted but in the meantime please telephone the member of the team you wish to see, or Athis Vadivale on x16502, and they will come down to meet you at the front entrance.

Bringing Isis Innovation closer to researchers

Isis Innovation is pleased to announce the opening of five new hot-desks in Oxford University departments

These hot-desks will serve as easy access points for Oxford researchers, students and support staff to talk to Isis about intellectual property, technology transfer or academic consultancy.

The creation of the Isis hot-desks has been achieved in collaboration with the hosting departments and all are now fully operational. It is hoped that the presence of Isis staff at the hot-desks will make it easier for staff from both hosting and nearby departments to access Isis expertise and advice.



The departments currently hosting new Isis hot-desks are as follows:

DPAG (Le Gros Clark building basement):

- Every Monday 9am-5pm
- Hot-desk co-ordinator weng.wong@isis.ox.ac.uk
- Tel no. during hot-desk hours: 01865 (2)82349 and (2)82348

The Kennedy Institute (room 10.40):

- Every Friday 9am–5pm
- Hot-desk co-ordinator [✉Nikolaos.chalkias@isis.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Nikolaos.chalkias@isis.ox.ac.uk)
- Tel no. during hot-desk hours: 01865 (6)12661

Research Services at Worcester Street (ground floor in KEIT office):

- Every Friday 9am–12 noon
- Hot-desk co-ordinator [✉Mairi.gibbs@isis.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Mairi.gibbs@isis.ox.ac.uk)
- Tel no. during hot-desk hours: 01865 61658001865 616580

Begbroke Science Park (Begbroke farm house):

- Every Monday 12 noon–5pm
- Hot-desk co-ordinator [✉Richard.holliday@isis.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Richard.holliday@isis.ox.ac.uk)
- Tel no. during hot-desk hours: 01865 (2)83786

SBS Launchpad:

- Every Friday 9am–12 noon
- Hot-desk co-ordinator [✉Roy.azoulay@isis.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Roy.azoulay@isis.ox.ac.uk)
- No phone number – please email or ask James Murray, the Launchpad Curator

These hot-desks complement the usual weekly drop-in sessions that Isis already runs in Chemistry, Engineering, Physics, the WIMM and bi-monthly in Maths. **A further new hot-desk in Plant Sciences is planned** and Isis will continue to explore the opportunity to establish others in locations such as the John Radcliffe hospital.

Current drop-in sessions in other departments:

Engineering

- Every Wednesday morning in the Holder Building Café
- Contact Andy Robertson [✉andy.robertson@isis.ox.ac.uk](mailto:andy.robertson@isis.ox.ac.uk)

Chemistry

- Every Friday morning 9–12 at Angela Russell's office, 2nd floor CRL
- Contact Andrew Bowen [✉andrew.bowen@isis.ox.ac.uk](mailto:andrew.bowen@isis.ox.ac.uk)

Physics

- Every Thursday morning 9–12 in the Denys Wilkinson Café West with occasional alternating visits in the Clarendon Lab Café East
- Contact Jon Carr [✉jon.carr@isis.ox.ac.uk](mailto:jon.carr@isis.ox.ac.uk)

WIMM

- Every Thursday morning 10–12, Central café in the WIMM: watch for announcements on the flat screen
- Contact Matt Carpenter [✉matthew.carpenter@isis.ox.ac.uk](mailto:matthew.carpenter@isis.ox.ac.uk)

Maths

- Bi-monthly, New Common Room in the Andrew Wiles Building
- Contact Andy Robertson [✉andy.robertson@isis.ox.ac.uk](mailto:andy.robertson@isis.ox.ac.uk)

If you have any questions about the hot-desks please contact Isis's University Relationship Manager, Dr Fiona Story, on [✉Fiona.story@isis.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Fiona.story@isis.ox.ac.uk). If you would like to book an appointment at a hot-desk please email the relevant co-ordinator or call the hot-desk number during its opening hours.

We are keen that we optimise the use of these hot-desks and welcome feedback from researchers on all aspects of their operation. If you are interested in establishing an Isis hot-desk in your department please contact Fiona Story – we would be pleased to hear from you.

About Isis Innovation

Isis manages the University's intellectual property portfolio, working with University researchers on identifying, protecting and marketing technologies through licensing, spin-out company formation, consulting and material sales. Isis funds patent applications and legal costs, negotiates exploitation and spin-out company agreements, and identifies and manages consultancy opportunities. Isis works on projects from all areas of the University's research activities: life sciences, physical sciences, social sciences and humanities. Isis provides access to Oxford's expertise and provides researchers with advice on commercialisation.

Isis Innovation Limited is wholly owned by the University of Oxford.

Isis helps Oxford University researchers to commercialise intellectual property arising from their research: patenting, licensing, spin-out companies.

Isis manages Oxford University Consulting which helps Oxford University researchers to identify and manage consulting opportunities and helps clients access experts from Oxford's world-class, interdisciplinary research base.

<http://www.isis-innovation.com>

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You'll need Skype CreditFree via Skype

Oxford University Hospitals wants you!

Did you know that staff working for the University of Oxford in a department within the Medical Sciences Division can apply to become a member of the staff constituency?



Staff who work for the MSD are not automatically members even if they work on a Trust site – you need to sign up.

We hope that many MSD staff will want to become members and have a say in our future. Members are able to **vote** or **stand for election** to the Council of Governors and are sent regular **newsletters** about updates on what is happening at the Trust as well as **invitations** to events.

Staff can become members, either by completing a form, or by applying on-line at www.ouh.nhs.uk/ft.

Funding Opportunities

Reminder: Returning Carer's Fund

A Returning Carer's Fund has been established as part of the Vice-Chancellor's Diversity Fund for the advancement of diversity among academic and research staff at Oxford. Applications are invited from women and men for funding of up to £5k to support the development of their research career following a break to care for a child or close relative. In exceptional circumstances, larger amounts may be awarded, up to an absolute maximum of £10k.

Support could include, but is not limited to: teaching buy-out, training or professional development, short-term secondments, conference attendance, short-term research or administrative assistance, funding visits to Oxford by your research collaborator(s).

The next closing date for applications is **February 28 2015**. For further details and a copy of the application form see <http://intranet.medsci.ox.ac.uk/returning-carers-fund> or contact Jennifer Anderson (Athena SWAN advisor and facilitator at jennifer.anderson@medsci.ox.ac.uk or athena-swan@medsci.ox.ac.uk).

Image: [Ulla Räisänen](#) (Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences) and her daughter at the department's family summer party. Taken by Nasir Hamid. Copyright: Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences



Changes to Medical Research Fund (MRF)

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Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, Modular training partnerships

These enable research organisations to collaborate with industry to develop industrially-relevant short training courses at master's level, mainly to industry employees. Closing date: 15 Oct 14

Pump-prime funding is available for the development of individual training models, preparation and marketing of course materials, course launch, distance learning, web-based learning packages or residential seminar and workshop sessions. The guideline funding amount is £20,000 per module.

http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/business/training/modular_training.html



BIAL Award in Medical Sciences and in Clinical Medicine

200,000 and 100,000 Euro respectively. Deadline: 31st October

Following its mission to support medical research, the BIAL Foundation is promoting the 16th edition of the BIAL Award. This year, the Award celebrates 30 years since its first edition. The applications to this 16th edition are open until October 31st.

The BIAL Award 2014 establishes two different prizes: the "BIAL Merit Award in Medical Sciences" and the "BIAL Award in Clinical Medicine".

– **BIAL Merit Award in Medical Sciences** (200,000 Euro) – designed to distinguish an intellectual work written specifically for this purpose, on any freely chosen medical topic. Only research works of high quality and scientific relevance will be considered.

– **BIAL Award in Clinical Medicine** (100,000 Euro) – designed to distinguish an intellectual work written specifically for this purpose on any freely chosen medical topic on clinical practice. Only works of high quality and relevance will be considered. At least one of the authors must

be a native physician of a Portuguese speaking country.

The Regulation and Application Form of the BIAL Award 2014 are available at:

http://www.bial.com/en/bial_foundation.11/bial_award.17/bial_award_2014.136/16th_edition_of_the_bial_award.a268.html

In case of doubts or questions please feel free to contact: fundacao@bial.com

Fellowship Opportunities

RSIV [and clinical equivalent] College Associations

University College is inviting applications from senior researchers for fixed-term, but renewable fellowships at the college

1. Summary

University College is inviting applications for association from holders of RSIV posts and holders of other full professor-level posts, including clinical ones, employed by the University of Oxford and based in Oxford who are currently without a college association. Successful candidates will be elected to a Special Supernumerary Fellowship, for three years in the first instance with the possibility of renewal. In assessing applications attention will be paid to the need for subject balance alongside the criteria of academic distinction and a willingness to engage with and contribute to the College. The College would particularly welcome applications from suitably qualified women.



2. The College

Tracing its origins back to 1249, University College has a claim to be Oxford's oldest college. It is an academically ambitious college with excellent welfare and support systems, including a range of generous bursaries. The College's students come from a wide range of backgrounds, with some 360 undergraduates and 200 graduate students from over 50 countries.

3. Contribution to academic life

There will be an expectation that successful candidates will make an active contribution to the academic life of the College and contribute to its research culture in one or more ways. Applicants are invited to outline in their application what their proposed contributions would be. Examples of contribution include, but are not limited to, the following:

- acting as college advisers to postgraduate students at the College and attending annual graduate progress reviews;
- sitting on the College's Research Committee, which administers Visiting Fellowships and research grants;
- convening research panels;
- supporting postgraduate and final-year undergraduate discussion forums;
- taking part in the selection of graduates and/or undergraduates (subject to experience and expertise);
- acting as mentors to Junior Research Fellows;
- attending research presentations given by graduates and the graduate dinners;
- contributing to teaching.

4. Benefits

Successful candidates will be elected to a Special Supernumerary Fellowship and be granted full membership of the Senior Common Room. They will have Common Table dining rights (ie free lunch and dinner throughout the year except when the kitchens are closed), with the right to invite guests (at own expense) and an entertainment allowance of £177. They will also have the opportunity to apply to the College Research Support Fund (terms available on request).

5. Process of application

Applications are invited from researchers without a current college association who are working in one of the areas to which the College admits graduate or undergraduate students. Details can be found on the College's website at www.univ.ox.ac.uk

How to apply: There is no application form. Please send the following to the Academic Services Manager (recruitment@univ.ox.ac.uk), University College, Oxford, OX1 4BH, to arrive by **noon on Friday 14 November 2014:**

- a covering letter
- a curriculum vitae (no more than 4 pages of A4)
- a statement of how you would contribute to the intellectual life of the College, and how your research profile would build on the existing academic strengths of the College (1 side of A4 will suffice)
- the names and contact details (including email addresses) of two referees (the College reserves the right to seek further independent references)

Electronic applications are preferred.

Interviews are expected to take place in early December 2014.

Informal enquiries can be directed to the Master, Sir Ivor Crewe

(ivor.crewe@univ.ox.ac.uk) or the Senior Tutor (anne.knowland@univ.ox.ac.uk) (or by ringing Dr Knowland on (2)76673).

Colt Foundation Fellowships in Occupational/Environmental Health

The Colt Foundation is interested in high quality research projects in the field of occupational and environmental health, particularly those aimed at discovering the cause of illnesses arising from conditions in the workplace.

The Foundation awards Fellowships each year to persons who are qualified in science or medicine who are carrying out research within the area of occupational and environmental health at a UK university. The Fellowship is normally for three years and the research is expected to lead to a PhD degree.

Application deadline: Monday 13 October.

For further details, please see <https://www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk/study-or-funding/prof-doctorates/colt-foundation-fellowships-occupationalenvironmental-health-2014>

Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) Flowers Fellowship

3 month fellowship available to PhD student

The Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) is offering a three month fellowship to a PhD student from a UK university funded by the Nuffield Foundation in memory of its late Chairman, Lord Flowers of Queen's Gate.

The Flowers Fellow will work on a project in any area of science or technology policy and may produce a short briefing note (a 'POSTnote'), another form of report, or work with Select Committees in a way to be agreed with POST. The Fellow will be based at the offices of POST at Parliament in London.

The Flowers Fellowship is open to postgraduate students registered for a PhD in a UK university in any field of science or technology. Applicants must be in their penultimate or final year of part-time or full-time study (starting in 2014/15) and will be required to obtain approval from their PhD Supervisor and Head of Department. The Fellow will receive a three month extension to their PhD stipend at a rate equivalent to their current PhD maintenance stipend (capped at £6,000). For students who are based outside reasonable commuting distance of London, an extra allowance will contribute to travel and accommodation needs. The Nuffield Foundation will reimburse the university for these costs. The Fellow will be responsible for suspending her/his university registration for the duration of the Fellowship. University fees will not be covered by this award.

The Flowers Fellowship is a competitive award and interviews will be held at POST's Westminster offices in London in October. The offer is conditional on obtaining parliamentary security clearance. The successful applicant can take up the fellowship from January 2015 onwards.

More details can be found at:

<http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/nuffield-foundation-flowers-fellowship>

<http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/offices/bicameral/post/fellowships/>

Engagement Opportunities

Oxford Sparks Public Engagement Training

Oxford Sparks (www.oxfordsparks.net) is running further training courses and networking events in public engagement and science communication during Michaelmas Term 2014.

Introduction to Public Engagement and Science Communication

1300–1500, Monday 13 October 2014

1130–1330, Friday 17 October 2014

1400–1600, Friday 24 October 2014

A whistle stop tour which will get you considering the needs of different audiences, meeting researchers who actively engage with the public and thinking about how you might share your research with the public.

For further details and to register: <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/course-signup/rest/course/4D00D40104>



Social Media for Communicating Science

1400–1600, Tuesday 4 November 2014

1400–1600, Tuesday 3 February 2015

A practical introduction to using social media tools to develop and maintain an online presence, and how to start defining your audience and developing strategies for engagement.

For further details and to register: <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/course-signup/rest/course/4D00D40110>

Narrative Skills

Details TBC

Using your own research and interests, learn the essential ingredients of a compelling narrative, how to draw an audience into a story and keep them involved, and how to turn your story into an effective 'pitch'.

Networking Event: Seven Secrets of Great Videos

1230–1330, Thursday 30 October 2014

Making videos? Getting other people to make videos? Regardless of what you're planning, this fun, gently interactive talk will show what separates good video from great.

For further details and to register: <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/course-signup/rest/course/4D004D100894>

These courses are available to all graduate students and research staff, and are part of a wider range of researcher training opportunities: <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/portal/hierarchy/grad/>

Further information on training opportunities in public engagement and science communication, at Oxford and further afield, can be found on the Oxford Sparks website: www.oxfordsparks.net/training

Wellcome Trust Provision for Public Engagement

The Wellcome Trust now provide dedicated funding for public engagement within research projects

This new [Provision for Public Engagement](#) enables researchers to incorporate public engagement activities, and their associated costs, into research projects.

The Provision for Public Engagement can be included in new grant applications or can applied for to supplement existing grants with at least two years of funding remaining.



Volunteer Opportunities

Clinical Vaccine Trials

The Jenner Institute are developing vaccines against major global diseases and want healthy volunteers aged 18 to 55 to take part in trials of them.

Participants will be paid compensation for expenses and time put aside to take part. Each study will require short visits to an outpatient clinic over 4-12 months. To find out more and register, visit the [Jenner Institute website](#).



OxWATCH study now recruiting!

We are looking for women between the ages of 18 and 40 who are hoping to become pregnant with their first child, and have an Oxfordshire home address

The **OxWATCH Study** – a unique collaboration between the NHS and three departments of the University of Oxford: the Nuffield Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, the Department of Primary Care Health Sciences and the Cardiovascular Clinical Research Facility at the John Radcliffe Hospital – is the first of its kind to research the wellbeing and lifestyle of women planning a pregnancy in order to understand the likelihood of different diseases in later life. To build a full and detailed picture, thousands of young Oxfordshire women who have not yet started their families are invited to join the pioneering project.

Some women develop conditions such as diabetes, pre-eclampsia and depression during pregnancy. These women are more at risk of associated complications later in life. To better understand which women might develop these conditions, we are measuring cardiovascular, metabolic and psychological health throughout the pregnancy and comparing them to those noted before.

Study participants will be asked to complete a wellbeing and lifestyle questionnaire and will have simple and easy measurements taken including a blood pressure, a blood test and a heart scan. The research team will then follow the women through any subsequent pregnancy and beyond.

The team hopes this will lead to better preparation for pregnancy, improved methods of preventing complications and earlier detection of problems when they do arise.

The OxWATCH team wants to recruit 300 women in the first pilot-phase and then expand the numbers to 12,000 women in Oxfordshire and other national centres.

For more information on taking part in the OxWATCH study please visit www.osprea.ox.ac.uk/oxwatch and fill out the contact form, or call **01865 572259**



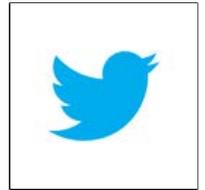
Other Items of Interest

Attention all Twitter users

Keep up to date with news from across the Division

Many departments, units and groups from across Medical Sciences are now on Twitter. The Divisional Office regularly tweets news, upcoming events, and other items of interest [@OxfordMedSci](#) and a list of other MSD users can be found [here](#) (departments, units, groups etc.) and [here](#) (people).

To be added to either list, please email communications@medsci.ox.ac.uk



Introduction to Research Ethics

Monday 6 October, 14:30–17:30, John Radcliffe Hospital. Medical Sciences Skills Training Course. More courses available, see <http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/skillstraining/coursecatalogue/coursecalendar>

Apply Online – <http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/skillstraining/coursecatalogue/coursecalendar/allcourses/60>

Session Aim

To encourage participants to articulate and reflect on the ethical concerns faced by researchers. Participants will leave with a general grasp of the kinds of reasoning that is involved in the ethical consideration of research involving human beings. Although it is not the primary focus of the session, there will be some discussion of the structures and procedures in place in the university and the NHS for the scrutiny of research. Researchers carrying out research involving humans are encouraged to attend one of these introductory sessions.

Course Format

The session will centre on a case study designed to bring out the major ethical issues in research involving humans. The group will then consider more formally the structure of the concerns raised by the case study and its discussion.

Course Content

- Importance of research: 'why do research?' as an introduction to ethics
- Ethics and Science: what is good research?
- Risks and Benefits: principles vs. balancing
- Consent and confidentiality: autonomy and privacy

Participant Numbers

Maximum 25

A complete list of Medical Sciences Skills Training courses is available [here](#)

ERC Starting and Consolidator Workshops: October/November

This is an early heads-up that the Research Services European Team will be running two workshops in October / early November for Oxford University ERC Starting and Consolidator grant applicants.

The ERC submission deadline for the 2015 Starting Grant call is 3 February (the call opens 7 October)

The ERC submission deadline for the 2015 Consolidator Grant call is 12 March (the call opens 13 November)

Our workshops will be identical and will cover both schemes. More information will be circulated later this month, the expectation being that the workshops will be similar in form to those given earlier this year for the 2014 call deadlines.

The workshop dates and venues are:

Wednesday, 15 October (pm) in the Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics in the Parks Road Science Area, and

Monday 3 November (pm) in the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics on the Old Road Campus, Headington

Attendees of all disciplines are welcome at both workshops.

Registration is already open by [doodle poll](#) so please feel free to pass the dates on as appropriate.

Oxford Medical Alumni Weekend and Osler Lecture

19–21 September, with Osler Lecture, “Good Ageing: How should we pay for care when we are elderly?” on 20 September



Alumni Weekend

Join us in Oxford this September for the eighth Alumni Weekend in the city. Whether you can join us for three days or can only drop in for a few hours, we hope you'll find something in our programme to tempt and inspire you.

For more details, please see <https://www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk/>

2014 Osler Lecture

“Good Ageing: How should we pay for care when we are elderly?”

Speaker: Sir Andrew Dilnot, Warden of Nuffield College, Chairman of the UK Statistics Authority
Saturday 20 September 2014 11.00am at the University of Oxford Museum of Natural History



In 1716 Christopher Bullock wrote in *The Cobler of Preston* ‘Tis impossible to be sure of anything but Death and Taxes...’

In July 2011, on the release of *Fairer Funding for All* (the Commission’s recommendations to Government), Chairman of the Commission on the Funding of Care and Support, Sir Andrew Dilnot commented, ‘We should be celebrating the fact we are living longer and that younger people with disabilities are leading more independent lives than ever before. But instead we talk about the “burden of ageing” and individuals are living in fear, worrying about meeting their care costs.’

The President of Oxford Medical Alumni and the Head of the Medical Sciences Division warmly invite you to come to join Sir Andrew for an insider’s view of the issues – and the implications – of the findings and recommendations of the Commission Report. How might government, communities, and we as individuals, tackle the problems that arise as medicine makes it more likely that we will live longer, even with disability? As the generation of ‘baby boomers’ moves beyond retirement how will society cope?

A reception and lunch will be held afterwards in the Medical Sciences Teaching Centre for Oxford Medical Alumni. [Book here](#) for the reception and lunch.

Navigator Development Programme for Men

Navigator results in long term, high quality benefits for individuals and their organisations. Grounded in reality, it enables men to identify the clear and practical steps they want to take in their lives, and then develop the skills and determination to do something about them.

Navigator consists of four whole-day workshops spread over three months (**attendance at all four workshops is required**); a workbook for individual work and reflection; the encouragement of effective networks within the group; peer coaching to enable long term, sustainable progress. It will help you to find ways to build upon your own experience to date and support you in deciding the future direction of your career, whether that is within or outside academia.

The University also offers a sister programme to Navigator, called [Springboard](#) (for women).

Testimonials from Past Participants

- I think that one of the big messages I took from the course, due in part to the speakers, was that taking responsibility yourself for career decisions is really the only choice.
- It’s been a good eye-opener for me and has resulted in my experimenting with different approaches to work and decision making.
- I have already achieved a healthier work/life balance and I have begun to develop a strategy to fulfil my long-term goals.
- I have learned to work on my interpersonal skills and to recognize both positive and not so positive aspects of those skills and ways to deal with it.
- All the transferable skills we have worked on in the course are of great value for successful career development.

Intended For – Male graduate research students in their second year and above, and postdoctoral researchers and contract research staff.

Number of Place – 25

Speaker(s) – Richard Lamb

Date/Time – Michaelmas Term (academic year 2014/2015) presentation of this course are: Friday, 10th October; Friday, 31st October; Friday, 21st November and Friday, 12th December 2014 (9.00am–5.00pm).

Venue – Careers Service

Booking – To apply for a place on the 2014 programme please complete the [application form](#) and return it to skillscourses@mpls.ox.ac.uk
When registering for this course, please check our [Terms and Conditions](#).

2014 Annual Uehiro Lectures

Series title: Fellow Creatures: The Moral and Legal Standing of Animals. Speaker: Professor Christine M. Korsgaard (Harvard University)

How should we human beings treat the other animals? What do we owe to them, if anything? These are not only questions that we have to address at the legal and political level, but also questions that we all make personal decisions about every day of our lives. We make them when we decide what to eat, what to wear, what products to use, what medications to take, and how to use land. In these lectures I will raise some fundamental questions about the moral and legal standing of the other animals: about the basis of our moral obligations to them, and what those obligations are, and about whether it makes sense to think that animals might have legal rights.



Venue: All three lectures will take place in the Lecture Theatre, Oxford Martin School, Old Indian Institute, Oxford OX1 3BD

Booking required: Please book online at <http://bookwhen.com/uehiro> *early booking recommended to avoid disappointment*

Lecture One: Animals, Human Beings, and Persons

Monday 1 December, 4.30 – 6.30pm

Legitimate differences in the ways we treat animals, human beings, and other entities that have moral or legal rights – legal persons – must be based on the differences between them. Philosophers have traditionally cited a variety of factors – rationality, sentience, having interests – as morally significant. In this lecture I discuss what the morally relevant similarities and differences between these kinds of entities might be.

Lecture Two: The Moral Standing of Animals

Tuesday 2 December, 5–7pm

Human attitudes towards the other animals exhibit a curious instability. Nearly everyone thinks we have some obligations with respect to the other animals – that whenever possible, we should treat them “humanely.” Yet human beings have traditionally regarded nearly any reason we might have for overriding this obligation, short of malicious enjoyment of their suffering, as a sufficient reason. We kill or hurt animals in order to eat them, in order to make useful or desirable products out of them, because we can learn from experimenting on them, because they are interfering with our own agricultural projects, or even for sport. Could it really be true that animals have moral standing, but that it never has any force against human interests? In this lecture I will present an account of why animals have moral standing, based in Kant’s moral philosophy, according to which the answer to this question is no. Our duties to animals are more stringent than our current practices reflect.

Lecture Three: The Question of Legal Rights for Animals

Wednesday 3 December, 5–7pm

The instability in human attitudes about the moral standing of animals is reflected in our laws. Animal welfare laws offer animals some legal protections, but those protections do not take the form of animal rights. Partly as a consequence, these laws are often ineffective. Organizations with an interest in activities that are harmful to animals, such as factory farms or experimental laboratories, often manage to get their own activities exempt from the restrictions or the animals they deal with exempt from the protections. On the other hand, many people find the idea that animals either should have legal rights or do have natural rights absurd. Rights, many believe, only exist among those who can stand in reciprocal relations to each other, and who can have obligations correlative to their rights. Animals do not stand in such relations to us, or to each other. In this lecture I will argue for a Kantian conception of a kind of legal rights for animals is not subject to these objections.

Bio: Christine M. Korsgaard is Arthur Kingsley Porter Professor of Philosophy at Harvard University. She got her BA from the University of Illinois at Urbana and her PhD at Harvard, where she studied with John Rawls. After working at Yale, the University of California at Santa

Barbara, and the University of Chicago, she returned to Harvard in 1991. She works in moral philosophy and its history, the theory of practical reason, the philosophy of action, and personal identity. She is the author of *The Sources of Normativity* (Cambridge 1996), an expansion of her 1992 Tanner Lectures on the grounds of obligation; *Creating the Kingdom of Ends* (Cambridge 1996), a collection of papers on Kant's moral philosophy and Kantian approaches to issues in contemporary philosophy; *The Constitution of Agency* (Oxford 2008), a collection of papers on practical reason and moral psychology, and *Self-Constitution: Agency, Identity, and Integrity* (Oxford 2009), an account of practical reason and obligation that grounds them in the nature of agency. She is currently working on *The Natural History of the Good*, a book about the place of value in nature.

Please book online at <http://bookwhen.com/uehiro> ***early booking recommended to avoid disappointment***