

IN THIS ISSUE

[Join The Conversation](#)

[Sixty Seconds with...Dr Richard Liwicki, Research Services](#)

[Athena SWAN News](#)

[IT News](#)

[Library News](#)

[Opportunities and Updates](#)

[And Finally....Find out what's going on across Medical Sciences](#)

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 5 October. Delivery date: Monday 12 October

Sign up [here](#) to receive a weekly digest of all events/seminars/talks/workshops taking place across the Division.



JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Oxford has recently become a member of *The Conversation* – an online source of thought-provoking articles written by researchers and academics for the public in the UK and globally.

It provides a platform for researchers to raise the profile of their research and engage the wider world, with the freedom to discuss topical issues in a more nuanced way than is typically offered by traditional media outlets and without the risk of commentary being taken out of context.

The articles are often picked up by other media (including the BBC, The Guardian, The Washington Post) resulting in even greater reach. To date, over 200 Oxford researchers and academics, at all levels, have published articles attracting 8 million readers from across the world including other academics, policymakers, funders, the media and the public.

Potential authors can set up a [Profile](#) on *The Conversation* website and users can sign up to become a [Reader](#), which allows you to comment on articles and receive the daily newsletter.

For more information and guidance on how to get involved, please visit our [website](#) or email communications@medsci.ox.ac.uk.

SIXTY SECONDS WITH ...

In this issue, we talk to Dr Richard Liwicki, Deputy Director, Research Services. When Richard isn't busy supporting academics and scientists throughout the grant process, you can find him tending grapes and producing wine at Oxfordshire's oldest vineyard.

Tell us a little about your role and the work of [Research Services \(RS\)](#) and the [Joint Research Office \(JRO\)](#).

I was recruited to establish a satellite office of Research Services for the Medical School (in the pre-Division era) more years ago than I care to remember: David Bryan was appointed as Secretary to the Medical School at about the same time. Prior to this I was a lecturer at the National University of Singapore (biochemistry and genetics) and then worked in the research councils. Since joining Research Services I have held various posts culminating in my current role as Deputy Director based back within the "satellite" office supporting the Medical Sciences Division.

[Read more...](#)



ATHENA SWAN NEWS

In this issue:

- (1) [ParentsNet – A forum for parents](#)
- (2) [Ad Feminam](#)
- (3) [Advance notification of the third rounds of the Vice Chancellor's Diversity Fund and Returning Carers' Fund](#)
- (4) [Staff Networks](#)
- (5) [Events: Women in Science talks, Welcome Event for Research Staff, Ada Lovelace Symposium](#)
- (6) [Articles and Resources](#)

[Read more...](#)



In this issue:

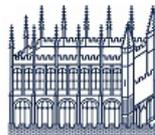
- (1) [IT Courses – October – December Schedule](#)
- (2) [Analysing and Managing Data – practical taught courses from the IT Learning Programme](#)
- (3) [Computer-marking of free text answers to tests and quizzes](#)
- (4) [IT Service Desk new number](#)
- (5) [Research data management induction resources – updated version available](#)

[Read more...](#)

In this issue:

- (1) [New access to UpToDate – including a mobile app!](#)
- (2) [New subscription to BMJ Best Practice – includes mobile app](#)
- (3) [Welcome to new Clinical Medicine students](#)
- (4) [Last chance to view! Marks of Genius: Masterpieces from the Collections of the Bodleian Libraries](#)

[Read more...](#)



Bodleian Libraries
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

OPPORTUNITIES AND UPDATES

Important Updates

Co-ordinated bids process for Sir Jules Thorn Award for Biomedical Research
MRC Research Board and Panel Recruitment 2016 Applications invited. Application deadline: Friday 2 October
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Funding Opportunities

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Funding available to boost the impact of BBSRC-funded research BBSRC Impact Acceleration Account funding, deadline 28 September 2015
NIHR Oxford BRC / BRU Principal Fellow Competition Now Open Submission deadline: Monday 26 October
Oxford Martin School Funding opportunity Navigating progress: managing the risks and rewards of scientific advances. Deadline for Expressions of Interest: 6pm, Monday 16 November 2015 (6th week)

Engagement Opportunities

Perform at Bright Club Oxford Wednesday 21 October
I'm a Scientist Get Me Out of Here Apply now to take part! Deadline Sunday 27 September
Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition Now accepting applications. Deadline Monday 21 September

Volunteer Opportunities

The Teensleep Project Looking for secondary schools in England and Wales that may be interested in participating
Oxford Science Adventures Free activities and real scientific studies at the Experimental Psychology Department
Do you have/had a lazy eye and are aged 18–45? Volunteers needed for brain imaging study to understand how brain chemistry relates to binocular vision
Research on mood and physical activity. Healthy volunteers aged 30–60 needed for research
Do you, or young people you know, want to take part in the 'young people and skin conditions' project?
18–35 year olds needed for EEG study
Women In pain Study, Oxford (WIPSOx) now recruiting participants
'Evaluating Optimal Vaccine Schedules against Ebola' (EVOLVE) study Recruiting now
Healthy volunteers and depressed individuals required for brain scanning study
Are you a good sleeper? Are you between 18–30 years old and living in Oxford? Are you up for pulling an all nighter?
Children and adolescents needed for study examining number skills and brain development
Towards the prevention of RSV: A major cause of infant death A vaccine study involving healthy adults
Males 18–40 needed for study Interested in the workings of the human brain? Want to help Research in Psychiatry?
The Oxford Vaccine Centre Healthy Volunteers Database

Other Items of Interest

Invitation to Welcome Event for Research Staff Tuesday 29 September, 9.15am–2.00pm, Department of Computer Science, Wolfson Building, Parks Road
Know your shopping? Help our researchers by taking part in this short survey Are shop mannequins too thin?
Oxford Biodesign Short Programme A new programme on healthcare technology entrepreneurship, interactive delivery, focusing this year on digital health. Application deadline: Sunday 20 September
'Building a Business' lecture series starts this October Free for staff and students, Saïd Business School
Marie Curie ITN Proposal Writing Workshop Tuesday 13 October, South Parks Road

Navigator Development Programme for Men

GRAD Challenge, have you got what it takes? Challenging course for DPhil students, 21 – 23 September 2015

Improvement FUNDamentals – your route to improve health and care NHS Improving Quality, the University of Jönköping and Qulturum bring you a new and innovative online course for those involved in health and care.

Changes to Oxfordshire’s subsidised bus and Dial-A-Ride services

NatureJobs Career Expo Registration now open, London, 18 September 2015

EMBL–European Bioinformatics Institute Open Day Thursday 29 October

AND FINALLY...FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON ACROSS MEDICAL SCIENCES

As well as publishing [OxfordMedSci News](#) each month (2nd Monday of each month), the divisional office offers a variety of ways for you to keep up to date with activity across the Division:

- + Receive a [weekly digest](#) of all divisional events/seminars/talks/workshops. Sign up [here](#)
- + Join over 4000 people following [@OxfordMedSci](#) on Twitter
- + Visit the [Medical Sciences Divisional website](#), for [internal research funding opportunities](#), a list of useful [resources for researchers](#), a directory of [support and services](#) team and much, much more!



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Dr Richard Liwicki, Deputy Director

In this issue, we talk to Dr Richard Liwicki, Deputy Director, Research Services. When Richard isn't busy supporting academics and scientists throughout the grant process, you can find him tending grapes and producing wine at Oxfordshire's oldest vineyard.

Tell us a little about your role and the work of [Research Services \(RS\)](#) and the [Joint Research Office \(JRO\)](#).

I was recruited to establish a satellite office of Research Services for the Medical School (in the pre-Division era) more years ago than I care to remember: David Bryan was appointed as Secretary to the Medical School at about the same time. Prior to this I was a lecturer at the National University of Singapore (biochemistry and genetics) and then worked in the research councils. Since joining Research Services I have held various posts culminating in my current role as Deputy Director based back within the "satellite" office supporting the Medical Sciences Division.



Research Services has a broad role to facilitate, collaboratively with departmental administrators, the outstanding research undertaken by our academics and scientists. This encompasses a number of functions including reviewing and providing support for the costing and generation of grant proposals; negotiating a huge number of contracts which underpin and facilitate research; providing support for a range of research governance and compliance issues involving human subjects or tissue; risk management and insurance provision; dealing with intellectual property (prior to assigning it (usually to Isis Innovation) for protection and commercialisation). Specifically with respect to Medical Sciences, I have a particular focus upon generating good relationships with our partner NHS Trusts. This led to the creation of the Joint Research Office in May 2011, which brings together the OUHT and University central support services for research in order to streamline clinical research administration and reduce bureaucracy.

What has changed over the years?

Apart from a huge growth in income and the volume of research, the biggest changes have been a commensurate increase in complexity and regulation. One of the challenges has been trying to minimize (it is not possible to eliminate) the resulting bureaucracy for the researchers.

What would make Research Service's role easier?

Many of our academics really do see RS as a part of the team which facilitates research – it is a joy to work with them – but there are a minority who see us as a hurdle and it is those who actually turn us into a hurdle. We cannot do an effective job if we are brought in at the last moment or are not given a full picture within which to work whether it is putting contracts in place or agreeing to sponsor a trial, or some other activity: we need to work with a good understanding of the context and with sufficient time.

What's kept you motivated after all these years?

Several things. A great team of colleagues and a wonderful team spirit. Never knowing what is going to hit my desk next (my academic colleagues can be very "creative" and I see it as RS's job to be equally creative to enable their ideas to come to fruition). Knowing that we have put in place systems and risk management "tools" which enable research to take place at Oxford which probably could not take place at other UK universities (though I am not sure that this is always appreciated!)

The things which keep me sane are my wonderful family and my "hobby" which is growing grapes and making the wine at Oxfordshire's oldest vineyard, [The Bothy Vineyard](#). In a good year we can make about 5,000 bottles (more than I can drink within government guidelines) of some of the best still English wines. So if I look particularly tired in October when we harvest, you will know why.

Athena SWAN News

Contents

1. News:

1. ParentsNet – A forum for parents
2. Ad Feminam
3. Advance notification of the third rounds of the Vice Chancellor's Diversity Fund and Returning Carers' Fund

2. Staff Networks

3. Events:

1. Women in Science Talk by Professor Kathryn S. Lilley
2. Women in Science Talk by Prof Dame Carol Robinson
3. Welcome Event for Research Staff
4. Ada Lovelace Symposium 2015

4. Articles and Resources:

1. New Acas guides on equality and discrimination
2. A Head for Hiring: The Behavioural Science of Recruitment
3. 2000 Women Plenary and Panel Discussion: Leadership, Participation and Equality
4. BBC World Service, The Science Hour

News:

ParentsNet – A forum for parents

ParentsNet is a forum aiming to bring parents in the Medical Sciences Division into contact, giving parents the opportunity to share information and exchange goods and ideas. This month, find information on the upcoming NCT nearly new sale.

The forum has been developed by DPAG following the implementation of their Athena SWAN Bronze Award Action Plan. ParentsNet is hosted on Weblearn, a well-known University system and is subscription-based:

<https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/portal/hierarchy/medsci/department/dpag/parentsnet>

Please visit the site to join or contact Sara Bouskela (admin-pa@dpag.ox.ac.uk) with questions.

[Top](#)

Ad Feminam

Applications are now open for mentees on the 2016–2017 Ad Feminam Mentoring Scheme. Ad Feminam mentoring is intended to encourage women to explore their leadership potential within academic life, or within an administrative career.

Mentees are expected to benefit from:

- an opportunity to explore their leadership potential within academic life, or within an administrative career
- support to take bold steps they otherwise might not take
- mentors providing a sounding board
- an increase in confidence
- help in planning and advancing their careers
- evidence to challenge the status quo and foster the institutional culture change envisaged.

Mentees will have demonstrated an aptitude or potential for leadership and will normally be an academic having completed her first five-year term of office, or a researcher holding a fellowship of at least five years duration, or an administrator graded 9 or above having at least five years' service.

For more information please see www.learning.ox.ac.uk/support/women/adfeminam/

To express your interest in being a mentee on the scheme please email brid.cronin@medsci.ox.ac.uk by Wednesday 21 October.

[Top](#)

Advance notification of the third rounds of the Vice Chancellor's Diversity Fund and Returning Carers' Fund

A call for bids to the Vice Chancellor's Diversity Fund and Returning Carers' Fund will be made at the beginning of Michaelmas term, with deadlines for applications in November (exact dates yet to be agreed). Divisions and departments/faculties will be formally notified of the calls in late September and full details will be available on the Equality and Diversity Unit's website:

VC's Diversity Fund: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/thevice-chancellorsdiversityfund/

Returning Carers' Fund: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/thevice-chancellorsdiversityfund/returningcarersfund/

Revised criteria for both schemes will be published with the calls but are not expected to differ greatly from the existing criteria.

In the case of the Vice Chancellor's Diversity Fund it should be noted that no more than £150,000 will be available in total, and that bids that impact on more than one department are likely to be prioritised. In assessing bids, the Advisory Group on the Fund will consider the range of



projects already agreed and applicants are advised to familiarise themselves with these: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/thevice-chancellorsdiversityfund/projects/. Bids in new areas and those demonstrating innovation will be welcomed, particularly applications for projects addressing a) inequalities in the Humanities and b) race equality, areas which have been notably underrepresented to date.

Any enquiries from prospective applicants should be directed brid.cronin@medsci.ox.ac.uk or the Equality & Diversity Unit (gender.equality@admin.ox.ac.uk).

[Top](#)

Staff Networks

The Equality and Diversity Unit run several networks for University Staff. To join a network, please follow the links below.

Oxford women's network: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/gender/own/

Race Equality Newsletter: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/race/ren/

BME staff network: Contact Hanan.Yanny@sbs.ox.ac.uk (Network Secretary) to join

LGBT staff network: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/sexualorientation/informationforstaff/

Disabled staff network: Contact: Caroline.Moughton@admin.ox.ac.uk to join

See also: The Equality and Diversity Unit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/

[Top](#)

Events:

Women in Science Talk by Professor Kathryn S. Lilley

This seminar series has been designed to look at how people at different stages in their careers combine their working and personal lives.

In this third seminar Professor Kathryn Lilley will talk about her life as a woman in science, the audience will then have an opportunity to share in a question and answer session followed by a chance for informal discussions over coffee and tea.

Professor Lilley is Research Group Head and the Director of the Cambridge Centre for Proteomics. Her laboratory is at the forefront of technology development which enables measurement of the dynamics of the proteome in a high throughput manner in space and time during critical cellular processes such as signalling and differentiation. Her group has also contributed many open-source informatics tools necessary to efficiently mine and visualise the extremely complex data which is produced by spatiotemporal proteomics studies. She is the Athena SWAN champion for the Department of Biochemistry, University of Cambridge, which received a Bronze Award in September 2014.

Date: Wednesday 23 September 2015

Time: 14:00–15:00

Venue: Main Seminar Room, Biochemistry

Contact email: charlotte.smith@bioch.ox.ac.uk

Women in Science Talk by Prof Dame Carol Robinson

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

Professor Robinson is the first female Professor of Chemistry at the University of Oxford and was previously the first female Professor of Chemistry at the University of Cambridge. She is renowned for pioneering the use of mass spectrometry as an analytical tool and for her ground-breaking research into the 3D structure of proteins.

Date: Wednesday 30 September 2015

Time: 12:00–13:00

Venue: Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics (Rooms A & B), Headington OX3 7BN.

If you would like to attend the talk followed by a sandwich lunch, please notify, Donna (brcpa@well.ox.ac.uk).

Welcome Event for Research Staff

The event is an opportunity for you to find out about career and professional development opportunities, the services and support available for you throughout your time as a researcher here at Oxford, and to meet other new researchers over lunch.

The day will comprise:

- Welcome and introduction
- Brief sessions on employment matters, library facilities, IT support, personal and professional development, research staff networks at Oxford and public engagement.
- Refreshment break

- Research excellence and impact, developing your career
- Lunch and information fair
- Optional additional workshops on career planning

Advance booking is required; please [register via the Oxford Learning Institute](#) by midday on Friday 25 September.

Date: Tuesday 29 September

Time: 9.15am–2.00pm

Venue: Department of Computer Science, Wolfson Building, Parks Road

Ada Lovelace Symposium 2015

Registration has opened for the Ada Lovelace Symposium 2015, celebrating the 200th birthday of computer visionary Ada Lovelace. In addition to the main Symposium, there will be a workshop for graduate students and early career researchers on 8 December to discuss the varied cultural legacies of this extraordinary mathematician.

There are a limited number of student scholarships available to cover registration and the conference dinner. These are open to students studying in UK universities in 2015–16. To apply, please send your name, contact details, details of your degree course, a one-page CV, and a statement of not more than 100 words outlining why you would like to come to the conference and what you would get out of it. Applications should be sent to: Victoria McGuinness at victoria.mcguinness@humanities.ox.ac.uk by 13 October. All scholarship winners will have the opportunity to write a blog piece for the Ada Lovelace website.

[Further details](#)

[Registration](#)

Symposium Registration costs £40, and attendance at the Ada Lovelace birthday dinner, in Balliol College, £50.

Date: 9–10 December

Venue: The Mathematical Institute, Oxford

[Top](#)

Articles and Resources:

New Acas guides on equality and discrimination

Acas has published three new guides for employers on equality and avoiding discrimination. The guides set out the legislative requirements very clearly and use practical examples to demonstrate how discrimination might occur in the workplace.

<http://www.acas.org.uk/index.aspx?articleid=1363>

A Head for Hiring: The Behavioural Science of Recruitment

This report from the CIPD shows that employers' initial perceptions of whether a person will be a good fit for a job can be determined by factors which have no real impact on performance, including visual, cultural, demographic and situational factors. It examines existing evidence through a behavioural science lens to offer examples from the literature and practical tips for recruiters. It explores ways to attract candidates best suited to the job and the organisation's broader needs; the use of key selection and assessment tools, and the biases and errors of judgement that may occur when using these tools; and the experience of the candidate during the recruitment process, including the impact of stress and the knock-on effects of the candidate experience on the employer brand.

<http://www.cipd.co.uk/hr-resources/research/head-hiring-behavioural-science-recruitment.aspx>

2000 Women Plenary and Panel Discussion: Leadership, Participation and Equality

The President of St John's, Professor Maggie Snowling introduces a discussion of leadership, participation and equality and how 2000 Women and an ongoing St John's Women's Network might best support women to ever-greater success and fulfilment.

<http://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/2000-women-plenary-and-panel-discussion-leadership-participation-and-equality>

BBC World Service, The Science Hour

A discussion of unconscious bias against women in science includes journalist Rebecca Morelle, who says that when at Oxford University an 'old professor' told her she could not expect much of a career as she was blonde.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p030fw6z> (c 0:35 on the clock)

[Top](#)

IT News

Contents

1. [IT Courses – October – December Schedule](#)
2. [Analysing and Managing Data –practical taught courses from the IT Learning Programme](#)
3. [Computer–marking of free text answers to tests and quizzes](#)
4. [IT Service Desk new number](#)
5. [Research data management induction resources – updated version available](#)

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 Word and Endnote through to programming, database design, Microsoft Project, and Illustrator.

The schedule for October–December will be available from mid–September. For full course descriptions and booking visit courses@it.ox.ac.uk

[Top](#)

Analysing and Managing Data –practical taught courses from the IT Learning Programme

DO YOU NEED to analyse data or to build a database to get your research data properly organised?

The IT Learning Programme have a range of taught courses about statistics and databases.

The database series 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

The introductory statistics courses include sessions about specific tools such as R and SPSS and also introductory sessions on the concepts of statistics for researchers. We have a range of spreadsheet courses including ones that focus on techniques for working with data and data analysis and modelling. See the ITLP Course Catalogue for more details courses@it.ox.ac.uk

[Top](#)

Computer–marking of free text answers to tests and quizzes

Would you like to give your students more frequent feedback on their performance, without increasing your marking load? Would you like to explore the potential of computer–marked assessment but have been put off by the limited range of computer–markable question types? Stephen Pulman (Computing Science) and Damion Young (MSD Learning Technologies) are working on a formative assessment system for Oxford which will mark:

- Free text answers (from a phrase to a few sentences) on the basis of semantic similarity/natural language processing
- Algebraic and numerical answers – including significant figures, decimal places and units
- Alongside the full range of ‘traditional’ computer–marked question types – multiple choice, matching, hotspot, etc.

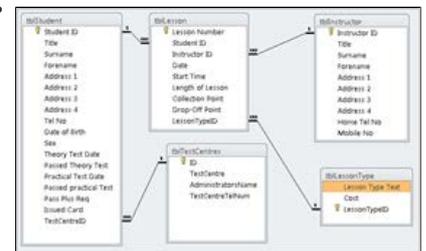
In order to make the system useful for as many disciplines as possible, we are keen to identify others who might be willing to work with us to turn existing hand–marked short–answer questions into computer–marked questions. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact damion.young@medsci.ox.ac.uk or stephen.pulman@cs.ox.ac.uk

[Top](#)

IT Service Desk new number

From Monday 21st September IT Services switches to 12345 (or 01865 612345 from external lines) as the direct telephone number for the central IT Service Desk replacing 81000 and 73200 (which will be phased out for Service Desk contact once users have adopted the new number).

Existing methods of contact for specialist support teams (DARS, Financials, Student Systems, HRIS and Application Support Centres, NSMS, ITS3, and others) will continue to operate and central IT support will continue to be provided in partnership with local college and department IT support staff.



Please note, MSD IT Services help desk number remains the same (01865) 221323 (internal: 21323).

[Top](#)

Research data management induction resources – updated version available

The IT Services Research Support team is pleased to announce the release of an updated version of our [research data management induction resources](#).

Research data management is generally easiest if planned for from the beginning – but in the busyness of academic life, it's also easy to overlook. The resources are designed to provide a quick reminder of some key points. They're suitable for use in induction sessions and similar events for new researchers (including postgraduate research students).

Members of the Research Support team are available to come and present at induction sessions, and to run customized training events for research groups or departments. Please email us on researchsupport@it.ox.ac.uk if you'd like to discuss this further.

The induction resources can be found at <http://research.it.ox.ac.uk/rdm-induction-resources>. Please feel free to circulate this URL to anyone who might find this useful.

[Top](#)

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Contents

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New access to *UpToDate* – including a mobile app!

Access to *UpToDate* has changed to *UpToDate Anywhere* and is now available via an individual username and password. Once registered, you will have access from any web browser and up to two mobile devices, including via the new *UpToDate* app on your smartphone or tablet.

For Medical Students and other members of the MSD:

You'll need to sign up by going to *UpToDate* via Oxlip+ –

<http://oxlip-plus.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/> or SOLO – <http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>.

You'll be taken to the University of Oxford Single Sign-On screen and once you've signed in you'll be taken to a webpage to create an account. You can then use your individual username and password to log in via the web and the *UpToDate* app. Your password will expire every 90 days so you'll need to go through the Oxlip+/SOLO link from time to time to refresh it.

NHS users:

You can still access *UpToDate* via your NHS OpenAthens account but can also register for *UpToDate Anywhere* and use the *UpToDate* app.

To sign up, please go to the OUH intranet home page –

<http://ouh.oxnet.nhs.uk> and click on *UpToDate* from the link on bottom right hand side of the page in the "Clinical Resources" section. Then click on the "Login/Register" tab in the upper right hand corner of the *UpToDate* page. If you already have an account with *UpToDate*, then log in using your existing credentials. To create a new account, please register as a new user and create your username and password.

[Top](#)

New subscription to *BMJ Best Practice* – includes mobile app

We're pleased to announce that we now have a subscription to *BMJ Best Practice*, a resource that provides regularly updated research evidence with guidelines, and offers a step-by-step approach to clinical problems throughout the patient journey. Funding for a one year trial subscription has been generously provided by the Nuffield Oxford Hospitals Fund.

You can access *BMJ Best Practice* from a University networked PC, or via NHS Open Athens at <http://bestpractice.bmj.com/>.

For more details, please see www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/nhs/bmj-best-practice.

The *BMJ Best Practice* app is also available to download – this gives you access to the content offline. Once you've downloaded the app to your mobile device, log in with your credentials and enter the 'Institutional number' – please contact us at hcl-enquiries@bodleian.ox.ac.uk for the code. More details about the app are available at <http://bestpractice.bmj.com/app>.

For more details, please see www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/nhs/bmj-best-practice.

[Top](#)

Welcome to new Clinical Medicine students

Welcome to the new Fourth Year Clinical Medicine students and Graduate Entry Medicine students joining us "up the hill"! We'll be contacting you soon with details of an NHS OpenAthens username – this will let you download the BNF app to your mobile device.

Also, the Libraries provide a wide range of facilities to you, 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](#)

Last chance to view! Marks of Genius: Masterpieces from the Collections of the Bodleian Libraries

Weston Library, Oxford, UK, closes Sept 20, 2015 <http://genius.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>

"...a subtly evolving interpretation of the idea of genius that left me uplifted by the nobility of human intellectual endeavour." The Lancet <http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736%2815%2900109-9/fulltext?rss=yes>

[Top](#)

Opportunities and Updates

Important Updates

Co-ordinated bids process for Sir Jules Thorn Award for Biomedical Research

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I'm a Scientist Get Me Out of Here Apply now to take part! Deadline Sunday 27 September

Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition Now accepting applications. Deadline Monday 21 September

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Oxford Science Adventures Free activities and real scientific studies at the Experimental Psychology Department

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Research on mood and physical activity. Healthy volunteers aged 30–60 needed for research

Do you, or young people you know, want to take part in the 'young people and skin conditions' project?

18–35 year olds needed for EEG study

Women In pain Study, Oxford (WIPSOx) now recruiting participants

'Evaluating Optimal Vaccine Schedules against Ebola' (EVOLVE) study Recruiting now

Healthy volunteers and depressed individuals required for brain scanning study

Are you a good sleeper? Are you between 18–30 years old and living in Oxford? Are you up for pulling an all nighter?

Children and adolescents needed for study examining number skills and brain development

Towards the prevention of RSV: A major cause of infant death A vaccine study involving healthy adults

Males 18–40 needed for study Interested in the workings of the human brain? Want to help Research in Psychiatry?

The Oxford Vaccine Centre Healthy Volunteers Database

Other Items of Interest

Invitation to Welcome Event for Research Staff Tuesday 29 September, 9.15am–2.00pm, Department of Computer Science, Wolfson Building, Parks Road

Know your shopping? Help our researchers by taking part in this short survey Are shop mannequins too thin?

Oxford Biodesign Short Programme A new programme on healthcare technology entrepreneurship, interactive delivery, focusing this year on digital health. Application deadline: Sunday 20 September

'Building a Business' lecture series starts this October Free for staff and students, Saïd Business School

Marie Curie ITN Proposal Writing Workshop Tuesday 13 October, South Parks Road

Navigator Development Programme for Men

GRAD Challenge, have you got what it takes? Challenging course for DPhil students, 21 – 23 September 2015

Improvement FUNdamentals – your route to improve health and care NHS Improving Quality, the University of Jönköping and Qulturum bring you a new and innovative online course for those involved in health and care.

Changes to Oxfordshire's subsidised bus and Dial-A-Ride services

NatureJobs Career Expo Registration now open, London, 18 September 2015

EMBL-European Bioinformatics Institute Open Day Thursday 29 October

And Finally...Find out what's going on across Medical Sciences

As well as publishing *OxfordMedSci News* each month (2nd Monday of each month), the divisional office offers a variety of ways for you to keep up to date with activity across the Division:

- Receive a weekly digest of all divisional events/seminars/talks/workshops. Sign up [here](#)
- Join over 4000 people following [@OxfordMedSci](#) on Twitter
- Visit the Medical Sciences Divisional website, for internal research funding opportunities, a list of useful resources for researchers, a directory of support and services team and much, much more!

Important Updates

Co-ordinated bids process for Sir Jules Thorn Award for Biomedical Research

Each year the Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust offers a single award to support a programme of translational biomedical research. Each institution can submit one bid only and we are seeking outstanding applicants for this highly competitive award. Individuals wishing to be Oxford's preferred bid need to provide the Medical Sciences Divisional Office with an expression of interest no later than **noon on Monday 21st September**.

[Further information](#)

MRC Research Board and Panel Recruitment 2016

Applications invited. Application deadline: Friday 2 October

From 7th September 2015, the MRC will be advertising for new members to serve from 1st April 2016 on the following MRC Funding Boards and Panels:

Boards:

- Infections and Immunity Board
- Molecular and Cellular Medicine Board
- Neurosciences and Mental Health Board
- Population and Systems Medicine Board



Funding Panels:

- Developmental Pathway Funding Scheme
- MRC-NIHR Methodology Research Programme

Training and Career Development Panels:

- Clinical Training and Career Development
- Non-Clinical Training and Career Development
- Skills Development

Interested?

Further information regarding MRC Boards and Panels can be found on their website.

A full list of vacancies and details of the application process can be found here:

www.mrc.ac.uk/board-panel-vacancies

The MRC values the diverse skills and experience of the members of its Boards and Panels. They particularly welcome applications from currently under-represented groups; female and minority ethnic researchers and from those with disabilities.

The closing date for applications is 4pm 2nd October 2015

Join the Conversation

Oxford has recently become a member of *The Conversation* – an online source of thought-provoking articles written by researchers and academics for the public in the UK and globally.



It provides a platform for researchers to raise the profile of their research and engage the wider world, with the freedom to discuss topical issues in a more nuanced way than is typically offered by traditional media outlets and without the risk of commentary being taken out of context.

The articles are often picked up by other media (including the BBC, The Guardian, The Washington Post) resulting in even greater reach. To date, over 200 Oxford researchers and academics, at all levels, have published articles attracting 8 million readers from across the world including other academics, policymakers, funders, the media and the public.

Potential authors can set up a [Profile](#) on *The Conversation* website and users can sign up to become a [Reader](#), which allows you to comment on articles and receive the daily newsletter.

For more information and guidance on how to get involved, please visit our [website](#) or email communications@medsci.ox.ac.uk.

Funding Opportunities

MRC Proximity to Discovery Second Call Now Open

Funding to support industry engagement. Deadline Wednesday 30 September.

Do you have an innovative idea for engagement with industry? Are you planning staff exchanges or developing new ways of showcasing your work to industry partners?

The Medical Research Council's industry engagement fund, Proximity to Discovery (P2D), has been awarded to the University of Oxford to support creative approaches to building relationships with industry partners.

The MRC P2D will support activities to build relationships between the university and industry partners and promote a culture of innovation, including knowledge exchange projects between industry and academia, industry showcases and communications and staff exchanges with industry.

For further details and how to apply [click here](#).

Deadline 12 noon on Wednesday 30 September 2015.

Funding available to boost the impact of BBSRC-funded research

BBSRC Impact Acceleration Account funding, deadline 28 September 2015

The objective of the BBSRC Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) is to boost the impact of BBSRC-funded science. Applications to the BBSRC IAA are invited to support a range of activities, such as, but not limited to:



- developing ways to enable potential users to understand the benefits of the ideas / technology e.g. initiate product design, develop virtual demonstrations, mock-up and models etc.
- 'buying-in' relevant expertise such as those relating to 'market intelligence', understanding the regulatory landscape, establishing early stage freedom to operate
- undertaking initial desk based 'market research', and early stage user intelligence activities
- enabling academics / PDRAs to engage for small amounts of time with a potential user (i.e. pre BBSRC supported schemes such as Flexible Interchange Programme-FLIP and KTP)
- delivering activities to support the engagement of users across BBSRC investment where there is clear value in this approach
- delivering activities to support the development of a KE and Commercialisation culture

Underlying work must be BBSRC-funded, current or previous, or from multiple funding sources which must include BBSRC. The BBSRC-funded work does not have to have taken place at the University of Oxford (i.e. staff who held BBSRC awards elsewhere can apply for funding to develop the impact of that work). BBSRC studentships, and Funding schemes which are or were co-funded between BBSRC and other Research Councils or other funders, count as BBSRC funding for this purpose.

For more information and how to apply visit the Knowledge Exchange and Impact internal funding [webpage](#). Enquiries about the BBSRC IAA are welcome and should be directed to [Matt Smart](#).

NIHR Oxford BRC / BRU Principal Fellow Competition Now Open

Submission deadline: Monday 26 October

The BRC/BRU are pleased to announce a competition for BRC/BRU Principal Fellow awards that will provide both recognition and resources to those who receive the award. NIHR Oxford BRC/BRU Principal Fellows will be appointed through an annual competition, adjudicated by an expert panel. It is expected that the awards will be highly competitive and limited in number.

The BRC and BRU seek to recognise and promote the excellence and commitment of key researchers and leaders who contribute to the success of the BRC and BRU.

BRC/BRU Principal Fellows will receive an award of **£15,000 per year for a period of three years** that may be used flexibly by the fellow to facilitate their translational research programme. BRC/BRU Principal Fellows will also receive opportunities for senior leadership training.

The submission deadline is **26th October 2015**. Please direct any queries regarding the award to Dr Vasiliki Kiparoglou:

vasiliki.kiparoglou@ouh.nhs.uk.

To register your interest, please see <http://oxfordbrc.nihr.ac.uk/professional/nihr-oxford-brc-bru-principal-fellow-competition/>

Oxford Martin School Funding opportunity

Navigating progress: managing the risks and rewards of scientific advances. Deadline for Expressions of Interest: 6pm, Monday 16 November 2015 (6th week)

As the first stage of our selection process we invite Expressions of Interest on researchable questions into how society can steer a path through the unpredictable consequences of scientific progress. Topics might include issues as varied as coping with the consequences of increased longevity, managing scientific interventions in our food supply, the governance of new and potentially dangerous technologies, dealing with diseases of affluence, or mitigating environmental damage as a result of economic development. The theme is designed as a spur to imaginative thinking and so these examples are merely illustrative; the School is open to broad and creative interpretations of the theme.



More information is available at: <http://www.oxfordmartin.ox.ac.uk/research/funding/>.

Engagement Opportunities

Perform at Bright Club Oxford

Wednesday 21 October

Can you turn your work into a short stand-up comedy set? We're looking for researchers, academics and experts from all disciplines (science, arts, humanities – the more the merrier!) to perform in our next show on 21st October.

No experience is necessary. There's a free training session in mid-September (date TBC), and we offer an additional 'set surgery' workshop where you can try out your ideas and get some friendly feedback a couple of weeks before the show.

The excellent [Ivo Graham](#) is compering and [Andy White](#) is headlining – so you'll be in very safe and expert hands!

If you're interested or need more information, get in touch at brightcluboxford@gmail.com.



www.brightcluboxford.blogspot.co.uk

I'm a Scientist Get Me Out of Here

Apply now to take part! Deadline Sunday 27 September

A free online event where school students meet and interact with scientists. It's an **X Factor-style competition** between scientists, where the students are the judges.

Students challenge the scientists over fast-paced online text-based live **CHATs**. They **ASK** the scientists anything they want, and **VOTE** for their favourite scientist to win a prize of £500 to communicate their work with the public.

I'm a Scientist Get Me Out of Here is a brilliant way for researchers to take part in their first public engagement activity (also suits those more experienced) – as an online activity there is no requirement to even leave the lab. T

hey are currently looking for researchers to apply (it's a simple process – individuals fill in this short form:

<http://imascientist.org.uk/scientist-apply>). Deadline 27 September.



Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition

Now accepting applications. Deadline Monday 21 September

Opportunity for academics to showcase their research at this [prestigious exhibition](#).

For further information, please see <https://royalsociety.org/events/summer-science-exhibition/proposals/>.

Deadline 21 September.



Volunteer Opportunities

The Teensleep Project

Looking for secondary schools in England and Wales that may be interested in participating

How do delayed school start times and sleep education affect pupil performance?

Adolescents have a biological predisposition to stay up late and may be sleep deprived. Many adolescents also own devices which could interfere with getting to sleep and are dealing with the stress of exams.

Teensleep builds on research showing that a delay in school start times leads to an improvement in GCSE grades. Allowing teenagers to begin learning when their biological systems are optimised to do so and/or providing sleep education should improve academic, health and sleep outcomes.



If you know any secondary schools in England or Wales that may be interested in participating in Teensleep, please email

adam.jowett@ndcn.ox.ac.uk and visit www.teensleep.org.uk to find out more

Oxford Science Adventures

Free activities and real scientific studies at the Experimental Psychology Department

This October half term, researchers from Oxford's Experimental Psychology Department are running three days of activities for children aged 6–14 years. Parents can book a morning or an afternoon slot on the Tuesday–Thursday of half term, and bring their child along to take part in interactive activities, including real studies looking into children's numeracy, language and attention skills. For more information and to book a place please visit <http://oxfordscienceadventures.weebly.com> or email oxford.science.adventures@gmail.com!

Do you have/had a lazy eye and are aged 18–45?

Volunteers needed for brain imaging study to understand how brain chemistry relates to binocular vision

The Department of Physiology, Anatomy & Genetics are recruiting for individuals aged 18–45 with a history of lazy eye. The purpose of this study is to measure levels of neurochemicals and neuronal responses in volunteers with lazy eye, in order to identify if specific neurochemicals play a role in binocular vision. It involves 1hr behavioural testing at the Department of Physiology, Anatomy & Genetics, one session of brain scanning at the FMRIB Centre in Headington, and potentially a free 1hr screening by an orthoptist at the Eye Clinic, John Radcliffe Hospital.

If you are interested in taking part, please check that you fit the inclusion criteria:

- Aged 18–45
- Do not have a cardiac pacemaker, had not had surgery on heart or brain, had never had an epileptic fit, had never suffered a stroke
- Do not have metallic implants
- Do not have a diagnosed neurological or psychiatric disorder
- If you are a woman, you are not pregnant
- Not claustrophobic

For information in confidence, with no obligation to participate, please contact:

Dr Betina Ip

betina.ip@dpag.ox.ac.uk

01865 282179

Participants will be reimbursed for their time and expenses

MSD-IDREC-C1-2014-146

Research on mood and physical activity. Healthy volunteers aged 30–60 needed for research

Would you be interested to assist advancing research?

- Healthy male and female adults are needed
- You will need to attend one interview, during which you will be trained on the use of the smart phones and the required equipment to self-collect various data
- You will be compensated for your time, travel costs, and continued participation in the project.

To find out more, please contact: Email: understanding-diagnosis@psych.ox.ac.uk

Department of Psychiatry
Warneford Hospital
Warneford Lane, Headington
Oxford, OX3 7JX
Tel: 01865 613 101

Website: <http://conbrio.psych.ox.ac.uk/the-amoss-study>

The research study was approved by the NRES Committee East of England – Norfolk, REC reference: 13/EE/0288



Do you, or young people you know, want to take part in the 'young people and skin conditions' project?

Researchers in the Health Experiences Research Group are looking for **young people aged 12–24** to interview about living with **acne, psoriasis or alopecia**.

The research will lead to the development of new sections on www.healthtalk.org, an award-winning website run by a national charity about real-life experiences of health and illness. The researcher is happy to travel to wherever participants are based in England to interview them about their experiences of having one of these skin conditions.

To find out more about taking part or if you have any questions about the project, please contact Abi

McNiven: abigail.mcniven@phc.ox.ac.uk

Find out more: www.phc.ox.ac.uk/skins

18–35 year olds needed for EEG study

Participants are needed for a study into mirror neuron systems at the Department of Experimental Psychology, South Parks Road. The study includes some questionnaires, tests of imitation skill, and an EEG (electroencephalogram), which involves placing small sensors on the head to record brain wave activity. The study takes 2 hours in total, and participants are paid £20 for their time. Participants must be between ages 18–35, and have no known neurological conditions (e.g. epilepsy). If you are interested in taking part, there are slots available throughout September and term time. Please email hannah.buxton@psy.ox.ac.uk for more information and to book a slot.

Women In pain Study, Oxford (WIPSOx) now recruiting participants

If you are female, between 18–50 & have experienced musculoskeletal (including Fibromyalgia) or pelvic pain for longer than 6 months you may be eligible to take part in this study.

If you would like more information about participating please contact the study team via a private FB message, email, text or call.

Email: Lisa.buck@obs-gyn.ox.ac.uk

Text or call: 07802 861 666

The purpose of this research is to determine the levels of a variety of hormones in women with chronic pain who are of childbearing age. This study aims to investigate the extent to which hormone production is altered in women with chronic pain and whether we can identify scientific clinical features that relate to these changes. This would allow us to identify which women with chronic pain may require further investigations and treatment (for example with hormone replacement and Vitamin D) to prevent long term complications. Additionally, these results will inform the design of future research investigating whether hormones can be used to reduce the suffering associated with chronic pain in women.

<http://www.obs-gyn.ox.ac.uk/research/pain-in-women>

www.facebook.com/WomenInPainStudyOxford



'Evaluating Optimal Vaccine Schedules against Ebola' (EVOLVE) study

Recruiting now

You are invited to take part in a study investigating new vaccines against Ebola virus disease (EVD). The current outbreak of EVD in West Africa is estimated by the World Health Organization to have caused more than 10,000 deaths to date and is still ongoing. There is no specific treatment or cure for Ebola and an effective vaccine would

be an important step in controlling the spread of disease. The study is being run by the Oxford Vaccine Group, part of the University of Oxford.



- ▶ If you are aged 18 to 65 years old and in good health you may be eligible to take part in the study
- ▶ We will provide reimbursement for your time, inconvenience and travel

Interested individuals may attend a screening visit at Oxford Vaccine Group's site to discuss this further and for their suitability for the study to be assessed. If you would like to find out more, you can contact Oxford Vaccine Group on 01865 857420, via e-mail info@ovg.ox.ac.uk or visit their [website](#).

This study is being run by the Oxford Vaccine Group, part of the University of Oxford and is funded by Crucell Holland BV.

Healthy volunteers and depressed individuals required for brain scanning study

The Department of Psychiatry are looking for both healthy volunteers and depressed individuals aged 18–50 to take part in a brain scanning study. The study compares brain activity in people who are depressed, and in people who are not depressed and investigates how an antidepressant medication (bupropion) affects information processing. The study involves two brain scans using magnetic imaging (MRI) which are completed before and after taking bupropion. Please note that healthy volunteers will NOT take the bupropion.

Currently, we are particularly looking for healthy volunteers in their late 30's and above who would be able to attend the two MRI scans at The Oxford Centre for Magnetic Resonance Imaging during normal working hours.



For information in confidence, with no obligation to participate, please contact:

Annabel Walsh

bupropion.study@psych.ox.ac.uk

01865 226464

Participants will be reimbursed for their time and expenses

REC Number: 13/SC/0569

Are you a good sleeper? Are you between 18–30 years old and living in Oxford?

Are you up for pulling an all nighter?

Dr Kate Porcheret and Dr Dalena van Heugten are looking for healthy individuals for their study on sleep and emotional processing. They want to know how staying awake for 36 hours affects your emotional processing of an emotive experience. The study will involve four visits to their department and you will be compensated for your time. The study is non-invasive (no blood sampling) and ethically approved (Rec no: 14/EE/0186).

If you are interested, then please contact Dr Kate Porcheret and Dr Dalena van Heugten at sleepemotions@gmail.com.

Children and adolescents needed for study examining number skills and brain development

We are looking for children aged 6, 10 and 14 years and adolescents who are about to start studying for AS-levels to participate in a study examining number skills and brain development.

The study involves a safe brain scan using a Magnetic Resonance scanner (1.5 hours) and several puzzles and games (3 hours). These sessions will be repeated 18 Months to 2 years later.

Participants will receive a small gift for taking part and reasonable travel expenses will be refunded.

The study is starting from August 2015.

For further details and study eligibility, please contact Dr Charlotte Hartwright & Dr Francesco Sella (charlotte.hartwright@psy.ox.ac.uk)

<https://sites.google.com/site/brain4maths/welcome>

CURED ref: MS-IDREC-C2_2015-016 Date 22.06.15 Version no: S105_v2

CUREC ref: MS-IDREC-C2-2015-016 Date 22.06.15 Version No: S105_v2



UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

TAKE PART IN BRAIN RESEARCH

Oxfordshire children & adolescents wanted for long-term study of number skills & brain development

For information, visit
<https://sites.google.com/site/brain4maths/>
 or email
charlotte.hartwright@psy.ox.ac.uk



Towards the prevention of RSV: A major cause of infant death

A vaccine study involving healthy adults

You are invited to take part in a study investigating a new vaccine against Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). The study is being run by the Oxford Vaccine Group which is part of the University of Oxford.



Please be in touch if you:

- are aged 18 to 45 years old and in good health
- are able to attend visits at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford
- are interested in preventing a major cause of global infant deaths

We will provide reimbursement for your time, inconvenience and travel. The total study participation time is 1 year.

Before you decide whether you would like to take part, it is important for you to understand exactly what the study is about and what participation would involve.

If you would like to read more about the study and see if you are eligible to take part, please go to

trials.ovg.ox.ac.uk/rsv or www.ovg.ox.ac.uk

Males 18–40 needed for study

Interested in the workings of the human brain? Want to help Research in Psychiatry?

We need healthy male non-smokers, aged between 18 and 40, for a study of the effect of a gene and a drug on the performance of simple computer tasks. Taking part is simple and involves:

- Providing a cheek swab – to see which form of a gene you have, if suitable you will then be invited to the lab
- Completion of some questionnaires
- Taking a single dose of a drug or dummy pill
- Carrying out simple reward tasks and tests of the processing of emotions



The study will take only 6 hours of your time for which you will be reimbursed.

INTERESTED? For more information, without any obligation, please email comt.study@psych.ox.ac.uk

University of Oxford, Department of Psychiatry, Neurosciences Building, Warneford Hospital

South Central – Berkshire Research Ethics Committee REF number: 14 SC 0035

The Oxford Vaccine Centre Healthy Volunteers Database

The Oxford Vaccine Centre is one of the largest clinical trial groups in the UK, conducting studies of new vaccines against key global diseases including malaria, tuberculosis, HIV, meningitis, typhoid and hepatitis C.

Healthy volunteers interested in taking part in Oxford Vaccine Centre clinical trials can be added to a database to receive regular updates of studies currently recruiting volunteers at the Oxford Vaccine Centre. If you would like to be added to this database, please see <http://www.ovg.ox.ac.uk/lists/?p=subscribe>



Other Items of Interest

Invitation to Welcome Event for Research Staff

Tuesday 29 September, 9.15am–2.00pm, Department of Computer Science, Wolfson Building, Parks Road

The Welcome Event starts at 9.15am and will be finished by 2.00pm. You are invited to join us for lunch at 12.00pm where we will offer you the opportunity to network with other new researchers and browse our information fair.

The event is an opportunity for you to find out about career and professional development opportunities, the services and support available for you throughout your time as a researcher here at Oxford, and to meet other new researchers over lunch.

The day will comprise:

- Welcome and introduction
- Brief sessions on employment matters, library facilities, IT support, personal and professional development, research staff networks at Oxford and public engagement.
- Refreshment break
- Research excellence and impact, developing your career
- Lunch and information fair
- Optional additional workshops on career planning

Advance booking is required; please [register via the Oxford Learning Institute](#) by midday on Friday 25 September.

If you are unable to attend, please note that we run the event termly and you are welcome to attend in the future. In the meantime, if you would like information or have any queries about support for research staff at Oxford, [visit the research staff page on the University's website](#), [join the research staff mailing list](#), get involved with the [Oxford Research Staff Society](#), [follow me on Twitter](#), or please feel free to contact me directly.

Know your shopping? Help our researchers by taking part in this short survey

Are shop mannequins too thin?

You may have seen coverage in the news that shop mannequins are unhealthily thin <http://www.theguardian.com/fashion/2014/oct/30/-sp-are-topshops-mannequins-too-skinny> and <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/shopping-and-consumer-news/11765677/Topshop-agrees-to-stop-using-mannequins-after-angry-Facebook-post.html>.

In this project we are aiming to assess whether the use of unhealthily shaped models for clothes is common, whether it applies equally to male and female mannequins, and what factors might be associated with mannequin size in shops.

The project is a British Science Association CREST award <http://www.britishecienceassociation.org/crest-awards> for a young person at school exploring science. We would be very grateful if you think you know your shopping and could take a 5–10 minute survey to help us classify shops, which we will need for our analysis. Please feel pass the survey on to your friends. Here is the survey <https://oxford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/shopping-views>

Oxford Biodesign Short Programme

A new programme on healthcare technology entrepreneurship, interactive delivery, focusing this year on digital health. Application deadline: Sunday 20 September

The Institute of Biomedical Engineering, in collaboration with the George Institute for Global Health, is launching a new short programme on healthcare technology entrepreneurship in October 2015. The Oxford Biodesign short programme aims to provide an introduction to the **Biodesign Process** – a systematic and proven approach to clinical needs finding and creatively inventing new biomedical technologies that take into account the important stakeholders of current healthcare settings.



The programme will be delivered by an **interactive hands-on approach** to provide participants with experience of the wide spectrum of skills needed as a medical innovator: from analyzing important unmet medical needs and designing and IP protecting innovative solutions that address these needs, to preparing how to bring solutions into patient care through the most appropriate implementation channels (start-up, corporate, or a licensing deal).

The particular focus of the Oxford Biodesign programme this year will be on **digital health** or connected health innovation. The emerging field of digital health offers a wide range of opportunities, from delivering healthcare outside a highly specialised hospital setting, to enabling consumers to become in charge of their own health through solutions for prevention rather than acute care, to creating integrated ways of care for chronic conditions and technology that supports the ageing population.

Participants will gain “Biodesign” experience by firstly understanding the importance of a well-crafted medical need statement that takes into account the complex stakeholder landscape. They will then work as part of a small inter-disciplinary team to design a number of bioengineering and digital solutions for a medical problem. The solution with the largest potential for successful commercialization will be objectively assessed. *Interdisciplinary collaboration between medicine, engineering and business is at the core of the programme.*

For further information, including the programme schedule and how to apply, please see

<http://www.ibme.ox.ac.uk/training/oxford-biodesign-short-programme>

'Building a Business' lecture series starts this October

Free for staff and students, Saïd Business School

Would you like to start your own business? Do you have an idea and need to know what to do next?

Come and join us for the '[Building a Business](#)' lecture series this October to discover and understand the basic principles of starting a business.

Building a Business is a nine-week evening lecture series open to anyone who would like to gain an understanding of the fundamentals of business practice. The series covers the basic foundations and introduces the key concepts of starting a business. This year's [programme](#) features a variety of highly-regarded and engaging speakers, delivering the basics on topics such as [financing](#) and [marketing](#) your business idea and [protecting](#) your intellectual property.



When and where

Starting on 13th October, all lectures will take place on a Tuesday evening (apart from Thursday 12th November) at Saïd Business School, Park End St, Oxford OX1 1HP.

Fees

Building a Business is available to all students and University of Oxford staff for free. The fee for non-students is £200, payable in advance of the start of the lecture series.

How do I attend?

Please complete the [online registration form](#).

Please note that places on this course are limited. Registrants should wait for confirmation of their place on the course.

For full details and more information about the series, please visit the [Building a Business website](#).

Come and join us and take the first steps to starting your business!

The Entrepreneurship Centre at Saïd Business School

Marie Curie ITN Proposal Writing Workshop

Tuesday 13 October, South Parks Road

The Research Services (RS) European Team will be holding a workshop on Tuesday 13th October for anyone planning to take part in a 2016 Marie Curie ITN application in Oxford – whether as coordinator or as a partner beneficiary.

The detail of the 2016 Innovative Training Network (ITN) call is not currently in the public domain. It will be published in the autumn with the whole of the 2016/17 Horizon 2020 work programme. (Oxford staff can see the draft work programmes now on the Oxford Gateway to Europe [website](#)). The 2016 ITN call is expected to be very similar to the ITN calls in 2014 and 2015. The deadline for the 2016 ITN call is expected to be 14 January 2016.

The Oxford workshop will focus particularly on practical issues related to running and being part of an ITN. It will provide the Oxford context for these grants and highlight the particular issues to consider when leading or participating in an ITN consortium.

An overview of the application process and feedback points from an analysis of evaluation reports from previous application rounds will also be given at the workshop. Anyone planning involvement in a 2016 ITN is particularly encouraged to attend, the workshop is open to all disciplines. The workshop will also be of interest to Departmental/Faculty administrators and to anyone interested generally in ITNs.

Workshop details:

Date: Tuesday 13 October 2015

Time: 9.30 am to 11.30 am

Venue: Department of Plant Sciences, South Parks Road, Oxford [map](#)

Registration: Please register for the workshop by completing this [doodle poll](#)

Navigator Development Programme for Men

- Do you want to take a step back to think about how to achieve your career goals?
- Do you sometimes find it hard to balance the demands of work and life?
- Would you value talking to other researchers from across the University about what it's like to be a researcher at Oxford?

Navigator results in long term, high quality benefits for individuals. 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 (organised by participants between each of the workshops) 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, [Springboard](#) for women.

For more information, please see <http://www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/training/course-programme-for-graduate-students/navigator-development-programme-for-men>

GRAD Challenge, have you got what it takes?

Challenging course for DPhil students, 21 – 23 September 2015

GRAD Challenge is going University-wide this year! The course is being run for DPhil students (in year 2+) from all departments in the University.

Come and spend these three days being challenged and challenging yourself. You'll get the opportunity to assess and audit your skills and motivation, develop new skills, think about your future career and what your next steps towards it are going to be. If you take up the challenge, you will go away with more than you expect.

During the course you can expect to:

- Meet, network and work with DPhil students from across the whole University
- Tackle a range of activities and exercises, mostly in a group of about 10 students led by a tutor
- Be stretched intellectually and interpersonally
- Experience peer coaching
- Review where you are and plan what comes next

Go away with:

- An increased awareness of your skills and abilities
- New and enhanced skills
- Clarity about what your next steps will be

GRAD Challenge is designed to take an experiential or 'learning by doing' approach. While there is some element of presentation and information giving, for most of the time you will be actively participating in sessions and activities.

GRAD Challenge is being offered jointly by the Humanities, Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences, Medical Sciences and Social Sciences Divisions. The course is free to attend for DPhil students in the University of Oxford.

For more information and how to apply [click here](#).

Improvement FUNdamentals – your route to improve health and care

NHS Improving Quality, the University of Jönköping and Qulturum bring you a new and innovative online course for those involved in health and care.

Are you:

- Committed to improving health and care?
- Eager to put improvement ideas into practice?
- Wanting to study at a time and place to suit you?
- Keen to connect with a global improvement community?

If so then you are not alone, Improvement FUNdamentals is for you!

- Delivered entirely online via videos, articles and exercises
- Featuring live knowledge exchange events, allowing you to learn from experts and debate and connect with other participants
- Offered free to anyone interested in improving health and care

Beneficial to beginners and more experienced improvers alike, this course is delivered over 8 weeks and will give you a good understanding of:

- The fundamentals of quality improvement
- Using the model for improvement
- Measuring for Improvement
- Sustaining and spreading improvements

For more information and to register visit the [website](#).

Changes to Oxfordshire's subsidised bus and Dial-A-Ride services

Oxfordshire County Council would like your views on [the new plans](#) for subsidised bus services and Dial-a-Ride. The council subsidises over 100 bus services in our county, which makes up around 9% of the bus network, so the proposals in this consultation may affect one in ten bus users and all Dial-a-Ride users. Please read the consultation document, understand how the changes might affect you and complete the online feedback form at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/stconsultation.

Share your ideas with us: Have you got any brilliant ideas that will improve how you, your family and your colleagues travel in Oxfordshire, whether it is how you get to work or how older neighbours in your community can be supported locally by new community transport schemes. We want to hear your ideas and support you as best we can as we go through these changes. Please email us at supported.transport@oxfordshire.gov.uk for more information.

NatureJobs Career Expo

Registration now open, London, 18 September 2015

The Naturejobs Career Expo is the global career fair and conference for the science community from Naturejobs and Natureconferences.

The event is tailored to postgraduates, students & early career stage researchers and offers an excellent opportunity for delegates to interact with a wide range of exhibitors. This year's [exhibitors](#) include Roche, Research in Germany and Cogent and many more.

- Attend all conferences and workshops for free
- Meet employers face-to-face
- Benefit from one-to-one CV checking
- Network with leading scientific institutions
- Learn how to enhance your employability
- Maximize your career prospects



Register today:

bit.ly/njce-london

EMBL-European Bioinformatics Institute Open Day

Thursday 29 October

Find out about life at Europe's leading centre for bioinformatics.

Our open days are the perfect opportunity for scientists who are considering a career in Bioinformatics, a PhD or a postdoctoral fellowship. Learn about cutting-edge research projects, get an overview of one of the world's most important collections of biological databases and tools, and speak with the experts who develop and curate our many services.

New for 2015

- More opportunities to network with EMBL-EBI's staff;
- Hands-on sessions covering our core data resources;
- Tours of our data centre.

Other highlights

- Introduction to EMBL-EBI by our Joint Director, Rolf Apweiler;
- Careers and training opportunities across EMBL;
- PhD and Postdoc programmes.

Location

Wellcome Genome Campus,
Hinxton, Cambridge.
CB10 1SD, UK.

Registration

Places are limited, so make sure you register early on our website and we can reserve your lunch.

