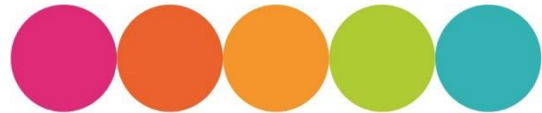


POSTDOC AND FELLOWS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Tailored support and development for postdocs, fellows and clinicians



Welcome to the PFDC newsletter

March 2019

Welcome to March's newsletter! Whilst treating yourself to pancakes or after attending some of [London's pancake day events](#), you may find it useful to reflect on your personal and academic goals for the year. Please check our [website](#) for any [courses](#) which could help you to achieve them, or book a [one to one session](#) with a PFDC Consultant.

For more information about the Postdoc and Fellows Development Centre (PFDC) please:

- Visit our [website](#)
- Follow us on Twitter
- Contact us with any queries



Note that information about grants and fellowships are posted on our twitter feed.

If you have any information, events or surveys that you would like to advertise which are relevant to postdocs, fellows and clinicians at Imperial, please [email](#) the PFDC team. We would like to hear from you!

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PFDC in Focus: Research Salary Scale

The Provost's Board have agreed to invest additional funding in the salary structure jointly developed with the College's Joint Trade Unions. This is to address the issues raised during the Pay and Benefits Review regarding Academic and Research salaries and to increase the minimum salaries on the Academic and Research grades.

The revised Research salary scale will be implemented on 1 April 2019.

The main changes are:

- Accelerated salary progression for Researcher grades;
- Additional automatic incremental progression for Research Assistants;
- A new Advanced Research Fellow grade with automatic incremental progression; and
- Raised minimum starting salaries for all Research grades.

All Research staff will be written to via email to let them know how this change applies to them, including if their salary remains unchanged.

The new scales are live on the salary structure webpage and can be found [here](#).



1. PFDC 10 Year Celebration ... Save the date!

In January the Postdoc and Fellows Development Centre turned 10 years old!

A celebration will be held on **Wednesday 5 June 2019**
[170 Queens Gate](#)

Please save the date!

An invitation with more details will be circulated in the upcoming months.
The PFDC Team looks forward to celebrating the Centre and its achievements with you!

2. Blog of the Month: Is there a recipe for the 10 key sentences?



Don't know how to strengthen that research proposal you are working on? Having a "blank page" block when writing a Fellowship Application?

[Andrew Derrington's blog](#) has a lot of good tips on writing proposals but in this post, he explores the practical aspects of key sentences – how they can be built in to help your application look great!

You can access the 'Is there a recipe for the 10 key sentences?' blog [here](#).

Don't forget there are no perfect recipes for a great research proposal so [book a one-to-one](#) with the PFDC so we can help you build an excellent Fellowship application!

3. Fellows and Clinicians Bespoke Programme of Support

Fellows and Clinicians Forum
Thursday 14 March 2019
15:30 – 17:00 at St Mary's

Theme: Building collaborations – ethics, fears, misconceptions and approaches to effective collaborations.

Format: Panel of Imperial academics (clinical and non clinical) will share their expert advice, stories of successes and failures. Includes informal networking and drinks reception.

Confirmed panellists: [Dr Karen Polizzi](#), Reader in Biotechnology, Chemical Engineering and [Dr Channa Jayasena](#), Clinical Senior Lecturer in Reproductive Endocrinology/Andrology.

[Register via Qualtrics by Friday 8 March 2019](#)

4. Pop Ups

Pop Up: Fellowship Interviews
Wednesday 13th March 2019
10.00-12.30, SALC 1, South Kensington Campus

Most fellowships require you to have an interview to show how you can carry out the proposed research and why they should give you the funding. During this workshop you will look at examples of 'invitation to interview' letters from a variety of funders. Importantly you will look at interview questions and prepare answers – developing answers that showcase your achievements. You will also receive hints and tips on how to shine at the interview from entering the room to what to wear.

Please sign up for the event via this [Qualtrics link](#)

Pathways to Postdocs: Teaching Intensive Careers at Imperial and in Academia
Friday 15th March 2019

12.30-14.00, SALC 2, South Kensington Campus

Are you interested in a teaching career within a university setting? More teaching-intensive careers are opening up in universities. Come along to a talk and a Q and A session with the Chair of Imperial's Teaching Fellow network to hear about these options and the developing career paths in this area of work.

Please sign up for the event via this [Qualtrics link](#)

Funder Showcase: EPSRC Thursday 28th March 2019 10.00-11.30, SALC 1, South Kensington Campus

Are you thinking of applying for one of the EPSRC Fellowships? While applications are open for submission year round it is advised to plan ahead and have a clear understanding of the submission procedure.

This pop up will a) highlight the fellowships that are available from the EPSRC and b) provide guidance on how to prepare an effective application and help you maximise your chances of success.

Please sign up for the event via this [Qualtrics link](#)

5. Upcoming Courses

The PFDC courses for the 2018/19 academic year are filling up quickly! Below are courses which still have spaces available in March and April.



*** Please note that due to unforeseen circumstances the 'Designing and Delivering Research Projects in Academia' course which was due to take place in March is currently being rescheduled.*

[So You've Got Your Fellowship, Now What?](#)

Monday 11th March 2019

09:30 – 12:30

Fellowship holders need to take stock of their career at this pivotal stage. This course borrows successful visual planning tools from the start-up culture to do just that. Combining the Kanban and business model canvas methodologies, this course is an insightful and interactive half day event. Participants will explore the fellowship field of endeavour (the wealth of things they need to do) and look at where they can maximise value for themselves with a view to their future careers.

[Getting Your Next Job \(Postdocs in Life Sciences & Medicine\)](#)

Monday 18th March 2019

09:30 – 13:00

Are you unsure where your career is heading? Perhaps you are trying to plan the next step in your career but don't know where to start? If so, this is the course for you! The team from the Careers Service will assist you in preparing and planning your future career options whether you are heading in an academic or non-academic direction. This course is tailored for those in the first few years of their postdoc with research interests in Life Sciences and Medicine.

[The Researcher Survival Kit](#)

Wednesday 2nd April 2019

09:30 – 16:30

This workshop examines common concerns for researchers, with a focus on imposter syndrome and managing expectations of ourselves and others. We will discuss which concerns are realistic and which ones need challenging. You will be invited to use your own experience to work through simple models and concepts in order to be more proactive and confident in work and life.

[Preparing Successful Fellowship Applications](#) (Hammersmith Campus)

Thursday 4th April 2019

09:30 – 16:30

This course introduces postdocs to fellowship funding and the process of making a fellowship application. During the course you will learn where to look for appropriate fellowship funding, how to apply and how to prepare a written application. Additionally you will take part in a practice exercise providing insight into the writing and peer review processes. Successful applicants and panel members from Imperial will share their experience of applying for fellowships in a question and answer session.

Please book onto training with ICIS: Sign in and click 'My Training' – Search for the course – Click: Enrol.

6. Job Opportunity: BBSRC Strategy and Policy Manager – Skills and Talent

A vacancy is available at BBSRC to help lead and manage their strategy development around postdocs, technicians, ECRs and fellows.



This is a role ideally suited to someone who is interested in research careers, who have had some experience of research/researcher development, and who is keen on a career in biology/science outside the lab. Whilst it is focused on biology, there will be many opportunities to work across UKRI, particularly around their implementation of the Concordat, and the Technician's Commitment.

More information about the role can be found [here](#).

7. Staff Survey: Now Open!



How do you feel about working at Imperial? **The 2019 Staff Survey is now open** - don't miss out on your chance to express your views! It doesn't matter where

you work or what job you do – your views are important. Share your thoughts on working at Imperial and tell us how we could improve. The survey should only take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete and closes on 15 March.

Look out for an email with your unique link to complete the survey - your responses are confidential.

8. Women@Imperial Week: 4-8 March 2019



Women@Imperial is an annual event that takes place around [International Women's Day](#). Over the course of a week, 4-8 March 2019, the College is celebrating female staff and students at Imperial, past and present, and is raising awareness of the support available for women within the College.



The full line-up has different events taking place every day aimed at ALL staff and students. Among other things planned, we have a Wikithon, confidence-building workshops, an Imperial Lates on 'Wonder Women', a talk by the founder of Women's Higher Education network Alice Chilver titled 'Speeding up gender equality in higher education' and a lecture from one of our own PhD students, Nadia Soliman, reflecting on different leadership styles in the army and in academia. We hope there is something for everyone!

Full details for this year's programme of events can be found [here](#)

9. Greening Imperial Week: 4-8 March 2019



The student Union are running '[Greening Imperial week](#)', a union-led showcase of what [Greening Imperial](#) have done so far on campus, as well as raising awareness of small adjustments you can make to your daily routines to help the environment.

There will be themed days throughout the week and you can find out more about what events are being held [here](#).

To subscribe or unsubscribe from our mailing lists and newsletter please email us at pfdc-support@imperial.ac.uk. Click [here](#) for information on Imperial College's privacy notice for staff, [here](#) for qualtrics privacy statement and [here](#) for eventbrites privacy statement.