

# POSTDOC AND FELLOWS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Support and development for postdocs and fellows



## Welcome to the new PFDC newsletter

October 2017

For more information about the Postdoc and Fellows Development Centre (PFDC) please visit our [website](#), follow us on [Twitter @ImperialPFDC](#) or [contact us](#) with any queries. Note that information about grants and fellowships is posted on our Twitter feed.

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## PFDC in Focus

### *Reps Awards 2017*

On 27 September the 3rd PDC Reps Award Dinner was held to thank and recognise the significant contribution the reps make to the PDC Reps Network. Specifically, in fostering a sense of community amongst Imperial early career researchers, acting as a link between the PDC, early career researchers and their departments and helping the PDC keep abreast of the challenges facing early career researchers.



Visit [our website](#) to find out about who the winners were and check out the photos of the evening!

## ***1. PFDC team update***

Lenne Lillepuu started in a new role of Professional Development Consultant, created specifically to meet the needs of the increasing number of clinical and non-clinical fellows. In this role, she will be supporting all clinical and non-clinical fellows in the Faculties of Medicine and Natural Sciences, focussing solely on the support for fellowship applicants and development programmes for existing fellows.

Rachel Herries, PFDC Advisor, has taken over the role of Professional Development Consultant for the remainder of Karen Hinxman's maternity cover. Steve Joy will be joining us as the PFDC Advisor and will be progressing with exciting projects such as the Pathways to Impact for postdocs.

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## ***2. Postdoc reps - upcoming events***

### **Electrical & Electronic Engineering**

**EEE – HoD Meeting, Coffee and Cake, Tuesday 10 October, 14:00, EEE building**

On 10th October we return from the Summer break to treat the EEE postdocs and Fellows to coffee and cakes. The Head of Department, [Prof Eric Yeatman](#) and the postdoc champion [Prof Yiannis Demiris](#) will welcome everyone for the start of the academic year. All EEE postdocs and Fellows are welcome.

Please contact your [departmental rep](#) if you have any suggestions or issues you would like them to raise at the next Postdoc Reps Network Meeting.

## **Life Sciences**

### **Pop-up seminars – life outside of academia**

The DoLS Postdoc committee will be hosting a series of pop-up talks for the autumn term to give postdocs a feel for life outside of academia. Our first session on Tuesday 24 October, 1pm-3pm at SAF120, will be with Imperial Innovations who will explain how they can help postdocs in their current role and how to get involved if you're interested in starting your own company. The events will be informal, but promise to be full of knowledge and engaging with tea and coffee provided. Please sign up at: <http://tinyurl.com/dolspdcpop1>  
Keep an eye open for our next pop-up event with Corporate Partnerships on 13 November, more details to follow.

## **Institute of Clinical Sciences**

### **MRC LMS Postdoc Retreat**

MRC LMS Postdoc Retreat is organised by the LMS Postdoc Committee, and will be held in Kew Gardens on 30 November 2017.

As LMS is part of the Institute of Clinical Sciences (ICS) of the Faculty of Medicine, we welcome all postdocs from LMS/ICS and we have limited spaces for postdocs from the entire Faculty of Medicine.

See the poster for event [here](#) and register for the event [here](#).

Registration closes on 15 November 2017.

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### ***3. Pop-ups and workshops***

**Pop-up: Academic CV and Cover Letter – 7 November 2017, 10:00-12:30,  
SALC 2, South Kensington Campus**

### **a. Academic CVs**

Maximise your chance of making the shortlist by ensuring your CV is professional, targeted and well written. This one hour workshop will address academic CVs. It will cover a myriad of do's and don'ts to consider when crafting your CV.

**Please bring your CV with you to this workshop.**

### **b. Cover Letters: Making a Good Impression**

*Don't know where to start when it comes to writing a cover letter? Not sure that your cover letter is highlighting your notable/relevant achievements? Unsure of where you can show your knowledge of the job and organisation that you are applying to?*

In this interactive session we will concentrate on the layout, format and content of an effective cover letter, including hints and tips on how to structure your letter. This session will also cover how you can highlight your relevant skills and communicate your enthusiasm for the role and organisation that you are applying to.

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

**Funder Showcase: Royal Commission of 1851 – 7 November 2017, 14:00-15.00, SALC 2, South Kensington Campus**

*Did you know that the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 have a series of [fellowships](#)?*

To highlight this great opportunity to receive fellowship funding, we will be joined by **Nigel Williams** from 1851 who will tell you about the fellowships that are on offer. After the talk you will be walked through the application process

and given hints and tips to help your application to be successful.

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

**Pop-Up: Planning a Successful Fellowship Application – 23 November 2017, 10:00-12:00, SALC 9, South Kensington Campus**

This Pop-up 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.

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

**Pop-Up with the Library (open access and open data) – 23 November 2017, 14:00-16:00, SALC 9, South Kensington Campus**

Would you like to learn how to share your research outputs more widely? Need to know how to manage your research data more effectively? Want to find out how to publish your research open access?

Join members of the Library's Open Access and Research Data Management team for a workshop to give you more information about how we can help you to maximise your research impact by making your research more discoverable and reproducible. Learn what your existing or future funders may require. Find out what systems and guidance the Library can offer you throughout your research.

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

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#### **4. Upcoming courses at the PFDC**

[Voice Projection for Effective Lecturing](#)

[Preparing Successful Fellowship Applications](#)

[Translating Your Research Skills for the Private Sector](#)

[How to Peer Review Research Papers](#)

[How Intellectual Property Rights \(IPR\) Can Impact your Research](#)

[Designing and Delivering Research Projects in Academia](#)

[Discovering Your Teamwork Strengths](#)

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#### **5. FoM Mentoring Scheme**

Were you aware that the College's Learning and Development Centre (LDC) has developed a mentoring scheme that early career researchers can access? Developed for supporting career advancement and increasing effectiveness and confidence, it's currently being run in the Faculty of Medicine (FoM) with an aim to launch across all departments in the College by 2018. Details of the scheme can be found on [this website](#).

If you are currently in the Faculty of Medicine and are interested in taking advantage of the personal growth gained through becoming a mentor, the LDC is running [mentor workshops](#) as below:

- 25th October 2017, 1:00 – 16:30pm – Seminar and Learning Centre room 9, South Kensington

- 10th November 2017, 9:30am – 1:00pm – Seminar room 1, Wolfson Centre, Hammersmith Hospital

For those outside the FoM, there are various opportunities to get involved in mentoring, such as speed mentoring events, mentoring circles (eg themed mentoring events), personally identifying and approaching a mentor and I would encourage you all to take advantage of these.

Met or heard about a peer that you aspire to learn from – what's stopping you from reaching out to them for some advice?

Plan to succeed.

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## ***6. Guide to the 3Rs & Responsible Animal Research***

Research involving the use of animals or animal derived material is expected to be conducted in accordance with good practice standards relating to the responsible use of animals in bioscience research.

This short course will provide a practical guide to meeting the college's and funder's expectations with regards animal welfare, implementation of the 3Rs principles of humane experimental technique and standards of contemporary good practice. Content will be discussed in the context of statistics on animal use, public engagement and trends in public opinion, the culture of scientific research in the UK, the research framework, and initiatives to improve experimental design, planning and research reporting standards.

Register [here](#)

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## ***7. Imperial Techcelerate Programme***

This is Imperial's first entrepreneurship programme aimed exclusively at postdocs from all disciplines. We want to hear from postdocs who want to explore the commercial potential of an idea or technology and build their entrepreneurial skill set.

This pioneering three month programme aims to benefit both postdocs and PIs, enabling teams to fast track development of technology and create entrepreneurial skills that will benefit the individual, as well as the broader research group.

Following a selection process, successful teams will attend a four day bootcamp (week commencing 8th January). Postdocs will then work full-time in a team with part time involvement of their principal investigator, a business expert and a tech transfer expert. Postdocs will be provided with a generous stipend to buy them out of their current research projects (given their PI's approval).

The first information session will be held on October 30th 4-5pm in Enterprise Lab.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register

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