



## FOR UNIVERSITY STAFF

WEEK COMMENCING 7<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019

ISSUE NO 208

### SEMINARS

#### WEDNESDAY SEMINAR

There is no Wednesday seminar this week. The next seminar will be on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October with a talk by Gareth Lavery of Birmingham University on “Correcting the NAD Metabolome in Health and Disease”

#### FRIDAY SEMINAR

There is no Friday seminar this week. The next seminar will be on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October with a talk by Dr Toryn Poolman of the Ray Group on “Mass Spectrometry based proteomic techniques to study nuclear hormone receptor functions”.

#### MEDICAL GRAND ROUNDS

There is no medical grand rounds this week

**WELCOME**



Rebecca Geddes is a visiting Clinical Scientist Fellow who will be with the Thakker Group from 23/09/19 to 31/01/20



## **HEAD OF INFORMATICS**

Grade 8: £41,526 - £49,553 with a discretionary range to £54,131 p.a.

The University of Oxford Diabetes Trials Unit (DTU) is recruiting for the post of Head of Informatics to lead its Informatics Group. The postholder will be responsible for all day-to-day informatics operations within the Unit. The DTU ([www.dtu.ox.ac.uk/](http://www.dtu.ox.ac.uk/)) is a UKCRC fully-registered clinical trials unit, that specialises in performing clinical trials related to the treatment and management of diabetes and other cardiometabolic disorders. These are both early-phase and late-phase trials, including mega trials typically conducted in 30 or more countries.

Reporting directly to the DTU Director, the postholder should be a recognised authority in their field with excellent leadership and personnel management skills. The postholder will be adept at effectively communicating expectations and technical information to team members, and to stakeholders, in a clear and timely manner. They should also have significant experience of building trial databases in electronic data capture systems and extensive programming expertise. Knowledge of Good Clinical Practice and regulatory requirements in relation to informatics, and experience of writing standard operating procedures and specification documents is critical.

Going forward there is an exciting opportunity for the postholder to develop the Informatics Group in the light of new business and projected growth of the DTU trials portfolio.

The post is offered until 31 December 2022 in the first instance, with the possibility of further extension. Requests for an informal discussion should be sent to: [amanda.adler@dtu.ox.ac.uk](mailto:amanda.adler@dtu.ox.ac.uk).

Within your cover letter, please address how you meet the selection criteria described in the job description. Please quote vacancy number 142810 in all correspondence.

Only applications received before 12.00 noon on 21 October 2019 can be considered



## **BRC DIABETES AND METABOLISM RESEARCH ASSISTANT**

Grade 6: £29,176 - £34,804 p.a.

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Diabetes and Metabolism Theme Research Assistant, within the NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) Diabetes and Metabolism Theme, led by Professor Jeremy Tomlinson in the Oxford Centre for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism (OCDEM).

The Diabetes and Metabolism Theme oversees a complex portfolio of translational diabetes and metabolism research programs which are underpinned by core BRC funded infrastructure. BRC-funded core laboratory personnel support human bio-sample and tissue processing, stable isotope analysis and lipid profiling by gas chromatography mass spectrometry, human islet isolation and processing for translational science across the theme. The research theme consists of four subthemes: Translational Physiology, Therapeutics and Medical Innovation, Translational Islet and Metabolic Tissue Biology, Pancreas and Islet-Cell Transplantation and Service Innovation and Evaluation.

The postholder will have responsibility for both supporting and undertaking several key aspects of work within the lab including sample processing, DNA and RNA extraction from multiple human tissues, and optimising and implementing new techniques. They will be responsible for managing their own time and resources within the context of their role, and the requirements and objectives associated with their position. The postholder will support the work of research groups within the theme and report to the BRC Diabetes and Metabolism Theme Lab Manager.

Candidates should hold a degree in biochemistry or similar and have relevant laboratory experience. Some flexibility with respect to working hours will be needed, including occasional responsibility for out-of-hours work.

The position is full-time however applications are welcome from candidates wanting to work part-time. It is fixed-term until 31 March 2022 in the first instance and funded by the NIHR Oxford BRC.

Please quote 143101 on all correspondence. You will be required to upload a CV and supporting statement as part of your online application.

The closing date for applications is 12.00 noon on 16 October 2019. Interviews are scheduled for week commencing 4 November 2019.



The first round of the OCDEM bake off was a great success. We raised over £100 for Sobell House so thank you very much to all the bakers and all the hungry donors. Judging was difficult, but made easier by a Mary Berry-themed jacket, a professional baker, and Toryn.

Omair Shariq [Thakker] (and his wife) came in a clear 1st place with 74/90 points for his French Silk Cake. Claudia Guida [Rorsman] came in 2nd place with her Coffee Boost (69/90), and Michelle Goldsworthy [Thakker] was a close 3rd with her Opera Cake (68/90).

The date of the next round (Biscuits) will be announced soon! If you want to enter the next round please let me know.

Thank you all again,  
Linford



## **STATISTICS: DESIGNING CLINICAL RESEARCH AND BIOSTATISTICS**

The aim of this two-day course is to develop core statistical skills for interpreting clinical and epidemiological data. It will provide knowledge of statistical methods and study design used in medical research. The course will enable participants to develop the skills needed to analyse data for their own research projects. This course is taught by staff from NDORMS.

### **Intended Audience**

The course is aimed at clinicians, research fellows and post-graduate students, but anyone requiring a basic knowledge of statistical methods for medical research can apply.

### **Taught Using**

Stata, SPSS and R

**Wednesday 16 October 9.15-16.15 & Thursday 17 October 9.15-16.15**

Cost: £140 Staff/ £70 Students/ Free NDORMS students with code

## **NEXUS365: SKILLS TOOLKIT**

Come and try your hand with some of the apps and tools that are now available in Oxford's Nexus365. This interactive event gives you a hands-on encounter with apps like OneDrive, Teams, Planner and Delve. You can explore ways of communicating and collaborating with colleagues, and start thinking about how you would use these tools in your own work. The format is an informal carousel, so you can focus on those topics which are most relevant to you, and our experienced teachers will be on hand for you to find out more.

### **Objectives**

- Find your way around Nexus365 and its apps
- Collaborate with colleagues using typed chat and audio/video conversations
- Store and manage your work in your own OneDrive
- Co-edit Office documents simultaneously with a colleague
- Organise your tasks using Planner

### **Free-of-charge**

**Click on your preferred date and time to book a place**

**Wednesday 16 October 2019 10.30 - 12.00**

**Wednesday 16 October 2019 14.00 - 15.30**

**Thursday 17 October 2019 14.00 - 15.30**

## **DATABASES: START TO FINISH**

This "boot camp" is for those who need to get up to speed working with databases. It takes you through the process of building a well-behaved and sustainable relational database, from concept through building to a user-interface and data analysis.

This workshop brings together the same topics covered in the separate Database courses

from this series, in an immersive 2-day course. When you sign up to a Start to Finish, we expect you to attend for the full duration of the course.

### **Objectives**

- Understand what a relational database is
- Know the steps in designing a database
- Create primary keys and set up relationships between tables
- Use queries for data selection and analysis
- Create efficient forms with user-friendly controls
- Analyse and manage data using action queries, calculations, and totals

**Monday 14 October & Tuesday 15 October 09.15 - 16.15 [Book now](#)**

Cost £120 Staff/ £60 Students

**Open Meeting for OCDEM Public Engagement Enthusiasts Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 11:00 Large Seminar Room.**

### **MESSAGE FROM KATHARINE OWEN**

You may have seen that I have recently been selected for an Oxford University Public Engagement in Research leadership award <https://www.rdm.ox.ac.uk/news/dr-katharine-owen-wins-public-engagement-with-research-leadership>

Part of the reason for the success of the application were the brilliant public engagement events that everyone in OCDEM has been involved with in the past. We would like to build on this enthusiasm and success by identifying a group of public engagement champions within OCDEM who can work together on co-ordinating events for 2020. The Leadership award brings with it money for training and development of new public engagement resources, and Charvy Narain, the RDM communications manager, will be supporting us.

Everyone is welcome to be involved, but we would like at a minimum each research group to identify someone who can represent them as a PE champion and communicate information about ideas and events back to their group. This is for everyone in OCDEM, not just for those working in diabetes or in clinical research.

Please come along to the meeting on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October to create a plan for how this might work and share ideas

Katharine

## **CONNECTING OXFORD BRIEFING - TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS AND WORKPLACE PARKING**

### **LEVY**

Dear colleague

Oxfordshire County Council are consulting on the '[Connecting Oxford](#)' proposals which seek to implement 5 traffic restrictions and a Workplace Parking Levy (WPL) in order to improve connectivity, reduce congestion and tackle pollution in Oxford. It seeks to restrict the movement of vehicles through the City whilst still maintaining access and generate income to fund much need investment in Oxford's transport network.

The proposals will have substantial implications, both positive and negative, for the University community in terms of how staff, students and freight move about the City and how the operations of Departments, Colleges, contractors and suppliers are conducted.

To help the University community understand these proposals, a Briefing is being held at 11am on Friday 11 October at [Magdalen College Auditorium](#) (access via the Longwall Street entrance). Oxfordshire County Council and Oxford City Council will deliver a presentation on their plans and answer questions.

10:45 Arrival and refreshments

11:00 Presentation from Oxfordshire County Council & Oxford City Council on the proposals

11:30 Q&A session

12:00 informal networking

12:30 close

Entrance is via invitation only - please book your place [here](#) and note that the event is restricted to 150 people.



**Adam Bows**

Sustainable Transport Manager

Estates Services | University of Oxford



### **CYCLE SAFETY EVENT FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS – 8 AND 9 OCTOBER**

Members of the Security Services team are hosting a pop-up event in Radcliffe Square to promote safe and secure cycling to staff and students

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1 October 2019

Drop in any time from 10am to 3pm for advice on how to get around town safely on two wheels and for information about how to make your bike secure.

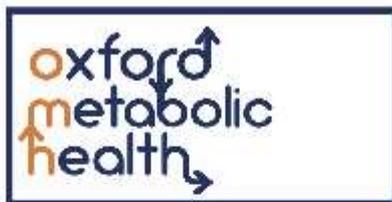
The University's Security team will be joined by staff from Erith Construction, currently working on preparing the Tinbergen Building for its planned demolition, who are bringing along a construction lorry and inviting cyclists to sit in the driver's seat to get a sense of how difficult it can be for drivers to spot cyclists.

Thames Valley Police are attending to security mark your bike and provide general cycle security guidance. And Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue officers will be there to provide road safety advice.

Need a new lock? You can also pick up a heavily discounted D-Lock (£18) or a rechargeable LED light sets for £6.50 at the event from the Security Staff team, who can also provide information on locking your bike securely.

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A diverse range of information to help cyclists – everything from an interest-free loan to purchase a new bike and safety equipment through to free cycle safety training – is available at <https://travel.admin.ox.ac.uk/bike/oxford>



**OMH Researchers' Association invites  
you to a careers workshop:**

## **'Getting on in academic and research-related careers'**

**Thursday 24 October, 2-5pm  
Sherrington Library, DPAG, South Parks Road**

Come and hear from the University Careers Service,  
Research Services, a current fellow and funding committee  
member in a friendly, informal setting

Learn about  
how to boost  
your career in  
these areas

Find out about  
improving your  
core employ-  
ability skills to  
get ready for your  
next move

Hear about  
the support  
available to  
help you



All researchers welcome! To register, go to:

<https://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/omh/omh-researchers-association>





**TB043** – A BCG challenge study in healthy adults to help develop TB vaccines. If you are aged 18-50, in good health, and have never received the BCG vaccine, you may be eligible to participate. The study involves 9 visits over a period of around 6 months. Participants will be reimbursed for their time and travel from £685 to £725. For more detailed information about this trial, please visit: <https://www.jenner.ac.uk/tb043>

**VAC069 Malaria Challenge Study** - We are looking for healthy volunteers aged 18-50 to take part in our malaria challenge study. The study is over a 2 year period and volunteers will be compensated up to approximately £6855 for their time, inconvenience and travel. For more information: <https://www.jenner.ac.uk/vac069>

**VAC071 Malaria Challenge Study** - Are you aged 18-45 and never had malaria? You may be eligible to participate in our challenge trial assessing a new malaria vaccine. The trial will involve a number of visits over a 1 year period, with an intense visit schedule for the 4 weeks following malaria infection. Participants will be reimbursed up to £3320 for their time, travel and inconvenience. <https://www.jenner.ac.uk/vac071>

**VAC072 Malaria Challenge Study Trial** – a study to assess the effectiveness of novel malaria vaccine candidates by infecting vaccinated volunteers with malaria parasites. This study is over a 3-19 month period and volunteers will be compensated for their time, inconvenience and travel (up to £2730). If you are aged 18-45, are in good health and never had malaria, you may be eligible to participate. <https://www.jenner.ac.uk/vac072>

**ZIKA001** A phase I study to determine the safety and immunogenicity of the candidate Zika Virus (ZIKV) vaccine ChAdOx1 Zika in healthy adult volunteers. If you are aged 18-50 and are in good health, you may be eligible to participate. The trial will involve 10 visits over a period of 12 months and participants will receive up to £460 on completion of the study. <https://www.jenner.ac.uk/zika001>