

# OCDEM BULLETIN



## FOR UNIVERSITY STAFF

WEEK COMMENCING 12 AUG 2019

ISSUE NO 200



Today we celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> edition of the OCDEM Weekly Bulletin. The bulletin was first published on 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2015 by the OCDEM Athena Swan Team as a trial initiative to aide communication in the department. We hope you continue to find this bulletin useful.

## SEMINARS

### WEDNESDAY SEMINAR

There is no Wednesday Seminar this week.

### FRIDAY SEMINAR

There is no Friday seminar this week.

### MEDICAL GRAND ROUNDS

There is no medical grand rounds this week

WELCOME



Welcome back to Reshma Ramracheya who will be working in the Rorsman Group until the 17<sup>th</sup> of August.



## **POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT**

Grade 7: £23,236 - £39,609 p.a

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Postdoctoral Research Assistant position in the Professor Patrik Rorsman group within the Oxford Centre for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism (OCDEM) on a highly prestigious JDRF-funded programme of research. The successful candidate will work closely with Professor Rorsman (OCDEM), Dr Linford Briant (OCDEM) and Professor Patrick MacDonald (University of Alberta, Canada).

The successful candidate will join a well-resourced team with a track record of major discoveries and supporting early career research fellows. The postholder will join a team applying a novel approach which combines single-cell sequencing with a functional readout of the individual cell's behaviour: patch-clamp electrophysiology ("Patch-seq"; see Cadwell et al. (2016) *Nat Biotechnol* 34(2) and Camunas-Soler et al. (2019), *bioRxiv*). The postholder will apply this approach to human and mouse islet cells. The overarching goal of this collaboration is to understand how the single cell transcriptome relates to the electrophysiological properties of islet cells. Why is this important? The electrophysiological properties of islet cells change in diabetes, and these properties are ultimately what determines the secretory output of the cell. This technique has already generated a substantial patch-seq dataset (> 1500 cells both sequenced and patch-clamped) in islet cells from human donors (both non-diabetic and type 2 diabetic donors). This dataset has revealed key transcripts that distinguish different functional classes of cells.

The project will involve: analysing single-cell and bulk-RNA-seq datasets; learning patch-clamp electrophysiology (training of this technique will be provided); developing their own patch-seq dataset in mouse models of diabetes; developing their own patch-seq dataset in human islets isolated in OCDEM at the DRWF Human Islet Isolation Facility; making trips to the grant holder (Professor MacDonald), when the time is mutually suitable, to discuss and develop the project.

The postholder must have submitted their thesis at the time of commencing the post. A relevant PhD is essential. Previous publications and experience in presenting at national and/or international conferences is desirable. The position would suit a molecular/cellular biologist with experience of next generation sequencing (ideally at the single cell level), who is comfortable performing some bioinformatics analyses and has a strong desire to learn something new (patch-clamp electrophysiology).

The position is full-time and fixed-term for 12 months (in the first instance, with the possibility for a 12 month extension). The position will be based at OCDEM, Churchill Hospital, Oxford.

For informal enquiries, please contact either Linford Briant ([linford.briant@ocdem.ox.ac.uk](mailto:linford.briant@ocdem.ox.ac.uk)) or Isabel McCarthy ([isabel.mccarthy@ocdem.ox.ac.uk](mailto:isabel.mccarthy@ocdem.ox.ac.uk)). Please quote reference 141985 on all correspondence. As part of your formal online application, you will be required to upload a CV and supporting statement.

Only applications received before 12.00 midday on 23 August 2019 can be considered. Interviews are scheduled for week commencing 9 September 2019



## **BRC3 DIABETES & METABOLISM THEME CO-ORDINATOR**

**Grade 6: £28,660 - £34,189 p.a.**

OCDEM has an exciting opportunity for a theme co-ordinator to join the Oxford NIHR Biomedical Research Centre Diabetes and Metabolism Theme. The Diabetes and Metabolism Theme Leader (Jeremy Tomlinson) oversees a complex portfolio of world leading translational diabetes and metabolism research programs across the University of Oxford and Oxford University Hospitals which are underpinned by core BRC funded infrastructure. The research theme currently 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 (<https://oxfordbrc.nihr.ac.uk/research-themes-overview/diabetes-and-metabolism/>)

As the theme co-ordinator, you will be required to support the theme and its subtheme leaders in the day-to-day management of BRC funded projects, tracking their progress against objectives, coordinating and compiling project reports. You will work closely with the theme leader to shape the research plan for the next round of NIHR funding. An important component of your role will be the supporting patient and public involvement (PPI) in research, as well as co-ordinating public engagement events. In addition, the role will include the development of social media platforms, preparation of newsletters and press releases for various websites and overseeing the implementation of a Diabetes and Metabolism summer studentship program.

The postholder must have a degree in a relevant biological sciences subject and previous experience in data collation and report writing. It is essential that the successful candidate has excellent communication and IT skills. Knowledge of biomedical research (in particular, diabetes and metabolism) would be an advantage.

This is a full-time appointment, fixed-term for 2 years in the first instance.

Please quote ref. 142120 on all correspondence. You will be required to upload a CV and supporting statement as part of your online application.

Only applications received before 12.00 midday on 16 August 2019 can be considered.



## STATISTICIAN

Grade 6: £28,660 - £34,189 with a discretionary range to £37,345 p.a.

An exciting opportunity has arisen to appoint a new medical statistician to join the Diabetes Trials Unit (DTU) Statistics and Modelling group, part of the Oxford Centre for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism (OCDEM) on the Churchill Hospital campus, Oxford.

The DTU is a fully registered UKCRC Clinical Trials Unit and one of only a handful of academic research organisations worldwide that specialises in designing and performing both global clinical outcome mega-trials and early-phase translational trials of novel therapeutic opportunities and devices. This post represents an excellent development opportunity for the successful applicant who will be able to contribute to on-going and upcoming clinical studies under the guidance of senior statisticians.

Applicants should have a postgraduate degree in statistics or a related subject and have knowledge of statistical theory and methods, together with basic statistical computing and programming skills, e.g. programming in SAS, Stata or R. Some knowledge/experience of clinical trials would be an advantage, however training can be provided.

Applicants must be able to work independently as well as part of a team, be able to communicate complex concepts to non-statisticians, and have effective interpersonal skills.

The post is full-time and fixed-term for 2 years in the first instance.

Please quote 142243 in all correspondence.

For informal enquiries about the role please contact Ruth Coleman, Senior Research Statistician, email: [ruth.coleman@dtu.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ruth.coleman@dtu.ox.ac.uk) Tel: 01865 857253

The deadline for applications is 12.00 midday on 6 September 2019. Interviews will be held on the 24 September 2019.



Just to remind you that August's standby generator tests will take place on Thursday and Friday this week.

Please note that in ALL cases there will be unavoidable power cuts at the start (about 20 seconds) and at the end (about 15 seconds) of the test.

Areas affected:

Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup> August	10.00 – 12.00	OCDEM Server Room/Ward 7
Friday	16 <sup>th</sup> August	08.00 – 10.00	OCDEM Main Building

Dates for the Standby Generator Tests for 2018 can be found on

<https://www.rdm.ox.ac.uk/intranet/facilities-and-health-safety/facilities/ocdem-planned-maintenance-work>



Eleanor Sharpe, an Oxford University student who did her Final Honour School project at OCDEM with Dr Reshma Ramracheya and Dr Claudia Guida, has gone on to win this year's Physiological Society Prize for best overall student at the University of Oxford: the prize recognises excellence in final

year undergraduate students of physiology. For full details see

<https://www.rdm.ox.ac.uk/news/student-with-ocdem-project-wins-physiological-society-undergraduate-prize>



# Academic Consulting in the Medical Sciences

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019

12:00pm - 2:30pm

George Pickering Education Centre, JR Hospital,  
Headley Way, Headington Oxford OX3 9DU

The Consulting Services group at Oxford University Innovation (OUI) was established by the University to support academics and researchers in identifying and managing consultancy opportunities.

Come and join us for an introduction to academic consulting and how it is supported by OUI.

The workshop will cover:

- Consulting policy and processes at Oxford;
- Introduce the support and benefits offered by OUI;
- Provide examples of typical consulting assignments across the Medical Sciences;
- Explore ways of developing academic consultancy opportunities.

The course is open to all staff and researchers working within the Medical Sciences Division wishing to undertake academic consultancy and to learn more about how OUI can support them.

Lunch will be provided at 12:00pm

To register for a place on the workshop, please follow the Eventbrite link <https://bit.ly/2Zx7qOM> or contact Kerry Antcliffe at [kerry.antcliffe@innovation.ox.ac.uk](mailto:kerry.antcliffe@innovation.ox.ac.uk)





IN THE RARE EVENT OF  
a firearms or weapons attack

# RUN HIDE TELL



**RUN** to a place of safety. This is a far better option than to surrender or negotiate. If there's nowhere to go, then...

**HIDE.** It's better to hide than to confront. Remember to turn your phone to silent and turn off vibrate. Barricade yourself in if you can. Then finally and only when it is safe to do so...

**TELL** the police by calling 999.

## **RUN HIDE TELL**



At the moment, the issue of terrorist attacks is regularly in the news. But it's been on our agenda for much longer.

The police and security service have been working constantly to foil terrorist attacks for years, not months.

But we are not complacent about keeping you safe.

Due to events in the UK and abroad, people are understandably concerned about a firearms or weapons attack. These attacks are very rare but in the event of such an attack, it helps to be prepared.

Remember, attacks of this nature are still very rare in the UK.

So Stay Safe, and just remember the words:

**RUN. HIDE. TELL.**

To watch the Stay Safe film, visit  
[www.npcc.police.uk/staysafe](http://www.npcc.police.uk/staysafe)

Information is vital. If you see or hear something that could be terrorist related, trust your instincts and call the confidential Anti-Terrorist hotline on **0800 789 321**. Our specially trained officers will take it from there. Your call could save lives.

Always in an emergency, call **999**.