

RDM Funding Bulletin – March 2019

Internal Funding Opportunities	Deadline*
John Fell Fund (JFF)	RDM internal deadline 15 April 2019 (noon)
Oxford-Celgene Fellowship – call for PIs to submit project proposals	19 April 2019 (5pm)
Medical Sciences Internal Fund (MSIF)	RDM internal deadline 17 April 2019 (noon)
Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (WT ISSF)	RDM internal deadline 17 April 2019 (noon)
Knowledge Exchange Seed Fund	RDM internal deadline 23 April 2019 (noon)
RDM Pump Priming Awards	29 April 2019 (midday)
Oxford-Canterbury (NZ) Academic Staff Exchange Programme	10 May 2019
Returning Carers' Fund	RDM internal deadline 28 May 2019 (noon)
Oxford-Berlin Research Partnership Seed Grants	Expected to be in Spring 2019
MRC Proximity to Discovery (P2D): Industry Engagement Fund	Rolling applications - activities must be completed by 31 August 2019.
Selected External Funding Opportunities	Deadline*
Wellcome Trust Sir Henry Dale Fellowship	2 April 2019 (5pm)
Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Intermediate Research Fellowship	11 April 2019 (5pm)
BHF Translational Award	15 April 2019
Wellcome Trust Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowship	17 April 2019 (5pm)
MRC Career Development Award	25 April 2019 (4pm)
BBSRC New Investigator Scheme	30 April 2019 (4pm)
Diabetes UK Early Career Small Grants	1 June 2019
Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Project Grants	15 July 2019
British Society for Haematology Early-Stage Research Start-up Grants	30 June 2019
John Templeton Foundation Small and Large Grants	16 August 2019
Please see the RDM Funding Database , which lists all fellowship and other funding opportunities and deadlines.	

***Please remember that your local admin team and Research Services deadlines (where applicable) will be well in advance of the above deadlines.**

Please contact the RDM Research Funding Team ([Dr Ruth McCaffrey](#), [Dr Serena Briant](#) or [Dr Kathleen Dolan](#))

- With any queries related to funding opportunities
- For advice on potential sources of funding tailored to your career stage
- For guidance and support with fellowship applications
- For letters of support from the Head of Department, Professor Hugh Watkins, or for institutional letters of support.

NEW UPDATE to online system for internal grant applications (IRAMS)



The University and Medical Sciences Division (MSD) uses the [Internal Research Award Management System \(IRAMS\)](#) for internal grant applications (e.g. MSIF, ISSF, JFF, MSLTF) and University co-ordinated bids. **All applicants must now have an [ORCID ID](#) when applying through IRAMS.** This can be applied for on the University website [here](#).

When you submit your application, it will be sent to the RDM Research Funding Team. **All applications made via IRAMS will have an earlier RDM deadline** to allow Ruth/Serena/Kathleen time to submit your application to MSD, or where indicated in this bulletin, go through an RDM internal review process to add value to your application. You will be able to track your application on IRAMS.

When completing your application in IRAMS, in the field called **'Form editors'** please add the **name and details of your local divisional administrator**. You will need their SSO ID (you can find this in Outlook listed under 'Alias', when you look up the Outlook properties of the contact).

Internal Funding Opportunities

John Fell Fund (JFF)

Aim: To foster creativity and a proactive approach to research opportunities in all subject areas, in particular interdisciplinary fields.



John Fell OUP Research Fund

Funding available to support: (a) pump priming; (b) early career researchers; (c) other academic activities likely to lead to new research initiatives; (d) Research Facilitators; (e) support related to bids for external funding; (f) strategic investment in research assets.

Amount: Small award scheme (< £7.5k) or main award scheme (> £7.5k with no upper limit).

Eligibility: Current employee of the University holding an academic post, or a research fellowship awarded competitively and intended to enable you to establish an independent research career. Senior post-doc researchers who are genuinely on an independent career track (planning to submit external fellowship applications) are now eligible to be the PI on JFF applications with support from the Head of Department.

[Further information on the JFF.](#) Please contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#) if you have any questions about categories to apply for and appropriate levels of funding to request. For prospective Category F applications, you must notify Ruth well in advance as these applications need extensive discussion with the Medical Sciences Divisional office.

RDM internal deadline: 15 April 2019 (noon). If you would like to apply, please inform your local administrator and the RDM Research Funding Team ([Ruth McCaffrey](#), [Serena Briant](#) or [Kathleen Dolan](#)) in advance. We are happy to comment on draft applications before the RDM internal deadline. This earlier deadline will be *strictly applied* as a panel of PIs from across RDM will be convened to review applications. When you have completed your application via [IRAMS](#), click the submit button, which sends your application to Ruth/Serena/Kathleen.

Future RDM internal deadline: Sept 2019 – exact date TBC.

Oxford–Celgene Fellowship – call for PIs to submit project proposals



Aim: The goal of the fellowship scheme is to stimulate new scientific discovery and translation and to facilitate skills transfer between researchers in academia and industry. The project proposals are aimed at fellows who must be committed to translational science and interested in obtaining experience with drug development in an industrial setting. Fellowships are available for clinicians and basic research scientists.

Research areas: Proposals should be targeted to research areas of interest for Celgene

- 1) Novel targets; biomarkers or translational models in: immune-oncology, neurodegenerative/neuroinflammatory diseases, fibrosing disorders, rheumatic and dermatological disorders, haematological disorders.
- 2) Methods for evaluating biochemical, cellular, tissue and phenotypic consequences of modulating epigenetic targets.
- 3) Methods for immuno-phenotyping of human subjects in oncology and autoimmunity.
- 4) Novel imaging approaches to measuring disease activity in the above areas.
- 5) Novel biostatistical or decision science approaches applicable to the design and interpretation of more efficient Phase 1-2 clinical trials.

Funding is available to support: Fellows' salary, consumable support, travel allowance and DPhil fees (for clinical fellows only).

Duration of funding: 3 years.

Eligibility: PI in the Medical Sciences Division.

[Further information on the Oxford-Celgene Fellowship.](#)

Deadline: 19 April 2019 (5pm). Contact [Charlotte Bell](#) (Industry Partnerships Manager) for queries on the Oxford-Celgene Fellowship programme.

Medical Sciences Internal Fund (MSIF)

Aim: To support researchers who are employees of departments within the Medical Sciences Division through different funding streams.

Funding available to support:

- 1) **Pump priming** - enables investigators to obtain pilot data to support larger scale applications for external research funding in the future (<£10k). **Post-docs are eligible to apply as the PI - an ideal opportunity to secure some funding in your own name.**
- 2) **Clinical pre-fellowship** - provides short-term (up to three months) funding to cover the salary of clinicians who will shortly begin an externally funded research training fellowship at Oxford.
- 3) **Bridging and family leave** - Bridging funding supports salary costs (typically three months) pending the application of an externally submitted grant. To be eligible to apply researchers must: a) be externally funded and bridging to another external grant; b) not be bridging from start-up packages regardless of funding source; c) not be bridging to non-medical research (e.g. BBSRC or Leverhulme funding).

While the guidelines on the divisional website say there is no deadline for bridging funding applications, and IRAMS states that the deadline is rolling, **RDM sets an internal deadline** (see below). This is because we can only submit 15 applications by the whole department per year. However, urgent applications for bridging funding will be considered on a case by case basis, as the need arises.

Funding can also be requested to support maternity/shared parental/adoption leave bridging costs for researchers whilst employed on an externally funded research grant. Applications to support this type of bridging are **not** included in the cap of 15 applications per department.

[Further information on the MSIF.](#)

RDM internal deadline: 17 April 2019 (noon). If you would like to apply, please inform the RDM Research Funding Team ([Ruth McCaffrey](#), [Serena Briant](#) or [Kathleen Dolan](#)) in advance. We are happy to comment on draft applications before the RDM internal deadline. This earlier internal deadline will be *strictly applied* as a panel of PIs from across RDM will be convened to review

applications. Submit your application online via [IRAMS](#), which sends your application to Ruth/Serena/Kathleen.

There is no deadline for maternity/shared parental/adoption leave funds and applications can be submitted at any time online via [IRAMS](#). As with all applications, we are happy to comment on drafts.

Future RDM internal deadline: late Sept/Oct 2019 – exact date TBC.

Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (WT ISSF)

1) Individual Career Support

Aim: Pump priming funding is available to support researchers, who currently hold little or no WT funding, to make a subsequent competitive application to the WT or other external funder.

Funding available to support:

- a) **Early Career Researchers** – for researchers who have held a post for less than eight years, which involved developing their own research agenda. Funding is intended to accelerate applications for WT Fellowships, Investigator or Seed awards.
- b) **Early Career Clinical Academics** – funding is intended to support clinical lecturers in career development (e.g. through attending a conference, training, secondment, RA or admin support etc.).
- c) **Career Transformation Scheme** – for researchers who hold an independent post who have a reduced research portfolio (e.g. due to sickness or caring reasons or due to increased teaching load). Funding is intended to reinvigorate research careers so applications for further funding can be made (e.g. WT Seed awards).
- d) **Discipline Hopping** – funding is available to independent researchers who currently work outside of the WT remit so that they can apply their expertise to the WT goals.

Eligibility: Must fit into one of the categories above. DPhil students, post-docs and clinical research fellows are not eligible to apply. Senior post-doc researchers who are genuinely on an independent career track (planning to submit external fellowship applications) are now eligible to be the PI on ISSF applications. Only projects in the [WT research areas](#) can be supported.

Amount: Small awards (<£10k) and main awards (<£100k).

Match funding is not required for small awards or the Early Career Clinical Academics funding stream. It is expected that funding requests to the ISSF for awards over £10k will have a minimum 20% match component at the point of application. Match funding cannot come from a Wellcome Trust award. Only direct costs will be covered.

[Further information on Individual Career Support.](#)

2) Interdepartmental Strategic Initiatives:

Aim: To support strategic initiatives **across** departments. Only projects in the [WT research areas](#) can be supported.

Funding available to support:

- a) **Equipment, research assets or staff within shared facilities** where there is evidence of strategic need.
- b) **Establishment of cross cutting themes** through activities such as research facilitation, symposia or conferences in order to encourage collaboration in new areas.

Projects that are limited to only one department/faculty will not be supported.

Amount: Small awards (<£10k) and main awards (<£200k).

Match funding is not required for small awards. It is expected that funding requests to the ISSF for awards over £10k will have a minimum 20% match component at the point of application. Match funding cannot come from a Wellcome Trust award. Only direct costs will be covered.

Eligibility: Must be employed by the University. DPhil students, post-docs and clinical research fellows are not eligible to apply. Senior post-doc researchers who are genuinely on an independent career track (planning to submit external fellowship applications) are now eligible to be the PI on ISSF applications. Only projects in the [WT research areas](#) can be supported.

[Further information on Interdepartmental Strategic Initiatives.](#)

RDM internal deadline: 17 April 2019 (noon). Submit applications online via [IRAMS](#), which sends your application to the RDM Research Funding Team ([Ruth McCaffrey](#), [Serena Briant](#) or [Kathleen Dolan](#)). We are happy to comment on draft applications before the RDM internal deadline. This earlier internal deadline will be *strictly applied* as a panel of PIs from across RDM will be convened to review applications.

Letters of support are required for some funding streams. They will be provided following the RDM internal deadline and review panel meeting.

Future RDM internal deadline: late Sept/Oct 2019 – exact date TBC.

Knowledge Exchange Seed Fund

Aim: To support early-stage knowledge exchange (KE) ideas between universities and non-university organisations (e.g. NGOs, think tanks, companies). The KE fund can be used to add KE to existing awards or activities, however proposals must be innovative (i.e. excluding research-oriented events/workshops, school engagement, research consumables).

Amount available: £100 to £5k per project.

Duration of funding: Awards must be spent by 15 July 2020.

Eligibility: University of Oxford staff, excluding college-only staff.

[Further information on the KE Seed Fund](#). Please direct enquiries to the KE Fund manager [Matt Smart](#).

RDM internal deadline: 23 April 2019 (noon). Submit applications via [IRAMS](#) and email [Matt Smart](#) once completed.

Future RDM internal deadline: TBC.

RDM Pump Priming Awards

Aim: RDM is keen to build new collaborations between researchers in different parts of the department and to foster new synergies. These pump priming awards are to fund novel and innovative projects which would be difficult to get funded from external peer-reviewed sources. This may be because: the project is too high risk, the data is too preliminary, a rapid funding decision is needed, or where there are concerns about confidentiality that make external peer-review unattractive.

Funding available to support: Consumables, equipment, animal costs, travel costs and personnel costs.

Amount available: Up to £50k per award (we aim to fund up to 2 awards this year).

Eligibility: Any researcher based within RDM is eligible to apply; you do not have to be an RDM PI. Priority will be given to applications that initiate a new collaboration between researchers who have not previously worked together and who are based in different divisions of RDM (CVM, IMD, NDCLS, OCDEM, & WIMM). However, if well justified, applications will also be considered where a new collaboration is being established between researchers within the same division. Applications with non-RDM applicants or collaborators will not be considered.

[Further information on the RDM Pump Priming Awards](#). Please direct enquiries to [Serena Briant](#).

Deadline: 29 April 2019 (midday). Please email applications to [Serena Briant](#).

Future deadline: Annual call.

Oxford–Canterbury (NZ) Academic Staff Exchange Programme

Aim: To build on academic links between the University of Oxford and the University of Canterbury. This is an opportunity for academic staff to visit the University of Canterbury and give lectures to students, whilst contributing generally to the teaching programme.

Funding available to support: A return air fare (from London to Christchurch) for the fellow, accommodation for the duration of the exchange and a daily allowance towards living expenses (NZ\$100). A second air fare will be offered for a spouse/domestic partner.

Duration of funding: 1-3 months (with a possibility to extend to 4 months if approved at the time of application).

Eligibility: Any subject area taught at the University of Canterbury.

Any Oxford academic thinking of applying for a Fellowship must contact the relevant department at Canterbury and obtain a supporting letter from the Head of Department.

[Further information on Oxford-Canterbury \(NZ\) Academic Staff Exchange Programme.](#)

Deadline: 10 May 2019.

Returning Carers' Fund

Aim: Funding to support the development of research careers following a break to care for a child or close relative.

Funding to support:

- 1) Teaching buy-out to enable you to concentrate on research;
- 2) Training or professional development;
- 3) Short-term secondments to enable you to 'get up to speed' with recent research;
- 4) Conference attendance to enable you to re-establish your profile;
- 5) Short-term research or admin assistance;
- 6) Small scale lab equipment purchase;
- 7) Funding visits to Oxford by your recent collaborator.

This list is not exhaustive and any reasonable applications will be considered providing the link to career development in scientific research can be demonstrated.

Eligibility: All those who a) are currently on leave for a minimum of six months; b) have returned from a break of at least six months within the last two years; or c) have returned from two breaks each of at least six months within the last five years. A break may comprise of two or more discontinuous periods of leave totalling at least six months, provided that they relate to a single life event (e.g. as part of a shared parental leave arrangement).

[Further Information on the Returning Carers' Fund.](#)

RDM internal deadline: 28 May 2019 (noon). If you are planning on applying, please contact the RDM Research Funding team ([Ruth McCaffrey](#), [Serena Briant](#) or [Kathleen Dolan](#)) in advance.

Future RDM internal deadline: Nov 2019 – exact date TBC.

Oxford-Berlin Research Partnership Seed Grants

Aim: To support collaborations between the University of Oxford and one of the participating institutions in Berlin (Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin, and the Charité – Universitätsmedizin). The Seed Grants will enable the development of future joint applications to EU framework programmes or other British, German, European and international funding bodies.

Funding amount: €10k to €30k.

[Further information on the Oxford-Berlin Research Partnership Seed Grants.](#)

Deadline: Call opens in May 2019. Please direct queries to [Alasdair MacDonald](#).

MRC Proximity to Discovery (P2D): Industry Engagement Fund

Aim: To support activities that build relationships between the University and industry partners, and promote a culture of innovation. It may lead to future Medical and Life Sciences Translational Fund (MLSTF) applications.

Funding to support: Staff exchanges (including travel, subsistence and accommodation); development and dissemination of technology platforms; and training workshops involving industry.

Amount available: Small and large applications will be accepted.

Eligibility: Must be employed by the University.

[Further information on the MRC P2D: Industry Engagement Fund.](#)

Deadline: Rolling applications, but all grant activities must be completed by 31 August 2019. Submit applications online via [IRAMS](#), which sends your application to the RDM Research Funding team ([Ruth McCaffrey](#), [Serena Briant](#) or [Kathleen Dolan](#)), who will check and submit it on your behalf.

Selected External Funding Opportunities

For all applications for Fellowships, please contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#) or [Serena Briant](#) well in advance of applying, so help and support can be provided.

Wellcome Trust Sir Henry Dale Fellowship

Aim: To support postdoctoral researchers who aim to become independent scientists leading their own groups. The funding is a partnership between the Royal Society and the Wellcome Trust.

Career Stage: Intermediate.

Funding is available to support: Fellow's salary, a fellowship supplement of £7.5k for personal support and research expenses (including a postdoctoral, graduate research assistant or technician).

Duration of funding: Up to 5 (+3) years. The fellowship may be held on a part-time basis.

Eligibility: The applicant must have a DPhil/PhD and significant post-doctoral research experience (including important contributions to your area of research).

[Further information about the Sir Henry Dale Fellowship.](#)

Deadline: 2 April 2019 (5pm).

Future deadline: August 2019 TBC.



Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Intermediate Research Fellowship

Aim: To facilitate the careers of truly outstanding biomedical scientists by allowing them to gain experience in an international centre of excellence or to establish an independent research group of their own.

Areas of research: Epidemiology, aetiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis or treatment of leukaemia or a closely allied malignancy.

Funding is available to support: Fellow's salary, a fellowship supplement of £7.5k for personal support and research expenses (including a postdoctoral, graduate research assistant or technician).

Duration of funding: Up to 4 years.

Eligibility: Non-medical applicants will have a DPhil/PhD and significant post-doctoral research experience (3-8 years). Medical graduates will have obtained a DPhil/PhD and in exceptional cases can complete their clinical training during the Intermediate Fellowship.

[Further information about the Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Intermediate Research Fellowship.](#)

Deadline: 11 April 2019 (5pm).

BHF Translational Award

Aim: To support the development of cardiovascular technologies from the proof-of-concept stage to being ready for the commercial market. It will help to bridge the funding gap between promising innovations and the clinic with the aim of accelerating advances for patient benefit.

Research areas: Cardiovascular science, stroke, vascular dementia and diabetes.

Funding is available to support: Staff salary's (excluding DPhil studentships), consumables and essential research equipment, consultancy fees, outsourcing to contract research organisations and relevant training courses.

Amount of funding: Up to £750k.

[Further information about the BHF Translational Award.](#)



Deadline: 15 April 2019.

Future deadline: 15 October 2019.

Wellcome Trust Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowship

Aim: To support early career researchers to undertake a guided period of research and will go on to lead their own independent research.

Career Stage: Early.

Funding available to support: £300k to cover the fellow's salary, a fellowship supplement of £2.5k p.a., and research expenses.

Duration of funding: 4 years.

Eligibility: Final year of DPhil/PhD or an early career researcher with some initial post-doctoral experience (generally no more than 2 years post-DPhil/PhD viva).

[Further information about the Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowship.](#)



Deadline: 17 April 2019 (5pm).

Future deadline: October 2019 TBC.

MRC Career Development Award

Aim: To support talented post-doctoral researchers to lead their own research plans and establish their own research team to make the transition from post-doctoral researcher to independent investigator.

Career stage: Early to Intermediate.

Funding available to support: Full personal salary costs, research staff, consumables, travel and capital equipment appropriate for the research project. Applicants are particularly encouraged to consider the opportunities the fellowship offers to establish collaborative networks and for cross-sector development. The award will support a period of research overseas, at a second UK institution, or within industry where appropriate for the research project.



Duration of funding: Up to 5 years.

Eligibility: Applicants will normally hold a DPhil/PhD, and career breaks/flexible working will be taken into account.

[Further information on the MRC Career Development Award.](#)

Deadline: 25 April 2019 (4pm).

BBSRC New Investigator Scheme



Aim: To assist early-career researchers to secure their first major element of research funding.

Eligibility: Applicants must not have received competitive research funding from any source, as a Principal Investigator, that included postdoctoral research assistant staff support costs.

[Further information about the BBSRC New Investigator Scheme.](#)

Deadline: 30 April 2019 (4pm).

Diabetes UK Early-Career Small Grants



Aim: To support researchers at key career transition points with the aim of enabling successful recipients to go on to secure further, more significant, funding. The scheme now operates through two distinct funding streams.

Funding streams available:

1. Springboard for Biomedical Scientists (associated with the Academy of Medical Sciences)
2. Early-career Small Grants for Basic Scientists

Funding available to support: Consumables, small pieces of equipment and collaborative travel.

Amount of funding: Up to £15k.

Duration of funding: Up to 1 year.

Eligibility: Applicants must be in receipt of a salary for the duration of the proposed award, and not normally more than 4 years from appointment to their first academic position (allowances are made for career breaks due to family or personal reasons). Applicants who hold an early career fellowship providing salary support are eligible to apply.

[Further information about the Diabetes UK Early-Career Small Grants.](#)

Deadline: 1 June 2019.

Future deadline: 3 December 2019.

Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Project Grants

Aim: To support and strengthen activities from basic research programmes that are already underway. The Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Project Grant is to complement existing funding.

Research areas: Prevention, diagnosis, or therapy of leukaemia and related haematological malignancies.

Career stage: Within 5 years of a first independent group leader position.

Amount of funding: Up to £15k.

Duration of funding: Up to 3 years.

Eligibility: Applications for basic science programmes may be considered, however clinical trials will not be supported.

[Further information about the Kay Kendall Leukaemia fund Project Grants.](#)

Deadline: 15 July 2019.

British Society for Haematology Early-Stage Research Start-up Grants



Aim: To support early research projects that will open opportunities to larger grant applications.

Amount of funding: Up to £15k.

Eligibility: Applicants must have been a BSH member for at least one year. Members will only be eligible for one Early Stage Research Grant; if you have received a BSH research grant previously you will not be eligible for any future applications.

[Further information about the British Society for Haematology Early-Stage research Start-Up Grant.](#)

Deadline: 30 June 2019.

John Templeton Foundation Small and Large Grants

Research areas: (1) Science & the Big Questions; (2) Character Development; (3) Freedom & Free enterprise; (4) Exceptional Cognitive Talent & Genius; and (5) Genetics.



Amount of funding: Small grant (up to \$234,800) and large grants (above \$234,800).

Duration of funding: Up to 3 years.

[Further information about the John Templeton Foundation Small and Large Grants.](#)

Deadline: 16 August 2019.

Future deadline: 11 October 2019.

Please see the [RDM Funding Database](#), which lists fellowship and other funding opportunities and deadlines.

Other relevant information

IRAMS update: ORCID ID needed for University grant applications

The Internal Research Award Management System ([IRAMS](#)) is used for all internal University grant applications (e.g. JFF, ISSF, MSIF, MLSTF etc).

When submitting an application via IRAMS you now must now have an ORCID ID to be able to apply. You can apply for an ORCID ID via the University [website](#). An ORCID ID is a unique researcher identifier, used worldwide, that you keep throughout your life and retain even if you move institution. Most external funders require you to have an ORCID ID when you submit an application to them.

For questions or queries about IRAMS and internal funding, contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#), [Serena Briant](#) or [Kathleen Dolan](#).

New mandatory training on data privacy and information security.

All staff on University contracts must complete the new information security and data privacy online training module by **Friday 29 March**. The training takes around 30 to 40 minutes to complete. It is designed to help colleagues avoid taking risks that could impact them, their colleagues, and the University's research funding and reputation. It is especially important for those in the process of applying for a grant, a data set or going through ethical approval.

Complete the training course [here](#).

Training opportunity for funding applications

We are now offering the opportunity for postdocs to sit as an observer on RDM panels of senior academics that review internal funding applications. Please note that spaces are limited, and we will give priority to researchers who plan on submitting their own fellowship or grant applications.

Please email [Kathleen Dolan](#) to register your interest and include information on when and where you plan to submit to external funders.

NIHR fellowship application day (7 June 2019)

The NIHR fellowship application day is an interactive and free-to-attend all-day masterclass, funded and hosted by NIHR Research Design Service (RDS) South Central. This event will be held in Southampton on Friday 7 June to support applicants intending to apply for the NIHR fellowship programme in December 2019 or in 2020.

Register [here](#) if interested.

New Advocate for Research Staff Development

[Professor David Gavaghan](#) from the Department of Computer Science has been appointed as the University's first Advocate for Research Staff Development. In this new role, David will spend one day a week working with divisions, departments, the Careers Service and research staff to implement the University's Research Staff Development Strategy.

If you have any comments or questions, get in touch with the Career Development Committee [here](#).

REF 2021: University draft code of practice

Research England has published, on behalf of the UK's four higher education funding bodies, the key guidance for UK universities on how to submit their research to the next Research Excellence Framework. In response, the University is currently finalising its Code of Practice, which will provide details on how staff and outputs will be selected for REF2021.

More information on the REF guidance and criteria [here](#), and the University's current draft code of practice [here](#). Within RDM, questions about REF should be directed to [Ruth McCaffrey](#).

Research integrity concordat consultation

The [concordat to support research integrity](#) applies to all research staff and students, and seeks to provide a comprehensive national framework for good research conduct and its governance.

Universities UK has launched a consultation on proposed revisions to the Concordat.

Contact [Kathryn Dally](#), Research Services, with comments by **Friday 29 March**.

Save the date – Oxford BHF CRE Annual Symposium (3 October 2019).

The 2019 Oxford BHF CRE Annual Symposium will be hosted at St Catherine's College on 3 October.

The programme will include a full day of talks and poster sessions, more information will be announced in due course.

Contact [Philippa Major](#) with any questions or queries.

Advanced Therapies & Regenerative Medicine AIMday (3 April 2019)

Hosted at the Blavatnik School of Governance, Academic Industry Meeting days (AIMdays) provide a platform for companies to host roundtable discussions with academics to discuss how knowledge from academia can be used to solve industry challenges. It is a change to meet potential collaborators from industry and around the University.

More information on the AIMdays [here](#) or contact [Amira Burshan](#).

Wellcome Trust to cover caring costs

The Wellcome Trust (WT) has updated its grant conditions to cover caring responsibilities for grant holders when attending conferences.

More information on claims on WT grants [here](#).

Wellcome Trust: SoECAT requirements for clinical research

The Wellcome Trust has published advice on the new requirement for researchers applying for funding for clinical research that uses NHS resources. Researchers applying for clinical research funding need to complete a Schedule of Events Cost Attribution Template (SoECAT).

Further information on the SoECAT form [here](#).

BHF: New policies on bullying, harassment and research misconduct

The British Heart Foundation has introduced new policies on bullying, harassment and research misconduct, which are integrated in its standard grant conditions.

Find out more information about it [here](#).

Reminders

- If your application requires a **letter of support from the Head of Department**, Professor Hugh Watkins, you must contact [Dr Ruth McCaffrey](#) *at least two weeks in advance of the deadline* to request the letter.
- The [RDM Funding Database](#) holds information on internal and external funding opportunities, including fellowships, travel, seed funding, translational grants, equipment and studentships. The 'Fellowships' tab is particularly useful because you can filter for career stage and whether you are a basic or clinical researcher, which provides a quick summary of potential fellowship opportunities.
- RDM has a process to [coordinate and support all fellowship applications](#) being submitted (with the exception of clinical research training fellowships). Anyone wishing to apply for a fellowship must notify [Ruth McCaffrey](#) or [Serena Briant](#) as early as possible.