

RDM Funding Bulletin – December 2020

Welcome to the 18th edition of the RDM Funding Bulletin. This issue contains information on:

- [Internal funding schemes](#) (including **RDM internal deadlines** for the John Fell Fund and Returning Carers' Fund).
- [Fellowship schemes](#) (including how to request a letter of support from the Head of Department, and getting applications reviewed within the department).
- [Pump priming and project grants](#).
- [News and events from funders and the University](#).

For a more extensive list of funding opportunities, please see the [RDM Funding Database](#).

If you would like funding/application advice or support, please feel free to contact the RDM Research Strategy and Funding team on funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk or individually. More information about review processes for fellowship applications/interviews and internal funding are on the [RDM website](#).

RDM Research Strategy and Funding team

	Position	Contact me for...
Dr Ruth McCaffrey	Research Strategy Coordinator	One-on-one meetings, career development, letters of support from the Head of Department, Research Excellence Framework (REF)
Dr Serena Briant	Research Facilitator and Programme Manager for the Novo Nordisk-Oxford Fellowship Programme	One-on-one meetings, fellowship applications, letters of support from the Head of Department, Novo Nordisk-Oxford Fellowship Programme (nn.fellowships@rdm.ox.ac.uk)
Dr Kathleen Dolan	Research Facilitator and Operations Manager for the Novo Nordisk-Oxford Fellowship Programme	One-on-one meetings, internal funding opportunities/IRAMS, Novo Nordisk – Oxford Fellowship Programme (nn.fellowships@rdm.ox.ac.uk)

RDM divisional finance contacts

Each RDM divisional admin team is responsible for creating an X5 costing for all funding applications. They should be involved in your application from the earliest opportunity and will submit your application to Research Services at least five days before the funder deadline. Please contact the following for assistance:

	Email address	RDM division
Emma Burke-Smith	cvm_grants@cardiov.ox.ac.uk	CVM
James Dean	james.dean@ndm.ox.ac.uk	IMD
Mark Evans	finance@ndcls.ox.ac.uk	NDCLS
Noëlle Obers	grants@imm.ox.ac.uk	WIMM NDCLS and WIMM Core
Lynne Whay	grants@ocdem.ox.ac.uk	OCDEM

Internal Funding Opportunities

For internal funding opportunities or [IRAMS](#), please contact [Kathleen Dolan](#) or funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk. RDM internal deadlines will be ***strictly adhered*** to and we are happy to check applications before deadlines.

Internal Funding Opportunities	Deadline*
John Fell Fund (JFF)	RDM internal deadline 4 January 2021 (noon)
Oxford-Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS) Fellowships	Pre-application: 22 January 2021 (5pm) Full application: 14 April 2021 (5pm)
Novo Nordisk-Oxford Fellowship Programme	Call opens in February 2021
Cancer Research UK (CRUK) Oxford Centre Development Fund	12 February 2021 (noon)
Returning Carers' Fund	RDM internal deadline 17 February 2021 (noon)
Oxford BHF CRE: Transition Research Fellowships	24 February 2021 (noon)
Oxford BHF CRE: Training, Infrastructure, Pump Priming Grants	1 March 2021 (noon)
The Lockey Fund	5 March 2021
Oxfordshire Health Services Research Committee (OHSRC) Research Grants	15 April 2021
Lab282 Awards	5 June 2021
The University Challenge Seed Fund	Rolling deadline

Online system for internal grant applications (IRAMS)

The University and Medical Sciences Division (MSD) use the [Internal Research Award Management System \(IRAMS\)](#) for

internal grant applications (e.g. MSIF, ISSF, JFF, MLSTF) and University co-ordinated bids. **All applicants must have an [ORCID ID](#) when applying through IRAMS** (apply for one [here](#)).

When you submit your application, it is sent to the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding Team](#). **All applications made via IRAMS will have an earlier RDM deadline** to allow us 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. Once submitted, 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 IDs (you can find this in Outlook listed under 'Alias', when you look up the Outlook properties of the contact).



John Fell Fund (JFF)

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



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 (< £10k) or main award scheme (> £10k 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. *Letters of support will be provided following the RDM internal deadline and review panel meeting – please do not request a letter of support directly from the Head of Department.*

[Further information on the JFF](#). Please contact funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk if you have any questions about categories to apply for and appropriate levels of funding to request. For prospective Category F applications or cross-divisional bids, you must notify the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding team](#) well in advance as these applications need extensive discussion with the Medical Sciences Divisional office.

RDM internal deadline: 4 January 2021 (noon).

How to apply: [IRAMS](#). If you would like to apply, please inform your local administrator and the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding Team](#) in advance. 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 us.

Future RDM internal deadline: early April 2021 – exact date TBC.

Oxford-Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS) Fellowships



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 BMS.

1. Novel targets, biomarkers, cellular therapeutic approaches, or translational models in one of the following areas:
 - Immuno-oncology;

- Neurodegenerative and neuroinflammatory diseases including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, ALS, FTD and MS;
 - Fibrosing disorders including IPF, NASH, scleroderma, and Renal Fibrosis;
 - Rheumatic and dermatologic disorders including RA, SLE, spondyloarthropathies, psoriasis and atopic dermatitis;
 - Haematologic disorders including AML, Myeloma, DLBCL;
 - Chronic heart failure (either with preserved or reduced ejection fraction).
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.

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

Duration of funding: 3 years.

Eligibility: Projects can be submitted by PIs (with or without a named Fellow).

[Further information on the Oxford-BMS Fellowship](#) and [information sessions on 7 and 8 January](#). Contact [Charlotte Bell](#) (Industry Partnerships Manager) for queries on the Oxford-BMS Fellowship programme.

Pre-application deadline: 22 January 2021 (5pm).

Full application deadline: 14 April 2021 (5pm).

How to apply: The [pre-application](#) and [full application](#) forms (with an X5 costing) should be email to [Charlotte Bell](#).

Novo Nordisk-Oxford Fellowship Programme

Research area: Diabetes, cardiometabolism, liver and renal disease.

Aim: The Novo Nordisk – Oxford Fellowship Programme aims to support the development of a new generation of exceptional researchers, who will become future leaders in their field. The programme also aims to further develop scientific excellence and ultimately improve the lives of patients.

Career Stage: Early.

Funding available to support: Fellow's salary, consumables and generous travel allowance.

Duration of funding: 3 years.



There are two types of fellowship:

1) Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (5 posts)

Eligibility: A PhD/DPhil, or near to completion in a medical/biological subject. Be no more than four years post PhD at the start of the fellowship (Autumn 2021). This has been relaxed for the 2021 round, due to the postponement of the 2020 recruitment round. The condition will also be relaxed proportionately for applicants who have had a career break.

2) Clinical Research Training Fellowship (1 post)

This fellowship is aimed at clinicians who wish to undertake a DPhil and who aspire to a career in academic medicine.

Eligibility: Have prior research experience (typically a BSc), a medical degree and some specialist experience, typically having obtained MRCP or equivalent, but not CCT or consultant status.

[Further information on the Novo Nordisk-Oxford Fellowship Programme](#), including full eligibility criteria. Enquiries can be directed to nn.fellowships@rdm.ox.ac.uk.

Deadline: Projects to be advertised at the beginning of February. Deadline date TBC – likely to be mid-March 2020.

How to apply: University of Oxford vacancies page.

Cancer Research UK (CRUK) Oxford Centre Development Fund



Aim: Provide short-term, pump-priming funds to support innovative, high-risk, proof-of-concept cancer research. Priority is given to projects with a clear translational trajectory, to early career researchers, for new collaborations between investigators, and those which map onto the [Centre's Strategic Framework](#).

Amount: Small (<£7.5k) and main (up to £15k) awards.

Duration of funding: 12 months (fixed project dates from 31 March 2021 to 20 March 2022).

Eligibility: Senior post-doctoral researcher or independent principle investigator currently engaged in cancer research in the University of Oxford and Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Applicants must have a contract extending beyond the end date of the award and be a member of the CRUK Oxford Centre (sign up [here](#)).

[Further information on the CRUK Oxford Centre Development Fund](#). Contact cancercentre@oncology.ox.ac.uk for an application form and further details regarding eligibility criteria and the award process.

Deadline: 12 February 2021 (noon).

Returning Carers' Fund

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

Funding available 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: 17 February 2021 (noon).

How to apply: If you are planning to apply, please contact the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding team](#) in advance. Email [applications](mailto:applications@athena-swan@medsci.ox.ac.uk) to athena-swan@medsci.ox.ac.uk.

Future RDM internal deadline: 26 May 2021.

Oxford BHF CRE: Transition Research Fellowships

Aim: To support and develop outstanding postdoctoral researchers to enable them to successfully apply for external funding opportunities, and to foster and develop future leaders in cardiovascular research.

Funding available to support: Award holder's salary; a research assistant (where relevant); appropriate consumables; essential equipment and travel costs.

Duration of funding: 2 years.

Eligibility: All applicants will have completed a PhD/DPhil in a relevant subject.

(1) Intermediate Fellowships:

- Basic scientists will typically have a number of years of successful postdoctoral work and first-author high-impact research papers.



- Clinician scientists will have completed a PhD and typically will be a specialist trainee (with NTN). They are expected to have published first-author high-impact research papers. Discussion with an Oxford BHF CRE sponsor/PI is strongly advised regarding expected date of CCT prior to application.

(2) *Senior Fellowships:*

- Basic scientists will typically have a number of years of successful postdoctoral work, an established track record of research leadership and are likely to have held an Intermediate Fellowship.
- Clinicians would be expected to have 2 - 4 years of successful postdoctoral work with CCT and are likely to have held an Intermediate Fellowship or a Clinical Lectureship.

[Further information on Oxford BHF CRE Transition Research Fellowships.](#) Please contact [Philippa Major](#) for queries.

Deadline: 24 February 2021 (noon).

Oxford BHF CRE: Training, Infrastructure, Pump Priming Grants

Aim: To support cardiovascular researchers through different funding streams.

Funding is available to support:

- 1) **Pump priming** – to generate preliminary data and strengthen future external funding proposals.
- 2) **Enabling Technologies** – to establish or further develop specialist multi-user facilities. Priority will be given to building and developing research facilities that benefit more than one BHF CRE research group. The BHF CRE will consider applications to underwrite or part-fund key personnel (bridging funding) and/or facilities with a long-term goal to cover costs from re-charging to grants and/or full economic costing of grants.
- 3) **Career Development** – to support a range of activities, including the development of skills-training programmes for cardiovascular research, undergraduate vacation student awards, and the collaboration travel awards described below.
- 4) **Travel awards for building national and international collaborations** – to support travel to start or develop research collaborations, to visit recognised research centres to study new techniques, or to assist collaborators to spend time with an Oxford BHF CRE group.
- 5) **Conference travel (graduate students/postdocs)** – awards are limited to a maximum of £500.
- 6) **Theme meetings (relevant to the BHF CRE research themes)**



[Further information on Oxford BHF CRE Research Themes.](#) Please contact [Philippa Major](#) for the funding application guidelines and to discuss your application.

Deadline: 1 March 2021 (noon) for consideration at the March Steering Committee meeting.

The Lockey Fund

Aim: The Lockey Committee consider applications requesting support for attendance to overseas scientific conferences, symposia, etc.

Funding available to support: Fellow's salary, consumables and generous travel allowance.

Amount:

1. Europe, £500
2. Rest of the World £1,000
3. Aggregated four-year total £1,500

Eligibility: Academic and research staff who hold a doctorate and are members of Congregation (although applications may be considered from postdoctoral research workers etc. who are not members of Congregation). Applications must involve the dissemination of research results rather than the planning of future projects. The meeting should be open rather than restricted to a small number of people by special invitation only (invitation by an international programme committee or similar is regarded as open in this context).

[Further information on the Lockey Fund.](#)

Deadline: 5 March 2021.

How to apply: email applications to lockeyfund@mpls.ox.ac.uk

Oxfordshire Health Services Research Committee (OHSRC) Research Grants

Aim: To support small projects/pilot studies in the areas of clinical research; community/primary care research; and relevant laboratory studies.

Duration of funding: Project must be completed within 2 years.

Amount: Up to £10k.

Eligibility: Health professions (e.g. medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and other professions supplementary to medicine in science and technology) who hold a contract of employment, including an honorary contract, with an Oxfordshire NHS Trust, or who are in contract to provide primary care services in Oxfordshire. OHSRC particularly welcome applications from early career researchers.

[Further information on the Oxfordshire Health Services Research Committee \(OHSRC\) Research Grants.](#)

Deadline: 15 April and 15 October each year.

Lab282 Awards

Lab282 was launched in 2016 and is a partnership between the University of Oxford, Oxford University Innovation, Oxford Sciences Innovation and Evotec.



Aim: Lab282 provides funding and expertise towards drug discovery work and researchers interested in translating their novel findings towards a clinical application with the potential for a new University spin-out. Awards will not support late stage preclinical or clinical projects and is not intended to provide funding for academics' salaries.

Amount: Up to £500k with funding split between the PI's lab and the industrial partner Evotec (split depending on the project's scientific requirements).

Eligibility: Any PI employed by the University. Any post-doc who is contracted to be employed by the University for at least the expected duration of a funded project may also apply with a letter of support from a PI.

Interested academics should first talk to both the Lab282 Expert in Residence (thomas.hanke@lab282.org) and a member of the Licensing and Ventures Group in Oxford University Innovation (richard.reschen@innovation.ox.ac.uk).

[Further Information on Lab282 awards.](#)

Deadline: 5 June 2021 (for the next Joint Steering Committee in July 2021).

The University Challenge Seed Fund

Aim: To assist University researchers transform good research into good business; to bring research discoveries to a point where their commercial usefulness can be demonstrated; and support the first steps taken to ensure their utility. The primary focus is the exploitation of science and engineering research outcomes.



Funding available to support: Access to managerial skills; securing or enhancing intellectual property; supporting additional R&D; funding construction of prototype; widening proven applications; preparing business plan; covering legal costs; covering costs of external expertise e.g. regulatory advice.

Amount: £2.5k to £250k.

[Further information on The University Challenge Seed Fund.](#)

Deadline: Rolling.

How to apply: Contact either the Technology Transfer Manager at Oxford University Innovation with whom you are already working with; or the Head of New Venture Support and Funding at Oxford University Innovation (adam.workman@innovation.ox.ac.uk) to be put in touch with the appropriate Technology Transfer Manager.

Upcoming Fellowship opportunities

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

*Your local admin team and Research Services deadlines (where applicable) will be well in advance of the deadlines listed below – [please check with them](#).

Letters of Support and internal review

- If your application requires a **letter of support from the Head of Department**, Professor Hugh Watkins, you must contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#) or [Serena Briant](#) *at least two weeks in advance of the deadline* to request the letter.
- 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 [Serena Briant](#) as early as possible.

Fellowship schemes	Career stage	Deadline*
MRC Clinician Scientist Fellowship	Early or Intermediate clinicians	7 January 2021 7 April 2021 1 September 2021
MRC Clinical Research Training Fellowship (Pre- and Postdoctoral)	Early clinicians	7 January 2021 7 April 2021 1 September 2021
NIHR Advanced Fellowship	Early clinicians or basic scientists	14 January 2021
JSPS Pre/Postdoctoral Fellowship for Foreign Researchers (Short Term)	Early basic scientists	15 January 2021 4 June 2021
Wellcome Trust - Clinical Research Career Development Fellowships	Early or Intermediate clinicians	28 January 2021 6 July 2021 (This will be the last round)
Leukaemia UK John Goldman Fellowship for Future Science	Early or Intermediate, clinicians and basic scientists	31 January 2021
Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowships	Early basic scientists	5 February 2021
Wellcome Trust – Investigator Award in Science	Intermediate or Senior basic scientists	9 February 2021 1 July 2021 (This will be the last round)
Wellcome Trust – Senior Research Fellowships	Senior basic scientists	9 February 2021 1 July 2021 (This will be the last round)

European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes (EFSD)/Lilly Young Investigator Research Award	Early or Intermediate, clinicians and basic scientists	15 February 2021
EASD Rising Star Symposium and EFSD Rising Star Fellowship Programme	Early, clinicians and basic scientists	15 February 2021
The New York Stem Cell Foundation Stem Cell Investigator Award	Early or Intermediate, clinicians and basic scientists	17 February 2021
British Skin Foundation Fellowship Award	Early clinicians	5 March 2021
British Skin Foundation Young Investigator Award	Intermediate clinicians or basic scientists	5 March 2021
Foulkes Foundation Fellowship	Early, clinicians and basic scientists	15 March 2021
Wellcome Trust - Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowship	Early basic scientists	23 March 2021 (This will be the last round)
Wellcome Trust – Sir Henry Dale Fellowship	Intermediate basic scientists	29 March 2021 (This will be the last round)
MRC Career Development Award	Intermediate basic scientists	21 April 2021 15 September 2021
Breast Cancer Now Dame Vera Lynn Translational Research Fellowship	Early or Intermediate, mainly for clinicians	30 April 2021
JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship (Standard Program)	Early basic scientists	7 May 2021
Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund (KKLF) Junior Research Fellowship	Early, clinicians and basic scientists	1 July 2021
Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund (KKLF) Intermediate Research Fellowship	Intermediate, clinicians and basic scientists	1 July 2021
Wellcome Trust – Principal Research Fellowships	Senior basic scientists	EOIs can be submitted at any time. Full application: 1 July 2021 (This will be the last round)
NIHR Development and Skills Enhancement Award	All career stages, clinicians or basic scientists	Rounds launch in January, May and October annually
Diabetes UK RD Lawrence Fellowship	Early basic scientists	Preliminary application opens April 2020

Royal Society University Research Fellowships	Intermediate basic scientists	Call opens in July 2021
Action for Medical Research for Children Research Training Fellowship	Early clinicians	Opens Summer 2021
EMBO Short-term Fellowship	Early or Intermediate basic scientists	3 months before start date
EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowship	Early basic scientists	Rolling (applications reviewed 2 nd Friday of February and August)
BHF Career Re-entry Fellowship	Returning basic scientists	Rolling
BHF Immediate Postdoctoral Basic Science Research Fellowship	Early basic scientists	Rolling
BHF Intermediate Basic Science Research Fellowship	Intermediate basic scientists	Rolling
BHF Clinical Research Training Fellowship	Early clinicians	Rolling
BHF Intermediate Clinical Research Fellowship	Intermediate clinicians	Rolling
BHF Advanced Training Award	Early basic scientists	Rolling
EPSRC Postdoctoral and Open Fellowships	All career stages, basic scientists	Rolling
Please see the RDM Funding Database for more fellowship opportunities.		

Upcoming Pump priming/project grant opportunities

*Your local admin team and Research Services deadlines (where applicable) will be well in advance of the below deadlines – [please check with them](#).

Pump priming/project grant schemes	Deadline*
National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement & Reduction of Animals in Research (NC3Rs) Project Grant	7 January 2021
Diabetes Research & Wellness Foundation Pump Priming Grants	25 January 2021
MRC Research Grant	January/May/September each year (depending on MRC Board)
The Physiology Society Research Grants	28 February 2021
Action Medical Research Project Grant	Usually March and November each year
Academy of Medical Sciences Starter Grants for Clinical Lecturers	Usually March each year

Human Frontier Science Programme Research Grants	Usually March/April 2021
Royal Society Research Grants - 'Seed Corn' Funding	Call opens March 2021
British Medical Association Josephine Lansdell Research Grant	Call opens 1 March 2021
Pathological Society Small Grants Scheme	1 April and 1 October each year
Pathology Society Trainees Collaborative Small Grant	1 April and 1 October each year
Pathology Society Postdoctoral Collaborative Small Grant	1 April and 1 October each year
Society for Endocrinology Early Career Grant	5 May 2021
Diabetes UK Early Career Small Grants for Basic Scientists	1 June 2021
Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund (KKLF) Project Grant	1 July 2021
John Templeton Large Grant	1 August 2021
Advocacy for Neuroanthocytosis Patients Research Grants	Rolling
BBSRC Standard Research Grant	Rolling
BHF Project Grant	Rolling
Dunhill Medical Trust Research Project Grants	Rolling
Please see the RDM Funding Database for more funding opportunities.	

Funding News and Events

Events/workshops/training/awards	Date/deadline
Oxford-BMS Fellowships information sessions	7 and 8 January 2021 (noon both days)
‘So you want to be a PI’ workshop (fully booked, waitlist only)	11 & 12 January 2021 (2-5pm both days)
RDM Annual Symposium	23 March 2021 (half day, pm)

Oxford-BMS Fellowships information sessions

Come along to an information session on how to apply for an [Oxford-Bristol Myers Squibb \(formerly Celgene\) Fellowship](#). Sessions include background to the fellowships scheme, give details about BMS areas of interest and explain the application process. This will be followed by a Q&A session.

- [Thursday 7 January \(noon\) - Link to Zoom Meeting](#)
- [Friday 8 January \(noon\) - Link to Zoom Meeting](#)

‘So you want to be a PI’ workshop – 11 & 12 January 2021 (2-5pm)

There is no single route to becoming a PI. In January RDM are co-hosting a workshop with NDM and NDPH which explores what is important for you, funders and departments. The workshop is currently fully booked, however if you would like to be out on the waitlist please sign up on [this Eventbrite Registration Link](#).

Course description

Are you considering becoming a PI? What does it mean to be a PI and what are the routes to becoming one? The session will explore what is important for you, funders and departments. They are all critical in enabling the transition from postdoc to research independence or to alternative successful careers. There is no single route to becoming a PI, so the session focuses on what you can do to create opportunities and increase your chances of becoming a PI.

Who is this for?

Any member of research staff who is not a PI. Attendees must be able to take part in both days between 2 and 5pm.

University funding EU update

To keep up to date with the position on UK institutions' eligibility to participate in EU funding under Horizon Europe, bookmark the Research Services European & International Team's EU funding pages: <https://globalresearch.admin.ox.ac.uk/european-funding>

Pages cover both eligibility and what we can expect from the Horizon Europe work programme. For information on collaborative Horizon Europe funding opportunities and eligibility please contact the [European & International Team](#).

What makes a good internal funding application?

The Medical Sciences Division (MSD) has a variety of [internal funds](#) which it can deploy to support research. In this series of video interviews, researchers discuss their experience of funding, and their projects which received support from the Wellcome ISSF, John Fell Fund and MRC Confidence in Concept (now renamed the Medical and Life Sciences Translational Fund) funds.

More information on the [MSD website](#).

RDM Annual Symposium – Tuesday 23 March 2021

The RDM Annual Symposium returns in 2021, in an online format, with a half-day of talks and discussion on the afternoon of Tuesday 23 March. All students and staff (including those who are not researchers) are invited and encouraged to attend. The event will begin with a broad overview of research across RDM. More details will be published closer to the time in the RDM weekly bulletin.

COVID-19 and research funder policy updates

Amid updates and guidelines around COVID-19, Research Services have collated the latest information from many research funders' policy responses to COVID-19. Funders currently listed include: NIH, NIHR, UKRI and Wellcome. If you would like to request an update, contact research.services@admin.ox.ac.uk

More information from the [Research Services website](#).

BHF: Extended eligibility to apply for Immediate Fellowships

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) is extending eligibility for up to three years of postdoctoral experience for candidates who were considering applying for an Immediate Fellowship, and have been affected by the pandemic.

Please [contact the BHF](#) before applying.

UKRI: ORCID reviewer recognition

UKRI has developed a new feature in its current funding systems to recognise formally the contributions of UKRI reviewers via ORCID, a unique identifier tool for individuals.

More information on the [UKRI website](#).

UKRI: submitting COVID-19 proposals after the close of the rolling call

The agile rolling call for COVID-19 projects and the opportunity to switch existing UKRI funding to tackle the pandemic both came to an end on 15 December 2020. After this date, applications can be made through:

- Standard research council and Innovate UK channels;
- Seed funding for urgent applications;
- Further UKRI strategic COVID-19 funding calls;
- Future funding calls by research councils tailored to tackle aspects of the pandemic.

More information on the [UKRI website](#).

UKRI: new website

UKRI has launched the first phase of a new website that incorporates all its corporate sites, including a new single [funding finder](#).

More information on the [UKRI website](#).

Wellcome: new science strategy

Earlier this year, Wellcome published their new [Vision and Strategy](#) which outlines changes to their funding strategy. They will continue to support a broad programme of discovery research across a wide range of disciplines with the potential to make important and unanticipated discoveries about life, health and wellbeing. In addition, they have identified three new health challenge programmes which they will focus on: Mental health, Global Heating, and Infectious Diseases. As a result, the way Wellcome funds research is changing and their current funding schemes will close during 2021. New funding schemes are being designed and will be announced in early 2021. They will continue to fund early and mid-career researchers and to support established researchers and teams who want to pursue bold and innovative research, tool or technology development. You can keep up to date with Wellcome funding opportunities by subscribing to their [Research Update newsletter](#).

Wellcome: new Open Access policy

Wellcome's new open access policy will take effect on 1 January 2021. It applies to articles containing original research submitted for publication from that date. The key changes are:

- Immediate open access (no embargo);
- CC BY licence;
- Authors to retain copyright;
- Posting pre-prints may be required;
- Inclusion of statement on how to access the underpinning research data.

More information and advice for Oxford researchers can be found on the [Open Access Oxford website](#) or booking onto a [Bodleian iSkills session](#).

Wellcome: journal checker tool

The [Journal checker tool](#) supports Wellcome-funded researchers to identify whether their chosen journal enables compliance with Wellcome's new [open access policy](#), which begins on 1 January 2021.

Wellcome: name change policy

Wellcome's name change policy allows researchers published on Wellcome Open Research to retroactively change their name on publications, enabling transgender researchers to align their records.

More information on the [Wellcome website](#).

Wellcome: Grant Tracker

Wellcome's [Grant Tracker](#) site has moved to wtgrants.wellcome.org to align with Wellcome's new website domain.