Postdoc Welcome

Presentations
Vice-Chancellor’s Welcome: Deborah Prentice
Postdoc Academy: Steve Joy
Postdocs of Cambridge Society: Eddison Loades
Postdocs Career Service: Diane Caldwell
Action Research on Research Culture: Kate Dawson
What is special about Cambridge?

Self-governing – at times bureaucratic, but highly democratic

150+ Faculties and Departments within 6 Schools

• Arts and Humanities
• Humanities & Social Sciences
• Biological Sciences
• Clinical Medicine
• Physical Sciences
• Technology

31 self-governing Colleges
Non-School Institutions – Libraries, Museums, Botanic Garden
University Partner Institutes – Sanger, EBI, Babraham

4,000+ Research staff
University of Cambridge Postdoc Academy

Information
Bringing postdocs the information they need when they need it

Community
A sense of belonging for all postdocs

Advocacy
Working with the community to solve issues

Professional Development
Helping you to develop for your current role and beyond

Enable postdocs to realise their potential
Information

*Bringing postdocs the information they need when they need it*

- Weekly newsletter
- Postdoc Calendar
- LinkedIn
- Information events

Events for postdocs

Social community activities

Professional opportunities

Support and initiatives

[www.postdocacademy.cam.ac.uk](http://www.postdocacademy.cam.ac.uk)

[contact.pda@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:contact.pda@admin.cam.ac.uk)
Community

A sense of belonging for all postdocs

Offering hot-desking and event spaces at the Postdoc Centres

Providing various topical events and activities focusing on themes that relate to the community

Working with postdoc societies and groups supporting social activities and community endeavours
PdOC's aim is to
• represent postdocs
• support and create a social and intellectual network
• facilitate communication and provide information

Recognised as a Senior University Society and as a Research Staff Association (RSA).

www.pdoc.cam.ac.uk
contact@pdoc.cam.ac.uk
Aspects of PdOC

Providing advice and information
• New Starters Guide, NVS
• College Affiliations, Travel Grants
• University Policies

Representing the University’s very diverse postdoctoral community
• On university, national, & European level
• Diversity and Equality
• PdOC Department Network
PdOC RD & Entrepreneurial Events

Professional development
- Seminars given by ECRs or postdocs
- Entrepreneurial activities and support
- Annual Research Showcase (07.11.2024)
- Research Cafés @WestHub

Pandemic Preparedness & One Health
Tomorrow at 11:30 am
PdOC Social Events & Activities

Social events
- Restaurant and pub nights
- Climbing and sports events
- Board games night @Eddington
- Annual Garden Party @Emma (18.06.24)
- AGM & BBQ @Darwin (09.07.24)
- …and more!
Get in touch, get involved!

What’s next?

• Sign up for our newsletter!
• Visit our website for the new starter & college affiliation guides!
• Join us for the AGM or another event!

Open positions: Treasurer, Subcommittee roles

Webpage: www.pdoc.cam.ac.uk

Postdocs of Cambridge
@CamPostdocs
CamPostdocs
Postdocs of Cambridge Society
Postdoc Centres
Unique spaces dedicated to postdocs
Professional Development

Helping you to develop for your current role and beyond

As a signatory of the Researcher Development Concordat, the university must allocate a minimum of 10 days pro rata, per year for researchers to undertake professional development.
WE’RE HERE TO HELP
YOUR CAREER
How can the Careers Service help me?

I don't know what my options are...

I want to stay in academia – how can I increase my chances?

I need help writing my CV – both for academic jobs and others

Yikes – I have a interview soon!

Our advice is confidential, tailored and impartial.
What kind of help suits you?

Do you want to focus on your individual needs?
Book an individual appointment

Do you enjoy learning through experience and with others?
Try one of our interactive live and online workshops through our series, *Career Essentials for PhDs and Postdocs*

Do you like to hear from the experts?
Attend one of our live panel events or hear about it on our YouTube channel

Do you prefer to read about it?
Visit our website or access other resources through the Career Centre on Handshake, including our bespoke CV book
Website
www.careers.cam.ac.uk

Information

Interaction

Blog
https://postdoccareers.edublogs.org/
The first 3 ways to interact…

**Register** with the Careers Service on Handshake:
Click on the **Registration Form**

**Explore** our bespoke webpages for all aspects of careers planning for postdocs.

**Book** a space on a group learning Careers Essentials for Researchers workshop or a one-on-one appointment

Any questions? Email us at enquiries@careers.cam.ac.uk
Understanding the lived experience of Cambridge postdocs, working with individuals and groups to understand and address needs

Representing postdoc voice is within the University, nationally and internationally.

Aiming to improve the landscape for current and future postdocs
The ARRC Project
~testing proposed solutions to issues in research culture~

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Study 1 Hiring</th>
<th>Study 2 Development</th>
<th>Study 3 Precarity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do Narrative CVs influence shortlisting decisions in academic recruitment?</td>
<td>How can we support the postdoc / PI relationship?</td>
<td>Is redeployment a useful way to mitigate the effects of short term contracts?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recruiting PIs who are hiring for postdoc positions at Cambridge.</td>
<td>Open now</td>
<td>Developing online survey on postdoc priorities when making career choices, for late 2024</td>
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More info and sign up: www.arrc.group.cam.ac.uk  
Email: arrcproject@admin.cam.ac.uk

• Identity and expectations in the postdoc / ECR experience  
• Research culture celebration  
• Conversation with PDA

Pilot phase Spring 2024  
www.arrc.group.cam.ac.uk
1. Sit on our postdoc advisory group – email kmd54@cam.ac.uk

2. Sign up for our study on **postdoc identity and expectations**: *fill in the form linked on the ‘researcher development’ page.*

3. Sign up to fill out our survey on **how postdocs make career decisions** (mid 2024): *fill in the form linked on the ‘precarity’ page.*
General Interest

CRASSH (Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities) seminar series on research culture.

Instagram: researchculture_at_cambridge

LinkedIn: Action Research on Research Culture
Our website:
www.arrc.group.cam.ac.uk
Equality, Diversity, Networks & Benefits

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Diversity Networks: LGBTQ+, Race Equality, Women, Disabled Staff, Parents & Carers

Occupational Health

Staff Counselling Centre

Local wellbeing initiatives

Networks local to specific departments

CAMbens

Career Support Scheme and Returning Carers Scheme

www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk
Quick-Start guide

These are the best ways to get started and make the most of our services

1. Register to use a Postdoc Centre
2. Subscribe to the Postdoc Bulletin
3. Check the Postdoc Calendar
Postdoc Welcome

Networking

- Action Research on Research Culture
- Careers Service
- Newcomers and Visiting Scholars (NVS)
- Postdocs of Cambridge Society
- Researcher Development
- Research Computing Service
- Sports Centre