Postdoc Welcome

Presentations
Vice-Chancellor’s Welcome: Deborah Prentice
Postdoc Academy: Susie Chan
Postdocs of Cambridge Society: Marisa Oliveira
Postdocs Career Service: Vicki Tipton
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

- Biological Sciences
- Clinical Medicine
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Arts and Humanities
- Technology
- Physical Sciences

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
Information

Bringing postdocs the information they need when they need it

Weekly newsletter
Postdoc Calendar
@Postdoc_Academy
Information events

Events for postdocs
Professional opportunities

Social community activities
Support and initiatives

www.postdocacademy.cam.ac.uk
contact.pda@admin.cam.ac.uk
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
The Postdoctoral Society of Cambridge

for postdocs – by postdocs
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 Events

Professional development

• Seminars and talks given by ECRs or postdocs
• Annual Research Showcase
• Research Cafés with WestHub

*Climate Change: Impacts and Solutions*
Weds 24.04.24 (Abstract deadline: 22.03.24)
Social events

- Restaurant and pub (quiz) nights
- Climbing sessions (24.03.24)
- Board games night @Eddington
- Ice-skating @ Cambridge Ice Arena (13.04.24)
- Karaoke Night - The Brook (19.04.24)
- …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 an upcoming event!

Open positions: Marketing and Social Media Officer, College Affiliation Officer, Social Events Officer

Webpage: www.pdoc.cam.ac.uk

Postdocs of Cambridge
@CamPostdocs
CamPostdocs
Postdocs of Cambridge Society

Sign Up!
Postdoc Centres

Unique spaces dedicated to postdocs
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 an 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
Advocacy

Working with the community to solve issues

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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study 1</th>
<th>Study 2</th>
<th>Study 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hiring</strong></td>
<td><strong>Development</strong></td>
<td><strong>Precarity</strong></td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recruiting PIs who are hiring for postdoc positions at Cambridge.</td>
<td>Recruiting postdocs early 2024</td>
<td>Developing online survey on postdoc priorities when making career choices, for late 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
Occupational Health
Staff Counselling Centre
Local wellbeing initiatives
Diversity Networks
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

- Public Engagement
- Cambridge Enterprise
- University Library
- Office of Scholarly Communication (Open Research)
- Connect Health Tech