



Brighton and Sussex Medical School

## **Proposal of Activities**

- Empowering and inspiring students in early years of medical education to engage
  with research and consider research career. Changes occurring to the 5-year
  BSMS curriculum to introduce teaching of research methods and essential medical
  statistics in Year 1 and 2. Aim to equip students with the necessary research skills
  in Phase 1 of the curriculum to give them the confidence and understanding of
  how research is conducted and communicated.
- Support to develop research related Student Selected Components (SSCs).
   Develop research focused SSCs and provide support to the faculty to propose such SSCs with the objective to develop a portfolio around research methods for students.
- One-to-one research clinics by the INSPIRE Lead to help develop ideas and signposting. The INSPIRE Lead will form a visible and high profile link between students aspiring to engage in research and faculty, NHS, and Public Health colleagues in the local authority. A networking event will be organised for students and potential mentors/supervisors.
- Summer placements with faculty. Along with the University of Sussex, BSMS has
  recently started a summer Junior Research Associate (JRA) bursary scheme.
  Continue to facilitate faculty-student collaboration for the JRA scheme, and other
  summer placement opportunities at the two universities and local organisations
  (NHS Trusts and Public Health Team at the local authority).
- Student Research Society. Aim to rejuvenate activities of the Society by holding student-networking meetings to provide a platform for students to discuss ideas and opportunities for research and showcase their research in the form of posters and short oral presentations. The Society will also aim to organise/facilitate a student led research conference.
- Joined the consortium of medical schools in the region (Nottingham, Leicester and Norwich) to jointly host an INSPIRE conference and share ideas. Also joined Cambridge led consortium for the development of "Medidem" database to support student engagement with research.

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- Academic and logistic support for conference presentation. Students need guidance about key (and bona fide) conferences in their area of interest, support for writing abstracts and financial support for presenting their research at conferences. Continue to provide such guidance through research clinics (with the INSPIRE Lead), supervisors and Student Research Society meetings. Continue to provide the INSPIRE conference presentation grant to cover the cost of conference fees, travelling, and/or accommodation.
- Showcasing students' research outputs. Aim to display student conference posters and published papers on dedicated display boards across the medical school and develop a webpage under INSPIRE on the BSMS website.
- INSPIRE networking events. Support and facilitate networking events organised by the students to exchange ideas, explore research opportunities and develop research collaborations.
- Academic seminars. All BSMS departments run a seminar series where internal
  and external speakers are invited to present their research. Opportunity to learn
  about new research and networking with faculty and external speakers.
- INSPIRE support for student-led conferences. Support students to bid for, and organise, student-led research conference(s).
- INSPIRE prize for outstanding student research. INSPIRE Prize (£100 each prize) for outstanding Individual Research Project (IRP) in Lab-based / Clinic-based / Community-based research (Year 4 medical students).

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