



University of Exeter Medical School

Implemented Activities

Research Conference

- A conference is held each year for students returning from their studentships to present their work.
- Talks from early career researchers and experienced researchers are also presented.
- There are also poster presentations from local research groups demonstrating what researcher they perform.
- These conferences allow us to demonstrate what INSPIRE is and how they can get involved.
- It also shows them what they can do in terms of being a researcher.

Taster Days

- Students applied to attend a day with a research group to find out what research was like as a career and the type of research people do.
- The students could apply to remain at their home university or do a taster day at Bristol, Plymouth or Cardiff as well.

Summer Research Projects

- The studentships have been very popular and successful.
- Students have published papers and attended conferences as a result of the studentships performed.
- Some studentships have resulted in a continuation of the project after the studentship have completed.

National Intercalators' Conference.

- This event gives Medical, Dental and Veterinary students from the UK the opportunity to present their research findings.
- It also enabled them to see talks from clinical researchers at different stages of their careers.
- It also enabled prospective students who had not intercalated yet to find out about the process and the options available to them.

INSPIRE Journal

- Students from all 4 schools worked together to create a completely new student-led research journal from scratch.
- The journal publishes student research articles and interest pieces.
- All aspects of the journal preparation (commissioning of articles, review, editing and formatting) was performed by the students.

INSPIRE is coordinated by the Academy of Medical Sciences and supported by the Wellcome Trust. INSPIRE activities are designed and delivered locally by individual medical schools.

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Interdisciplinary Symposium

- The symposium was held in Plymouth and aimed to give the students information about interdisciplinary research.

Learn2Innovate

- The aim is to make students aware of what is required to take a health innovation idea into a commercially viable technology.
- Learn2Innovate will be a short duration programme with mentors from academia, healthcare and industry to produce a tangible output.

Support of Exeter Medical Research Society

- Funding was given to the society to run various research orientated events through the year.

Impacts

Raising awareness of research

- It has raised awareness of the research in our medical student cohort. More students are applying to the INSPIRE initiatives we run. The students are also increasingly seeking out research opportunities for themselves and getting involved in research activities on the back of the INSPIRE schemes.

Closer working relationships

- It has fostered a close working relationship with colleagues at the Universities of Bristol, Cardiff and Plymouth. This now includes Veterinary and Dental colleagues as well as the initial Medical staff.

Exeter Medical Research Society

- It has encouraged students to reinvigorate the Exeter Medical Research Society. The Society now regularly runs events and initiatives which are supported by the INSPIRE scheme.