



University of Leeds

Implemented Activities

We have linked INSPIRE 4 activities promoting undergraduate research to our postgraduate IAT themes:

- Research taster for MBChB; first years' visit to University research departments based at St James's University Hospital.
- Specialty research network events: (i) Pathology (ii) Medicine (Oncology) and (iii) Dentistry.
- Building links to national specialist societies and developing research into equality and inclusion in academic medicine.
- Showcasing Leeds research in Medical Innovation and Global Surgery.
- INSPIRE Academy of Medical Sciences FMedSci undergraduate lectures.
- LEADERS Medical Undergraduate Research Conference; a one-day national undergraduate conference providing insight into the opportunities available in Academic Medicine (26 January 2019).
- Conference travel bursary to enable undergraduate students who have research of publishable quality to attend a national/international conference to present their research.
- Developing the Leeds MBChB iDecide online career development tool to showcase academic research.
- Linking INSPIRE to the academic foundation and IAT programmes at Leeds through year 5 MBChB Careers day (12 September 2018 and 11 September 2019), our 'Why Choose a Clinical Academic Career?' conferences (3&4 October 2018 and 7&8 October 2019) and mock academic foundations interviews (11 November 2019).

Impacts

Student-led ideas for events

- Awareness of the INSPIRE programme at Leeds amongst the undergraduate student cohort means we are now approached with many student-led ideas for research events, networks and interventions. There is now an enhanced engagement between undergraduate students, student societies, early career clinical academic trainees and senior clinical academics.

Clinical academic research pipeline

- INSPIRE has impacted on our clinical academic research pipeline: feedback from INSPIRE events indicate many are considering a career in academic research as a result of increased awareness of opportunities. INSPIRE has enhanced career prospects for medical and dental undergraduates in academia because of their early engagement in research activities.

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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Opportunities for presenting research

- Our INSPIRE Undergraduate Conference Travel Fund enabled a cohort of students to experience presenting their research at national and international conferences; this resulted in several students winning prizes for research and having career changing experiences.

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