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INSPIRE Sharing Conference 2019: INSPIRE in Action and sharing experiences

The full agenda can be found at the end of this document, however we have provided below some key points from INSPIRE in Action and the sharing experiences sessions:

## **INSPIRE in action**

INSPIRE in action showcased three INSPIRE awarded institutions, who gave presentations on their scheme.

### **University of Leeds**

*Dr Jo Bentley and Ms Beth Bradley; INSPIRE Programme Manager and student lead.*

- Hosted an INSPIRE networking conference attended by dental professionals and students at a range of stages.
- Provided travel bursaries allowing students to present posters at international conferences.
- Implementation of an online platform that allows students to gain access to interviews and case studies on what a career in academic research looks like.

### **Liverpool University Veterinary School**

*Professor Mandy Peffers and Miss Emma Winward; INSPIRE Lead and student lead.*

- Offer research-skills summer schools covering everything from wet lab skills to abstract writing, ethics, and statistics.
- Provide short taster studentships for busier senior students who fear they might have otherwise missed out on an opportunity to get involved.
- Gave public engagement training and involved students in a meet-the-scientist public event.
- Development of a mentoring network between academics, early career researchers and veterinary students.

### **Plymouth University**

*Professor David Parkinson and Mr Alex Gordon; INSPIRE Lead and student lead.*

- Offer a range of taster days across a 4-university cohort, and summer project bursaries are awarded by a student panel.
- Publish an INSPIRE Journal that is written, edited and run by students across 4 universities.
- Hosted their first interdisciplinary meeting aiming to promote exploration of intercalation opportunities including; artificial intelligence and engineering.

## Sharing experiences session

The afternoon sharing experiences session gave attendees the opportunity to share their successes, the challenges they have faced and the future of INSPIRE. The topics and a summary of the discussions are outlined below:

1. What new activities could enhance research skill training in areas such as data science, team science and leadership?
  - Summer schools or programmes focusing on working with data and statistical analyses.
  - Introduce research collaboration, the paper writing process, and research methods/ethos to the students.
  - Engage both students and clinicians with hands-on, practical introductions to data science.
  - Promote the role of students in event/workshop organisation to help students develop leadership skills in a team-orientated manner.
2. What is the most important activity your school has implemented?
  - Databases and speed-dating style programmes to help match students with studentships, projects, and internships.
  - Student-led conferences involving a mix of year groups.
  - Academic Foundation Programme application support through mentoring and mock interviews.
  - Studentships and summer projects that have resulted in published data.
3. What new activities could you develop to encourage collaboration with different institutions, industry and other disciplines at your institution?
  - Promote involvement in university spin-out companies.
  - Teach business skills to academics and students.
  - Encourage outside speakers from other institutes or industry.
  - Allocate money for projects requiring interdisciplinary collaboration.
4. What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them?
  - The turnover of students on committees is naturally very high, and so recruitment of new students must always be a priority.
  - Balancing student time commitment with university work is difficult, but can be alleviated by avoiding busy times such as exam periods.
  - Event publicity needs a lot of time and energy, and as such programmes should have a dedicated representative to handle promotion.
  - Spending needs to be spaced out over the funding period and it is best to plan and allocate at commencement.

To find out more about Round 5 please visit the [INSPIRE Round 5](#) webpage or for more information, please contact us at [INSPIRE@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:INSPIRE@acmedsci.ac.uk)

## INSPIRE Sharing Conference

**11:00 – 17:00, Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019,  
41 Portland Place, London, W1B 1QH**

<b>11.00</b>	<b>Registration (with refreshments)</b>
<b>11.30</b>	<b>Welcome</b> Chair: Professor Jonathan Seckl FMedSci; INSPIRE Selection Panel
<b>11:40</b>	<b>INSPIRE in action – Panel Discussion with Q&amp;A</b> Chair: Professor Jonathan Seckl FMedSci; INSPIRE Selection Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Plymouth.</b> Professor David Parkinson; INSPIRE Lead, University of Plymouth</li> <li>• <b>Faculty of Medicine and Health, University of Leeds.</b> Dr Jo Bentley and Ms Beth Bradley; INSPIRE Programme Manager and student lead, University of Leeds</li> <li>• <b>Institute of Veterinary Science, University of Liverpool</b> Professor Mandy Peffers and Miss Emma Winward; INSPIRE Lead and student lead, University of Liverpool</li> </ul>
<b>13.15</b>	<b>Networking Lunch</b>
<b>14.00</b>	<b>INSPIRE Round 5</b> Speaker: Dr Rachel MacDonald; Head of Programmes, The Academy of Medical Sciences
<b>14.15</b>	<b>Sharing experiences session</b> <i>Attendees rotate to different stations to share their experiences of INSPIRE and discuss achievements and challenges.</i>
<b>15.15</b>	<b>Refreshments Break</b>
<b>15.30</b>	<b>Keynote: Diversity and Inclusion</b> Speaker: Margot Turner (Chair of Diversity in Medicine and Health) Chair: Professor Jonathan Seckl FMedSci; INSPIRE Selection Panel
<b>16:20</b>	<b>Networking Reception</b>
<b>17.00</b>	<b>Close</b>

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