



The University of East Anglia (Norwich) Medical School

Implemented Activities

NATURE:

- The students of Norwich Medical School used INSPIRE funds to create and support an undergraduate research group called NATURE (Norwich Academic Training for Undergraduates in Research) which has organised lecture series, journal clubs and research workshops and joined the National Student Association for Medical Research (NSAMR).

SSS as a Gateway to Medical Research:

- INSPIRE has funded publication of an online MRes prospectus listing research options under specific themes that cover clinical, biological and social science at UEA. The directory promotes research through a Student Selected Study (SSS) option where students in years 2 and 3 work with a research mentor and consider intercalation for MRes or MSc.

The Annual East Midlands Medical Student Research Conference:

- Held at UEA in 2015 in conjunction with Leicester and Nottingham.
- Held in Leicester in 2016 and Nottingham in 2017.
- Provided a forum for medical students to disseminate research findings from their Student Selected Study (SSS) option and other research involvement.

Impacts

SSS as a Gateway to Medical Research:

- As a result of this, intercalation rates have increased at UEA some 10-fold.

Student Participation:

- As in previous years it has been important to involve students in the organisation of INSPIRE activities and have 'succession planning' built into the organisation of student groups that delivers the INSPIRE initiatives. Students respond better to their peers rather than academic staff. We have made sure that the INSPIRE activities have been student led, but it has been important for INSPIRE academic leads to meet regularly with NATURE representatives to maintain oversight over organisation and budgets.

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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