



The University of Exeter and Plymouth Schools of Medicine

Implemented Activities

Summer Studentships:

- Allowed students to competitively apply to perform a research project over the summer. Over the course of the two year grant, 17 studentships have been awarded across the two schools.

An Annual Conference:

- Allowed those returning from their studentships to present their work with talks also coming from early career and experienced researchers. The first Conference, held in Exeter, attracted around 60-70 students, whilst the second Conference, held in Plymouth, attracted around 110-120 students.

Taster Research Days:

- Held in conjunction with Cardiff and Bristol to enable students to see what being a researcher entails. The students could apply to remain at their home university or do a taster day at Bristol or Cardiff as well. In 2016, 48 students from Exeter and Plymouth took part whilst, in 2017, 50 students participated.

A student-led journal produced in conjunction with Cardiff & Bristol publishing student research articles and interest pieces.

- [September 2016](#)
- [September 2017](#)

The National Intercalators Conference

- Allowed students to find out about intercalating, the process and the options available to them. The Conference was open to all medical, dental and veterinary students in the UK with over 100 delegates at each. 24 oral presentations and 40 poster presentations were delivered by students at each event.

An INSPIRE Mentoring Programme:

- Early career clinical researchers from different research fields act as points of contact to the students.

A Journal Club:

- Led by student and academics to present and discuss scientific papers.

Impacts

Raised Awareness:

- It has raised awareness and interest about clinical research careers and how they can pursue them to our students. Prior to the INSPIRE scheme very few of the

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first year students were aware about clinical research careers and they did not know that they could get involved in research projects during their degree. Now due to this scheme all first year students are given a lecture about clinical research and possible future directions.

Involvement in Research Activities:

- It has enabled students to get involved in research activities. This includes performing research projects or audits. Also presenting and publishing their work. Students have created a student led research journal where student research articles are published. For the last two years we have appointed INSPIRE graduates (from the first round of funding) to academic foundation posts (4/7 posts appointed in the last three years in Exeter).

Building Relationships:

- It has enabled close working relationships to be formed between the staff and students of Bristol, Cardiff, Exeter and Plymouth medical schools. This has led to greater support of the INSPIRE schemes and broadened opportunities for the students within them. A key part of our scheme are research taster days and summer projects and many students have been supported to travel between the four schools.

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