



The University of Bristol Medical School

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### ***Implemented Activities***

Research Tasters:

- A scheme enabling students to spend half a day with the research group of their choice from across the region.

Research SSCs:

- Introduced for Year 2 students to enable them to do a literature review in a currently active research topic as part of the work up to making a project proposal.

Vacation Research Studentships:

- Stipends awarded in open competition to students to enable them to complete a research project (>4weeks) during their summer vacation at any of the partner Medical Schools.

Elizabeth Blackwell Intercalation Prize:

- Award made to the student presenting the best research project each year.

Elective Awards:

- To support final year students who want to do research in the UK during their elective.

Showcase Events:

- Each event lasts 2 hours with invited speakers and the INSPIRE award winners.

Consolidation and Conference Awards:

- Smaller awards (<£250) were made to enable students to present or publish their work with 19 awards made over the two years.

### ***Impacts***

Re-establishing Pathways:

- The introduction of the programme of Tasters/rSSCs has re-established the pathways to the research groups and laboratories for our students that had been somewhat obscured in recent year. This system of arranged academic encounters is a nightmare to co-ordinate but throws up some unexpectedly positive research relationships that we hope will set the students on research trajectories.

Vacation Research Studentships:

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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- This is reinforced by the availability of Vacation Research Studentships which are an attractive incentive for students to engage with research teams and the whole INSPIRE programme more generally. The level of competition for these posts is increasing and the standard of the applications is impressive. The competition for these posts have also served to remind the School's students that in order to compete for research money they need to have material to fill in the blanks on an application form.

Collaboration:

- The School's collaboration across the regional medical schools with Cardiff, Exeter and Plymouth has greatly enhanced our reach and depth. The School's students are able to link up with research teams across the patch and able to co-ordinate activities and pool experiences to maximise their impact. This has also seen the School propose further joint events including workshops, the virtual student research conference and a student led eMagazine.

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