

# RESEARCHER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

*MPLS Division*

*Michaelmas Term 2022*

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## KEYS

**RS:** research staff, post-docs or early career researchers.  
**DPhil:** DPhil students or post-graduate researchers.  
**All:** All researchers

**ALL  
RESEARCH STAFF ONLY  
POSTGRADUATE RESEARCHERS ONLY**

## HOW TO BOOK

Visit [www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/training](http://www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/training) and look for the 'Course Booking Michaelmas 2022', which is a list of our courses sorted by date. Select the one you want, and booking details are contained on the individual pages. Most of our courses are booked via the Cosy booking system, but some may require application forms and/ or deposits.

Equality, diversity and inclusion courses are taking place online and bookable via the ED&I training programme: [www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/equality-diversity-and-inclusion-in-mpls/mpls-ed-i-training-programme](http://www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/equality-diversity-and-inclusion-in-mpls/mpls-ed-i-training-programme)

Our courses this term are a mixture of online and in person. Details will be available on the booking pages.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

We also have a range of self-access online resources for DPhil students and research staff. These cover topics such as orientation to the University, Time Management, working with others, Career Development, and many more. You can access them on our website:

[www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/training/resourcesfor-researcher-and-career-development](http://www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/training/resourcesfor-researcher-and-career-development)

Cover: xxxx

## ALL AN INTRODUCTION TO ENTERPRISE AND THE RESEARCHER

12th October 2022 12:00-14:00

An interactive workshop exploring the attributes of an enterprising researcher and how these can be enhanced during research activities, leading you on to other opportunities for developing these further.

## ALL PODCAST YOUR SCIENCE

13th October 2022 09:30-16:30  
In Person

From inception to publication; this practical session delivered by Emily Elias, journalist and producer of the Oxford Sparks podcast series, is a whirlwind tour through the basics of how to share your research in an engaging manner through podcasting. The session will introduce approaches to podcasting, present inspiration from a range of different podcast styles, and take you step-by-step through the basic technical skills of recording, editing and publishing audio files; you'll have the chance to develop an idea and have a go recording it with support and feedback during the day.

You may also be interested in 'Interviewing for podcasts' on page 17





**ALL  
SCIENTIFIC  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

*13th October 2022 and every Thursday  
until 1st December 2022 14:00-16:30*

Success in a start-up business is significantly enhanced with an understanding of key entrepreneurial characteristics and competencies. This weekly, term-long course provides potential science/engineering entrepreneurs with knowledge to help succeed in an entrepreneurial opportunity. Topics include: how creativity, opportunity and feasibility are best evaluated; business strategies for new businesses; achieving success in a new business; financial aspects. At the end of the course students will have skills and confidence to evaluate starting a science – based business. They will become more enterprising in how they approach their work life. The course will consist of lectures accompanied with practical casework and readings. Those who successfully complete this course will be eligible for advanced courses offered in the Hilary and Trinity terms.



**PGRs  
YOUR SUCCESSFUL  
DPHIL**

*19th October 2022 11:30-14:30  
1st November 2022 11:30-14:30  
17th November 2022 11:30-14:30  
30th November 2022 11:30-14:30*

This session will set you up to make a success of your DPhil. It will familiarise you with University structures, information and resources, and get you thinking about how best to set yourself up now for a successful DPhil. You'll find out about the context of your DPhil and the support available to you; about how to take control, assess your skills and develop them further; how to approach your supervisory relationship; and how to plan and manage your DPhil project.

**ECRs  
OPTIMIZE YOUR  
TIME AT OXFORD**

*19th October 2022 12:00-15:00*

Congratulations, you have got a research post at Oxford. But, what next? How do you manage your time at Oxford? This session looks at what being a post-doc means, what the opportunities and constraints are. It will also outline the support available to help you make the most of your time at the University. You will hear from the Careers Service, Research Services, the Oxford Research Staff Society, and about Public Engagement & Impact, Research Integrity and Enterprise.

*ALL*  
**ANTI-RACIST  
ALLYSHIP**

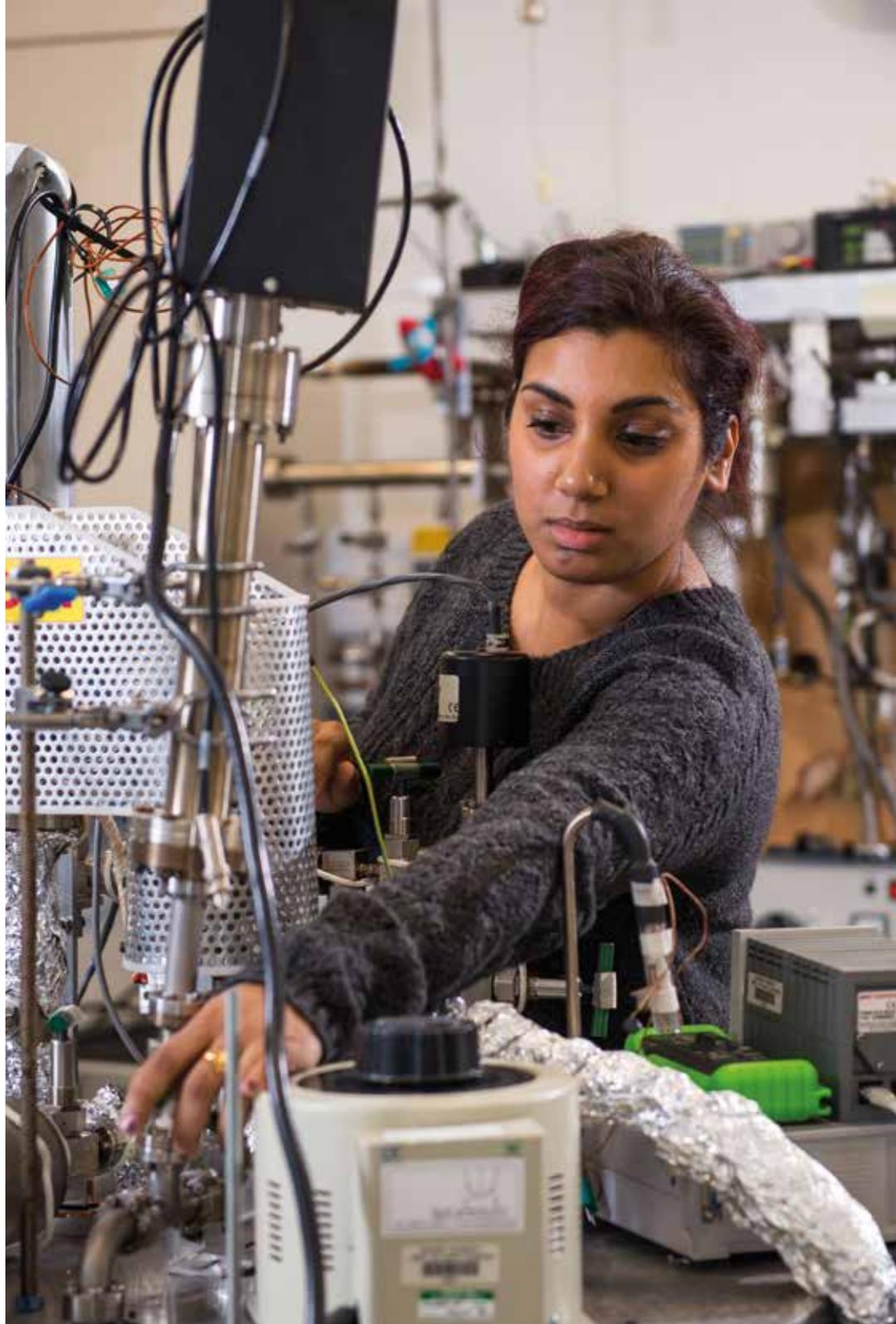
*20th October 2022 10:00-12:30*

We will look at what it means to be an Anti-Racist Ally, by considering the role that power, privilege (especially white privilege), and white fragility have and to feel confident using bystander interventions when needed.

*ALL*  
**AI IN THE UK:  
ENGAGING  
PARLIAMENT**

*20th October 2022 10:30-13:00*

In 2017 the House of Lords appointed a Select Committee on Artificial Intelligence to explore the economic, ethical and social implications of advances in this field. Professor Michael Wooldridge (Department of Computer Science) submitted written evidence to the committee, which then invited him to give oral evidence. In 2020 he returned to give evidence to the Liaison Committee as part of its follow-up on the earlier inquiry. Most recently, he has given evidence to an inquiry into the use of algorithmic tools in detection, deterrence, and management of offenders. Michael will explore the process with Philippa Tudor, Clerk of the Commons, reflecting on their respective experiences of the inquiry and its subsequent impact on AI policy.



*DPhil*  
**SeedWISE**

*24th October 2022 14:00-17:00*  
*31st October 2022 16:00-17:30*  
*7th November 2022 09:30-11:00*  
*14th November 2022 16:00-17:30*  
*21st November 2022 09:30-11:00*  
*28th November 2022 14:00-17:00*

SeedWISE is tailored specifically for women DPhil students who are working in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Women are being urged to pursue careers in STEM subjects, where they often excel, but face a huge disparity in achieving success and leadership roles. SeedWISE has been developed to help address this challenge, bringing together women DPhil students from different STEM disciplines at the University of Oxford to meet with women working in industry and commerce, who face similar challenges. We work closely with industry to build mutual relationships, which aims to benefit women both working and studying in STEM roles.

*ALL*  
**INTERSECTIONAL  
ALLYSHIP**

24th October 2022 10:00-12:30

We will look at what intersectionality is and how it plays out in our everyday lives and we will consider how many of us intersect and what that means for building an inclusive society. We will look at how power and privilege play their part and identify ways in which we can use both to support one another.

*ALL*  
**COMMITTEE  
PARTICIPATION  
AND IMPACT**

26th October 2022 09:30-12:30

Do you find attending committees at the University difficult? Does making decisions in collaboration with senior academics sound a little bit intimidating? Are you unsure how committees work and how to get your voice heard? This session will be for you!

*ALL*  
**PUBLIC  
ENGAGEMENT WITH  
RESEARCH 101**

27th October 2022 09:30-12:30

30th November 2022 13:00-16:00

Engagement describes the many ways that we can share our research and its value by interacting with wider public audiences, generating mutual benefit. We look at what public engagement is and some of the reasons why you might want to do it. We'll highlight the multitude of different approaches you can take, including real examples from the University and further afield. We'll provide tips on getting started and where to get support.

*ALL*  
**INTRODUCTION  
TO PRESENTATION  
SKILLS**

28th October 2022 13:30-17:00

The course will cover the key principles of planning and delivering a successful talk, and help to build your confidence. Each subject area in the MPLS Division has its own specific requirements for research presentations: please note that this course does not seek to address these.

*ALL*  
**ENTERPRISING  
WOMEN: LUNCH &  
LEARN**

2nd November 2022 12:30-14:00

A series of talks by enterprising and successful women working in STEM



## RS INNOVATION LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

8th November 2022 09:30-13:00

9th November 2022 09:30-14:30

10th November 2022 09:30-13:00

16th November 2022 09:30-16:00

The 4 module core programme provides a blend of online materials, presentations and small group discussion sessions, and aims to give new lecturers, associate professors and senior independent research fellows enhanced skills and confidence in innovation leadership, managing stakeholders and teams, communication and more. Please note there will be some small group working in the period between the 2 blocks.

## ALL SCIENTIFIC WRITING: CORE SKILLS

8th November 2022 09:00-17:00

This one-day course provides a sound grounding in the core skills needed to produce accurate and effective scientific writing. The course will include:

- *critique of readability in relevant papers;*
- *use of tenses in academic papers;*
- *writing with impact;*
- *concise writing;*
- *grammar and proofreading;*
- *scientific table and chart technique*



## ALL TELLING STORIES THAT MATTER: COMMUNICATING YOUR RESEARCH THROUGH STORY

8th November 2022 13:00-16:00

Discover what elements of storytelling and narrative can be used to enhance a profession in the sciences. Craft compelling and moving stories from your experiences as a scientist using these key story elements: character, conflict, structure, metaphor and description. Apply these storytelling and narrative skills to working in the sciences: communicating research to a range of audiences (including public, media and funding bodies); enhancing presentation skills; telling scientific stories across a range of media. Robert Holtom is a professional storyteller and consultant who has worked with a range of organisations to help them refine and hone their stories for a variety of audiences.

You may also be interested in 'Putting stories to work' on page 17



**ALL**  
**PITCHING FOR FUNDING**

*9th November 2022 09:30-13:00*

Those with money need to know about you and why they should place their investment in you and your venture. This may be a pitch for research funds, a pitch in an enterprise competition or a presentation asking for an R&D budget. Pitching for funding is a skill that is much needed for the next career step. This interactive course will use your research as a starting point but feel free to come with a business venture idea too.

**ECRs**  
**WRITING SUCCESSFUL RESEARCH PROPOSALS**

*9th November 2022 14:00-17:00*

External research funding is a crucial part of the research profile of universities and is a major issue for academic staff. The key factors in developing successful proposals will be identified as will the requirements of specific research councils.



**ALL**  
**METHODS FOR TWO-WAY INTERACTIVE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

*10th November 2022 09:30-12:30*

In this introductory session you will explore how to introduce opportunities to transform your public engagement in to a rich, two-way, interactive experience. Dialogue and debate are valuable approaches to move beyond communication. It can provide the means to make any informative activity more engaging for those taking part. The session will highlight examples, practical tips and provide the opportunity for you to start to develop your own ideas and plans.

**ALL**  
**SCIENTIFIC WRITING: GETTING YOUR PAPER PUBLISHED**

*15th November 2022 09:30-17:00*

This course will look at the aspects you need to consider when constructing your paper; demystify peer reviewed journals by giving insider insights from science journal editors; and show you what they really want. You will learn how to choose the best journal for your work, negotiate the peer review process and deal with reviewer comments. The course will cover: why publish and how that affects how you publish; the structure of a paper; what to include in the title and abstract; open access; impact metrics and citations; ways to get published more quickly; publicising your paper once it is published.





*ALL*  
**BEING AN EFFECTIVE BYSTANDER**

15th November 2022 10:30-11:30

What does it mean to be an effective bystander? How do we best challenge behaviours and practices which disadvantage staff and students, particularly those from minority and/or marginalised groups?

*PGRs*  
**VIVA PREPARATION AND PRACTICE**

16th November 2022 10:00-15:00

This participative workshop provides doctoral students in the third year and above with information about the viva, guidance on planning a pro-active approach to it, and opportunities to practice. The course will look at the rules and expectations of the viva exam and identify and practise practical ways to prepare.

*ALL*  
**CULTIVATING RESILIENCE FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS**

17th November 2022 10:30-11:30

What does it mean to be resilient, what does self-care really mean and how can we best support ourselves and others?



*ALL*  
**OXFORD SPARKS SCIENCE COMMUNICATION MASTERCLASS**

17th November 2022 09:30-12:30

23rd November 2022 09:30-12:30

Do you want to share your research with the wider public? Want to try making online videos but not sure where to start? Online videos are a great way of showing what science research is, who does it and why it matters, and has the potential of reach audiences around the world.

Oxford Sparks, the University's digital science engagement programme has been crafting high quality science communication since 2012.

We are inviting early career science researchers to take part in a new online masterclass to learn the essential elements of high quality science communication..

What's more, those who attend the masterclass will be eligible to apply for the Oxford Sparks Ambassadors scheme that will provide hands-on training and support to create your own online videos that will be shared from Oxford Sparks.

This is a fantastic opportunity for those with little to no experience to develop understanding, skills and confidence of what makes high quality science communication that reaches, appeals to and is accessible to public audiences.

*ALL*  
**SUPPORTING NEURODIVERGENT STAFF**

21st November 2022 10:00-12:30

We will consider the whole neurodivergent umbrella and identify some practical ways in which we can better support our staff who fall under this umbrella. This session will be led by and informed by people with lived experience.

## *ALL* **TIME MANAGEMENT**

22nd November 2022 09:30-11:30

An essential skill for researchers. Issues covered will include work- life balance, planning, prioritising, the need to differentiate between importance and urgency, and using a range of strategies and time- saving ideas.

## *ALL* **PITCHING YOURSELF**

23rd November 2022 09:30-13:00

“Make the most of every opportunity” is often stated as key to a successful career but how can we make the most of those opportunities? Using your research as a starting point, this interactive course will get you practising a series of pitches with your peers, interspersed with expert tips and tricks and personalised feedback. The aim is to hook the audience in, whether it is about your research or a new business venture.

## *ALL* **INTERVIEWING FOR PODCASTS**

24th November 2022 09:30-12:30

This is a hands on session designed to help you work on your skills as a podcast host when it comes to asking questions. The session will cover preparing for interviews, creating a question line, and active listening.

You might also be interested in Podcast your science on page 3

## *ALL* **PUTTING STORIES TO WORK**

1st December 2022 10:00-13:00

This session builds on the introductory workshop (Telling Stories that Matter, p.xx) and introduces new elements of great storytelling including metaphor, clarity and message. This highly interactive workshop will be based around an example of writing an explainer or news article for the wider, non-specialist public website.

It is highly recommended that you will have already attended the introductory workshop, or equivalent introductory workshops on storytelling. Brief reading material will be provided to ensure you are up to date with the fundamentals of storytelling that are the basis of this workshop.



# MPLS MICHAELMAS TERM TRAINING TIMETABLE

EVENT	TIME	DATE
An Introduction to Enterprise and the Researcher	12.00-14.00	12/10
Podcast your science	0930-1630	13/10
Scientific Entrepreneurship	14.00 -16.00	13/10
Optimise your time at Oxford	12.00-15.00	19/10
Your successful Dphil	11.30-14.30	19/10
Anti-racist allyship (Online)	10.00-12.30	20/10
All in the UK: Engaging parliament	10.30-13.00	20/10
SeedWISE MT 1	14.00-17.00	24/10
Intersectional Allyship (Online)	10.00-12.30	24/10
Committee participation & impact	09.30-12.30	26/10
Public Engagement with Research 101	0930-1230	27/10
Introductory Presentation Skills MPLS	10.00-13.00	28/10
SeedWISE MT 2	16.00-17.30	31/10/
Your successful Dphil	11.30-14.30	1/11/
Enterprising Women I&L Online	12.30 -14.00	2/11/
SeedWISE MT 3	09.30-11.00	7/11
Innovation Leadership Programme 1	09.30-13.00	8/11
Scientific Writing Core Skills	09.00-17.00	8/11
Telling stories that matter: communicating your research through story	13.00-16.00	8/11
Pitching For Funding	09.30-13.00	9/11
Innovation Leadership Programme 2	09.30-14.30	9/11
Writing successful research proposals	14.00-17.00	9/11
Methods for effective two-way public engagement	0930-1230	10/11
Innovation Leadership Programme 3	09.30-13.00	10/11
SeedWISE MT 4	16.00-17.30	14/11
Being an effective bystander (Online)	10.30-11.30	15/11
Scientific Writing Paper Published	09.00-17.00	15/11
Innovation Leadership Programme 4	09.30-16.00	16/11
Viva Practice and preparation	10.00-15.00	16/11
Cultivating resilience and self-care for ourselves and others (online)	10.30-11.30	17/11
Oxford Sparks Science Communication Masterclass I	0930-1230	17/11
Your successful Dphil	11.30-14.30	17/11
SeedWISE MT 5	09.30-11.00	21/11
Supporting neurodivergent staff (Online)	10.00-12.30	21/11
Time Management	09.30-12.00	22/11
Oxford Sparks Science Communication Masterclass II	0930-1230	23/11
Pitching yourself	09.30-13.00	23/11
Interviewing for Podcasts	0930-120	24/11
SeedWISE MT 6	14.00-1700	28/11
Your successful Dphil	11.30-14.30	30/11
Public Engagement with Research 101	1300-1600	30/11
Putting Stories to Work	1000-1300	1/12
Virtual Podcasting Help-desk	1300-1700	8/12

**ALL**

**RESEARCH STAFF ONLY**

**POSTGRADUATE RESEARCHERS ONLY**