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Funding:

- **EBI Early Career Fellowships**

  The Elizabeth Blackwell Institute for Health Research (EBI) is seeking to support excellent early career researchers who wish to further their career by applying for externally-funded fellowships (or similar) to be held at Bristol. We offer a salaried position for up to 2 years. This scheme is now open for applications. For further information, deadlines and to apply visit the [EBI website](#).

- **EBI Identifying Candidates for Wellcome Trust Investigator Awards**

  This scheme is designed to support a small number of early career permanent academic staff at the University of Bristol who are planning to apply for an Investigator Award from the Wellcome Trust ([Investigator Awards in Science](#) and [Investigator Awards in Humanities and Social Science](#)). The scheme is open for nominations by the Heads of Schools. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. For further information see the [EBI website](#).

- **Academies GCRF Networking Grant call**

  The Academy of Medical Sciences, the British Academy, the Royal Academy of Engineering and the Royal Society have announced a call for GCRF Networking Grant applications. The scheme allows researchers from across disciplines and from developing countries and the UK to hold networking events, to forge new links and generate innovative transdisciplinary research ideas to address global challenges. More details [here](#). Application deadline: 21 March 2018. If you intend to submit an application please contact Simon Glasser.

News:

- **EBI Advisor on Business Development**

  We are delighted to welcome Dr Richard Seabrook, EBI Advisor on Business Development, who joined the team in January 2018. Dr Seabrook will provide leadership to support the
growth of partnerships and alliances with industry across the health arena at the University of Bristol. He will lead the EBI's engagement with small and medium-sized enterprises, investors and major companies for the translation of new health interventions. He will also focus on identifying new opportunities to translate fundamental health research across the University into commercial impact. Read the full announcement on the EBI website.

- **EBI Diversity and Inclusion Champion**

We are delighted to welcome Lauren Curtis, EBI Diversity & Inclusion Champion. Lauren’s focus will be on championing and challenging equality, diversity and inclusion within health and biomedical research communities at the University of Bristol under the umbrella of the Elizabeth Blackwell Institute. Lauren previously worked with adults and young people in a range of settings including a Disability Charity, Pupil Referral Unit (for those excluded from mainstream school), Youth Offending and as part of Widening Participation in Higher Education. For further information please email Lauren.

- **University Research Networks**

The EBI supports four Research Networks: Bristol Neuroscience, Cancer, Infection and Immunity and Fundamental Biosciences; each is led by a steering group comprising representatives in the research areas which they champion. Networks seek to provide a cohesive presence across the University of Bristol to encourage strategic thinking in funding applications, identifying priority research areas and creating an inclusive, interdisciplinary environment. Contact Catherine Brown for more information.

- **Founding Director of EBI to lead new Faculty of Life Sciences at Bristol**

Professor Tavaré, founding Director of the Elizabeth Blackwell Institute (2012-2017) and the current Director of Research (Health & Life Sciences) at the University of Bristol, will take up the role of Dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Bristol, on 1 August 2018. The creation of the new Faculty of Life Sciences is part of the University’s Vision and Strategy to become a life sciences destination for students, academics and research funding. Read the full announcement on the EBI website.

- **NIHR Bristol Biomedical Research Centre Launch**

UHBristol and the University of Bristol were recently awarded £21 million by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) to create a Biomedical Research Centre (BRC). The Bristol BRC builds on the former Biomedical Research Units in cardiovascular disease and nutrition, incorporating new strands of research on mental health, reproductive and perinatal health and surgical innovation, together with cross cutting themes providing expertise in patterns of health and illness in large groups of people and learning about causes of disease. A symposium to mark the launch of the BRC was held on 1 February 2018: read more about the new centre on its website.

- **Maximising the value of research outputs: Wellcome’s approach**
In July 2017, the Wellcome Trust updated their policy on the management and sharing of research outputs. The new policy now includes sharing software and materials as other valued outputs of research, in addition to sharing openly publications and data. Read more about the policy, focus areas and what it means for researchers on the EBI website.

- Clinical Research Network West of England: opportunities for researchers

Clinical Research Network West of England (CRN) provides support for researchers and health professionals involved in research studies to help ensure they are carried out efficiently. This helps to increase the opportunities for patients to take part in clinical research and access new and innovative treatments, which can influence improved NHS healthcare for the future. Read more about support for researchers on offer on the CRN website.

- News from PolicyBristol

The Houses of Parliament recently launched a website for researchers and academics, providing information on how to engage with Parliament: read more on the PolicyBristol website, and remember to check the latest policy scan in health while you are there. PolicyBristol are planning to showcase University of Bristol academics’ contributions to parliamentary enquiries on their website: if you have submitted evidence in the last year, please let Lindsey Pike know.

- Bristol Health Partners

For the latest edition of their newsletter visit Bristol Health Partners.

Funded Projects:

- Recent EBI awards:

  - Research for Health Challenge

  This scheme aims to encourage healthcare practitioners, the public and University of Bristol researchers to work together to develop innovative thinking around clinical problems. Two projects addressing clinical challenges have been funded in this round. Congratulations to Alyson Huntley (Bristol Medical School) and Stuart Mundell (Physiology, Pharmacology & Neuroscience). For more details about their projects and the scheme visit the EBI website.

  - Confidence in Concept (CiC)

  With support from the Medical Research Council, the Elizabeth Blackwell Institute funded two projects to support health related translational research. Congratulations to David Wynick (Bristol Medical School) and Jennifer Bailey (Bristol Veterinary School). For more information about their projects and the scheme visit the EBI website.

  - Proximity to Discovery (PtoD)
With support from the Medical Research Council, the Elizabeth Blackwell Institute has funded projects for short term two-way people exchanges between industry and academia. Mike Ashby (Physiology, Pharmacology & Neuroscience) and James Uney (Bristol Medical School) will begin their projects shortly. For more information about their projects and the scheme visit the EBI website.

- Genetics of osteoarthritis

You're more likely to get osteoarthritis of the hip if your parents have had it, and certain hip shapes can increase the risk. So could changes in hip shape associated with hip osteoarthritis be inherited? This was the question asked by Dr Benjamin Faber in his project under the EBI Clinical Primer scheme: read more on the EBI website.

- Improving breast cancer surgery outcomes

Breast cancer affects around 54,000 women in the UK each year, and 40 per cent of these patients require a mastectomy. Breast reconstruction can dramatically improve a woman’s quality of life afterwards but there is a lack of reliable evidence to inform women’s choice of reconstruction surgery. Dr Shelley Potter used her EBI award to address this challenge through assessing the clinical success of breast reconstruction with a view of ensuring that women are able to choose the best treatment. Read more on the EBI website.

- Battle of the stem cells

Stem cells must compete with one another to remain among a smaller number of pluripotent, self-renewing cells rather than transform into a specialised cell. But how does this process play out, and with what effects? Dr Marc Amoyel used his EBI Early Career Fellowship award to find the answers. Read more on the EBI website.

Public engagement

- Fun Palaces

EBI is delighted to host Bristol's Fun Palaces Ambassador to catalyse health-inspired Fun Palace events with researchers, residents and local partners. Fun Palaces will take place over 6 and 7 October 2018 as part of a global campaign for community-led culture. You can view a map of 2017 EBI Fun Palaces on the EBI Fun Palaces website. To find out more about Fun Palaces and upcoming workshops contact Ellie Shipman.

Forthcoming Events:

- Bristol City Office ‘Health, Wellbeing and Learning’ drop in session, 20 February 2018
The Bristol City Office encourages partners from across the city to come together and contribute to the immediate and long term challenges facing Bristol through developing the emerging shared vision for Bristol: One City Plan. The City Office Drop In sessions are an opportunity for everyone to shape this vision. Come and share your ideas at the next ‘Health, Wellbeing and Learning’ Drop In session on 20 February in the Bristol City Hall, room 2D01, 10:30-12:00. Learn more about the work of the Bristol City Office on their website.

- Bristol Fun Palaces 2018 launch, 1 March 2018

Join us for drinks and nibbles to hear more about EBI-supported Bristol Fun Palaces: health-inspired arts and science events by, for and with local people 6,7 October 2018. Meet potential collaborators from researchers to artists and local residents and sign up to make your own Fun Palace in 2018! When: 1 March 2018, 5.30-8.00pm. Venue: Royal Fort House, Yellow Room, Bristol BS8 1UH. RSVP at our Eventbrite page.

- Building Global Partnerships for Global Challenges Symposium 11-13 April 2018

Following a year of awards under the Global Challenge Research Fund, the University of Bristol is hosting an international symposium to share best practice, develop new connections, and generate new research partnerships that help to tackle global development challenges. Find out more on the Symposium website.

- 4-day More Business Acumen (MBA) course, 9-12 April 2018

Following the hugely successful course in 2017, BrisSynBio partnered with SynbiCITE to bring back the ‘4-Day More Business Acumen (MBA)’ course. This interactive programme is designed to provide the skills required to establish, build and manage a biotech company. More information on the BrisSynBio event page. Contact Andy Boyce to register.

- Bristol Brain Day: Showcase and Networking event, 11 April 2018

This one-day conference organised by the Bristol Neuroscience Research Network is an opportunity to learn about all the different neuroscience research facets and resources at the University of Bristol. You will be able to share best practice and experiences, source expertise and engage across the whole spectrum of neuroscience from cellular work to epidemiology to clinical applications, and everything in between. For more information and to register visit the Bristol Neuroscience event page.

- Institutes’ reception for new staff at the University of Bristol, 30 April 2018
The University Research Institutes will hold a joint reception for new staff at the University of Bristol to give them an opportunity to find out about the Institutes, their activities and the support they can offer. If you have recently joined the University you will receive an invitation to this event shortly.

- Research without Borders: a festival of postgraduate research, 30 April – 9 May 2018

The Elizabeth Blackwell Institute is curating a Global Health session on 3 May at this year's Research without Borders: the University of Bristol's annual festival of postgraduate research organised by the Bristol Doctoral College in collaboration with the University Research Institutes. Please come and take part in a discussion led by postgraduate researchers showcasing their work in global health on 3 May 2018. More details on the festival website.

The Elizabeth Blackwell Institute gratefully acknowledges financial support from the University of Bristol and the Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund.

To view previous issues of our newsletter visit the EBI website. If you have any news or events that you would like us to include in our newsletter, please get in touch at: ebi-health@bristol.ac.uk

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