

Building Life Science Adventures

- 09.00 Registration
- 09.45 Welcome
- 10.00 **Career Pathways: Progressing to Senior Lab and Non-Lab based Roles**
There is an apparent lack of awareness among students of the diversity of careers available in the Life Science industry. This session will discuss:
- What are the options, and which are in demand?
 - What experience is key to employers?
 - Laboratory-based Career Options
 - How to transition from lab to office?
- 11.00 Coffee Break
- 11.20 **Work-based Learning**
Feedback from employers suggests that they prefer candidates with experience, and this has clearly influenced Government policy. Whether apprenticeships, internships or graduate training schemes, there appears to be a mismatch between need and provision. This session will discuss:
- What are the advantages and challenges of effective work-based learning?
 - What makes a good internship, apprenticeship or graduate training scheme?
 - How can we address the barriers?
 - How can these options work together?
- 12.20 Lunch
- 13.30 **Creating a Good First and Lasting Impression**
Creating the right first impression has always been key, but so is communicating your personal or company ethos if the fit is to be successful. This session will discuss:
- What does a great CV look like to attract employers?
 - What does a great job advert look like to attract the best talent?
 - How do you communicate your ethos and values?
- 14.30 Coffee Break
- 14.50 **Funding & Resources**
Knowledge gaps and resources can often be a barrier to employers wanting to offer training and experience opportunities. yet there are various support mechanisms available. This session will discuss:
- How can the Apprenticeship Levy be used best?
 - What funding is available to support internships and non-apprenticeship routes?
 - Mentorship to support students and employers
- 15.50 Close

Building Life Science Adventures: A Conference on Creating the Best Careers and Teams - Speaker Bios



Renos Savva is a Senior Lecturer at Birkbeck and is active in promotion of student entrepreneurial activity plus outreach for the BBSRC LIDo PhD programme. Renos envisaged Combinatorial Domain Hunting, developed and patented for commercial service via the start-up biotech company Domainex Ltd., in collaboration with colleagues at UCL and ICR. As Research Director at Domainex, the company was incubated in his lab from incorporation in 2002 until independence in 2007. Awarded LondonFirst's Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2005 for co-establishing Domainex into commercial viability led to his collaboration with Birkbeck's CIMR and development of the MSc Bio-business programme at Birkbeck.

Speaking in the Career Pathways session.

Chris Hill is Executive Director, Chemistry & DMPK in Early Discovery at Charles River Laboratories. He has over thirty years of drug discovery experience in pharmaceutical research and has undertaken many roles, including discovery site head and running a global chemistry function. He has a proven track record in managing large research teams across diverse therapeutic areas toward the successful delivery of pipeline compounds. Chris is a strategic thinker, change agent and problem solver who is excited about developing talent, building great teams and creating sustainable, productive organisations. Extensive experience has been gained in establishing and managing research collaborations and ensuring that talent can be harnessed and grown in the quest to innovate and impact human health.



Speaking in the Career Pathways session.



Michelle Ware was trained in developmental neurobiology. She received both her undergraduate and PhD degrees from the University of Portsmouth (UK). Continuing research in neurobiology, she undertook three postdoc positions in Memphis (USA), in Rennes (France) and in Cambridge (UK). In 2018, Michelle made the decision to leave academia. She joined OBRIZUM GROUP LTD, an educational technology company, where she is head of the department OBRIZUM X. CamBioScience is the life sciences brand within OBRIZUM X where she works with world-leading experts to provide intensive training courses and conferences in a broad spectrum of emerging and established life science technologies.

Speaking in the Career Pathways session.



Dr Catherine Stace is Director of Business Development for the drug discovery CRO, Domainex. Cat studied Biochemistry (Nottingham) and PhD Cell Biology (Cambridge). Cat spent 10 years as a laboratory Research Scientist for early-stage therapeutic discovery companies, focusing on technology development: firstly for Isogenica, then joining Bicycle Therapeutics in 2010 as part of the original start-up team who established the platform. After leaving the lab in 2016, she qualified in Systems Engineering and ran her technology consultancy business for 4 years – most notably working for the healthtech start-up, XenoVida, and founding Platform First Ltd – before joining Domainex in late 2019.

Speaking in the Career Pathways session.

Simon Saxby is CEO of Leaf Systems International. He has over thirty-five years of international experience in life sciences, including CEO roles of both public and private companies. He is a non-executive director of ADC Bio Ltd and is an advisor to the boards of a number of life science companies. He is a course mentor for the Cambridge University MBE programme and served as a Visiting Lecturer in Industrial Biotechnology at Vienna Medical and Technical University, and as an Advisor at The Boston University School of Management, USA.

Speaking in the Work-Base Learning session.



Jacqui Hall, Head of Early Careers, BioPharmaceuticals Research & Development, AstraZeneca

Jacqui leads the Early Careers Team in BioPharmaceuticals R&D at AstraZeneca, with responsibility for all early career programmes, including Post-Doctoral Researchers, PhDs, Graduates, apprentices and undergraduate placement students. Externally, Jacqui connects employers, educators, central and local government to drive science skills to support innovation and growth. She supported development of the Industrial Strategy and the Life Sciences Sector Deal, Chairs the Cambridge Skills Panel for the Science Industry Partnership and is helping to build a pipeline of high-quality science apprentices, influencing government and employers on the apprenticeship levy and the wider skills needs for the Life Sciences industry.

Jacqui is a fellow of the Royal Society of Biology and the Institute of Innovation and Knowledge Exchange. In 2018, Jacqui was named as one of BioBeat's 50 women 'Movers and Shakers' in biobusiness for her work driving science skills for innovation and growth.

Speaking in the Work-Base Learning session.



Rebecca Johnston, SRG Talent

Bec has worked in the recruitment of specialist staff for the past 16 years in the Cambridge market. She is responsible for sourcing talent for a range of scientific, engineering and clinical organisations from start-up to multinational enterprises, from biotech, pharmaceutical, medical devices, to R&D, FMCG and manufacturing and CRO's. She works in partnership with candidates and clients to deliver customised staffing solutions to solve a wide range of recruitment issues including attraction and retention, employer branding, employee engagement, productivity and motivation, as well as interview preparation, role-play and presentation skills to assist in job searches.

Speaking in the Creating a Good First and Lasting Impression session.

Tarquin Bennett-Coles is an Executive Search Consultant at George James. Prior to this he has held senior roles in life science focused boutique search firms and was an in-house Global Talent Scout at AstraZeneca. He has over two decades of executive search and interim management experience.

Tarquin works on senior leadership roles in partnership with biotech, pharma, life science service companies, NGO's, NFP's, VC spin-outs and rare and orphan disease SMEs. He has handled complex assignments across general management, market access, R&D, digital health, data science, drug discovery, competitive intelligence, business analytics, medical affairs, clinical development, C-Suite and board level positions.

Speaking in the Creating a Good First and Lasting Impression session.



Dr Karolina Zapadka, Head of Babraham Accelerator, Babraham Research Campus

Karolina joined the Babraham Research Campus in 2018 where she co-founded and successfully delivered the Accelerate@Babraham initiative. As part of the initiative, Karolina launched the first life science acceleration programme for early stage ventures combining access to lab space, mentoring from business and scientific experts and access to investors in the Cambridge Cluster.

Karolina has over 7 years experience in building healthcare companies within the Cambridge Cluster. She played a pivotal role in securing over £7.5 million for a number of British early stage ventures (pre-seed and seed stage) from a stellar syndicate of investors (business angels and VCs). She started her career as a scientist in protein and peptide therapeutics at a leading biopharmaceutical company developing a portfolio of products to enable improved treatments for diabetes care. Karolina completed a PhD in Biophysics at the University of Cambridge and carried out her Postdoctoral work at AstraZeneca.

Speaking in the Funding & Resources session.

Professor Luigi Martini BSc (Hons), PhD, MBA, FRPharmS, FEIPG
Professor Martini is Chief Scientist for the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) where he ensures that the RPS stays at the forefront of medicines development and utilization. In this capacity, Professor Martini is often asked to comment in the media and with Government on topical issues such as Brexit, Drug Shortages, Cannabis, Antibiotic Resistance and Drug Discovery to name but a few.

Professor Martini is a registered practicing Industrial Pharmacist and a Fellow of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. Professor Martini also divides his time between the RPS and King's College London as a Visiting Professor in Pharmaceutical Innovation, after having held the Chair in Pharmaceutical Innovation at King's for 5 years. Professor Martini is also Visiting Professor at the University of Bradford.



Prior to his tenure in Academia, Professor Martini spent over 17 years working at GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals, Roche Products Ltd. and Shire Pharmaceuticals working in a variety of Technical, Commercial, Innovation based and Medical Affairs roles, directing groups in the US, Europe and Emerging Markets.

Professor Martini has a MBA specializing in SME success and business failure awarded with Distinction from the University of Liverpool. Professor Martini is past Chair of the Industrial Pharmacists Group of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society and past President of the European Industrial Pharmacists Group.

In 2016, Professor Martini was appointed a Fellow of the European Industrial Pharmacists Group.

Speaking in the Funding & Resources session.



Aaron Bowater, Director of Bowater Associates - an independent consultancy working in the worlds of local and national policy making, is an experienced Outreach Coordinator with a history of working in policy, research and lobbying industries. He has worked for a wide variety of membership organisations, Universities, think tanks and regional leaders providing services in Communication, Report Writing, Policy Analysis, Strategic Planning, and Organizational Development. Today, he is working with the leading colleges and employers across the East of England in the UK Innovation Corridor to champion the amazing skills provision and economic growth taking place in the region.

Speaking in the Funding & Resources session.