

**NEWSLETTER
MSCA FELLOWSHIP
[2015-2016]**

1. Career Development Plan

The short- and long-term objectives of the fellowship target the advancement of Dr. Constantinides career and the diversification of his scientific horizons, to allow him to acquire new research skills in cell and tissue engineering, labeling, bioimaging, within the unique environment of a top institution (U. Oxford [UoOx]). The long-term goal is to ensure reciprocal transfer of knowledge between UoOx and the researcher, facilitate his return to the academic profession, advancing the field as an educator/researcher of an established Engineering Department [Obj. 4]. These objectives were formulated in a comprehensive personalized Career Development Plan (http://lbi-cy.com/?page_id=1034).

2. Skills

Research Skills: Training by research has led to improved competency in experimental design (e.g. learning new techniques, instruments etc.), quantitative and qualitative analyses, critical thinking, and technology transfer. Acquired skills will target areas of cell extraction (partly in progress), culturing, cellular labelling, microinjections, immuno-histochemistry (pending) and confocal microscopy; b) complementary-transferable skills (mainly through the Oxford Learning Institute (OLI) and host Division).

Management: Emphasis during Year I has been placed on improving inter-personal skills, and working in a team environment, promoting critical thinking, key-elements of an independent researcher. Efforts are also planned to target patenting and IPR, team leadership, financial planning and resource management.

Communication Skills: Improvement of technical writing and presentation skills, attendance to faculty-recruitment interviews, organized language and accelerated courses, and through planned dissemination/public engagement activities.

Other Professional Training: Has been accomplished through self-paced learning through webinars, computer-based and equipment use training and innovation (e.g. close-to-market elements, IPR-management etc.).

Ethics: Valuable experience has been gained (and will continue to be gained) in longitudinal studies of animal models of disease, and relevant ethical issues.

Networking Opportunities: The researcher has started to develop a co-operative network, interdisciplinary transfer of knowledge (e.g. through planned secondments), and training dedicated to gender issues (endorsing the EU Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct, counteracting gender barriers, promoting equal opportunity activities).

2. Training Courses/Professional Learning

The following training courses were attended during the first year of the fellowship:

- a. Animal Training Course, Biomedical Sciences, October 2015, Oxford
- b. MSCA Intellectual Property and Patents Workshop (EPO, Munich - Nov. 2015)
- c. Introduction to the Searching Resources of the Bodleian Library (Nov. 2015)

OLI

- a. Introduction to Oxford (Online)
- b. Induction to the Working Environment (Online)
- c. Managing People: Key Processes (Online)
- d. Equality and Diversity (Online)
[\[http://www.learning.ox.ac.uk/seminar_desc.php?cat=az&ls=&cc=MAN/EQU/ONLI&page=3&id=925\]](http://www.learning.ox.ac.uk/seminar_desc.php?cat=az&ls=&cc=MAN/EQU/ONLI&page=3&id=925)
- e. Unconscious Bias (Online-pending)
[\[http://www.learning.ox.ac.uk/seminar_desc.php?cat=az&ls=&cc=MAN/DIV/ONLI&page=3&id=1026\]](http://www.learning.ox.ac.uk/seminar_desc.php?cat=az&ls=&cc=MAN/DIV/ONLI&page=3&id=1026)
- f. Essentials of Project Management (Tutored)
- g. Undergraduate Admissions Interviewing (Tutored, 28 Sept 2015)
- h. Examining PhD Students (21 Mar 2016)

Division of Medical Sciences

- a. An Introduction to Research Ethics (19 Feb 2016)
- b. Advanced Light Microscopy (14-17 Mar 2016)

3. Research Collaborations

- a. Dr. Mangala Srinivas (Radboud University, Netherlands): A material transfer agreement (MTA) was formulated, through efforts mediated via the Research Office (U. Oxford) and the Office of Technology at Radboud. Bilateral execution of the MTA was completed on 13/4/16 with efforts initiated in mid-August 2015. Two field visits were conducted (August 2015 and March 2016) – Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands (15/8/15-13/4/16)
- b. Dr. Kathy L. Murphy (Animal Anesthetist, Biomedical Sciences, U. Oxford)
- c. Dr. Ipsita Roy, Westminster University, London

4. Workshops – Lectures

The following workshops and lectures were/will be attended/completed during the first year of the fellowship:

- a. EPO IP workshop



- b. Grant writing workshop (pending confirmation), Oxford (29/6)
- c. Public engagement and dissemination workshop (WTCHG, Nov. 2015)
- c. Writing fellowship applications, Oxford (20/4)
- d. Oxford-Imperial-Nottingham Stem Cell Network (Hammersmith Hospital, 2-3 Dec. 2015)
- e. Oxford-Imperial-Cambridge Stem Cell Network (DPAG Oxford, 29 Feb. 2016)

5. Special Publications [http://lbi-cy.com/?page_id=1040]

- a. Newspaper article
- b. Abstracts
- c. Manuscripts
- d. Book chapter
- e. Books
- f. Other publications

6. Presentations

- a. BMRU (Journal Club: Multinuclear imaging, and Bi-Weekly Meeting: 19F SPIO co-labeling [Prof. Chien Ho]) October 2015
- b. BMRU March (Journal Club: Prof. Bottomley/Waiczies) and April (Meeting: Elastography) 2016
- c. CVMD June 2016

7. Fellowships

- a. Wolfson College, Member of Common Room (23 February, 2016-present)

8. Mentorships

- a. RDM Mentorship program ([Prof. D. Kerr](#), RDM, U. Oxford)

9. Dissemination

- a. Newspaper article (Simerini newspaper, Cyprus, 5 April 2016)
- b. Lanition High School and U. Lancaster-Cyprus (planned for the September 2016)
- c. Website upgrade (http://lbi-cy.com/?page_id=1030)

10. Secondment

Pending

11. Other Endeavours

- a. Imperial College (IC) Alumni office (Proposal for IC Alumni Association in Cyprus submitted in December 2015)
- b. Imperial College Alumni weekend May 7-8 2016 (engagement as a volunteer)

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