Industry Academia Exchanges (IAX)
How to access - MRC Proximity to Discovery Funding

Spring IAX call launch - Wed 16th Jan 2019
MRC - Proximity to Discovery: Industry Engagement Fund 2017

**AIM:** to provide flexible funding for innovative ways to enable the initial development of academic-industry collaborations

**Scope:**

- People exchanges - at all levels but especially to develop Early Career Researchers
- Other creative ways to fund the establishment of new collaborations increasing ‘permeability’ between industry and academia:
  - Showcases/workshops which enable Universities to develop relationships with potential industry partners
  - Sponsoring partnering meetings with industry to develop shared work plans
Why we want/need to work with Industry Partners:

• Overall funding landscape (Per annum)
• Access to Innovate UK funds £714 M (MRC £727 M & BBSRC £446 M)
• Align with Life Sciences Industrial Strategy:
  • AI and Data Economy (Digital Innovation)
  • Ageing Society:
    • Precision Medicine
    • Early Diagnosis (digital pathology & imaging)
    • Healthy Ageing
People Exchanges

• Timeline for spring call for incoming and outgoing staff secondments between our University staff and Industry partners:
  
  • Opens on Monday 14th January 2019
  • Closes on Monday 4th February 2019 at 5pm
  • Award panel meeting: 8th February 2019
  • Funding decisions announced: February 2019

• Will fund travel and subsistence, equipment and consumables (if necessary and justified), training and development. **Max per application £10,000**

• Collaborations must be within the MRC remit

• Secondments to and from UoL start-up companies will not be supported

• All activity/exchanges to be completed by 31st July 2019
People Exchanges – success stories

• Prof Gerry McCann
  • Position: Clinical Professor – Cardiac-MRI Imaging
  • Company: Resonance Health
  • Purpose: Adaptation of technology from liver to heart imaging
  • Activity: Face-to-Face meetings
    • UoL visit to Resonance Health (Australia) – discussion and project planning
    • Resonance Health to UoL – implementation of algorithm in ‘real world’ at Imaging Clinic (GGH)
  • Outcomes:
    • Contributed to NIHR Chair (Awarded – Prof McCann)
    • Development of new plan of work – NIHR application with Resonance Health (in preparation)
People Exchanges – success stories

• Dr Ana Sousa Manso
  • Position: LD3 PDRA
  • Company: GSK to US–HQ at Philadelphia Navy Yard
  • Purposes: Increase understanding of high throughput cellular assay development (as part of Leicester DPAc project to develop novel therapeutics for the treatment of Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma)
  • Activity: Experience of industry approaches to assay development, face-to-face meeting with DPAc cellular assay team and meeting with GSK Global DPAc Lead
  • Outcome: Novel insights and approaches brought back to the project, easier communication with US DPAc team and increased interest in working with industry.

Ana is now working as a Biology Project Coordinator at C4X Drug Discovery Ltd (Manchester UK)
People Exchanges – success stories

• Dr Liam Heaney
  • Position: PDRA – Cardiovascular Sciences (PI Prof Toru Suzuki)
  • Company: Protexin
  • Purposes: Project development for the use of probiotics in reducing the production of cardiac damaging food metabolites and industry engagement experience
  • Activity: Face-to-face project meetings, tour of production sites across UK
  • Outcome: Well developed project (co-supported by LD3 and Protexin) showing promising early stage data (early stage clinical study), larger trail in discussion and MRC grant application submitted

Liam has decided to remain in academia and has taken up a Lectureship position in Exercise Metabolomics at Loughborough University
People Exchanges – how to apply......

- Download IAX People Exchange forms and guidance notes at: www.le.ac.uk/iax
- Discuss project with Research Team and potential partner(s)
- Contact IAX Team to discuss projects
- Complete forms (inc PI and HoD sign off)
- Submit forms to IAX@Leicester.ac.uk no later than 5 pm 4th Feb 2019
People Exchanges – how to apply……

4. Exchange details

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<th>Proposed start date</th>
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<th>Proposed end date</th>
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<td>e.g. the number of days that you will be working with the company</td>
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<th>Exchange details (max 300 words)</th>
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<td>For example:</td>
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<td>How does your project fit within the MRC remit?</td>
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<td>Why do you want to visit this organisation?</td>
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<td>What do you intend to do whilst you are there?</td>
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<td>Are there any in-kind benefits (company time etc.) that will be associated with the exchange?</td>
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<td>How will you benefit from the exchange (personal development goals/ambition etc.)?</td>
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<td>How will the University benefit from the exchange?</td>
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<td>How does your project fit with the College research and enterprise remit?</td>
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<td>How will the exchange benefit your research in the future (new collaborations, projects, techniques etc.)?</td>
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<td>What is the potential impact as a result of the exchange?</td>
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<th>If Industry partner wants to visit UoL</th>
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<td>Why you want to do visit us?</td>
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<td>What do you intend to do whilst you are here?</td>
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<td>How will your organisation benefit from the exchange?</td>
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<td>Will your organisation be able to provide any in-kind benefits that will be associated with the exchange?</td>
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5. Exchange costs (up to £10,800): The award will provide funding for directly incurred costs only

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6. Signatures (email accepted)

I confirm that I wish to apply for funding for an IAX exchange. I confirm that the information presented in the application is accurate to the best of my knowledge and agree that if funding is issued the University of Leicester will approach me for feedback and monitoring purposes both during and after project delivery.

Email confirmation from Head of Department (University seconded only)

Date of email

Name and Position

Email confirmation from Secondee

Date

Name and Position

I support this application and agree to participate in ongoing monitoring and capture of outcomes.

Email confirmation of Industrial Partner representative

Date

Name and Position

Return electronically with email confirmations to: IAX@le.ac.uk

Any queries please contact Ruth Barber (rcb@le.ac.uk)
Please contact the IAX team to discuss your ideas for....... 

• Showcases/workshops which enable Universities to develop relationships with potential industry partners 

• Sponsoring partnering meetings with industry to develop shared work plans 

**Funding available for up to £1,000 per project at any time (no closing dates)**

Please use Events and Meetings Application Form 2018-19 to apply (as shown on the right)

This will be available at: www.le.ac.uk/iax 

From Friday 18th Jan 2019
For more Information please contact: Ruth Barber by phone on ext 1594
Email: IAX@Leicester.ac.uk

Download IAX People Exchange forms and guidance notes at: www.le.ac.uk/iax