Putting money where the research is!

"How will the funding contribute towards your respective work with Le-MID?"

The six post doctorate awardees

Megan De Ste Croix

I'm a research associate in the Department of Genetics and Genome Biology working with Prof. Marco Oggioni. I work on bacterial gene regulation and the early stages of pneumococcal infection. I'm excited to be using my LeMID pump priming grant to help fund work some work I'm conducting in Blantyre, Malawi. My project explores the very early stages of pneumococcal infection so we can better understand why some people develop disease while others don't.

Janet Nale

I work with Prof. Martha Clokie in the Department of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation to develop bacteriophages (viruses of bacteria) as alternative therapeutics for multidrug-resistant bacterial infections. I am pleased with the LeMID pump-priming grant awarded me to cover the cost of sequencing 14 novel broad host range Escherichia coli phages which were isolated from Uganda and target clinical isolates.

Luke Green

I am a Postdoctoral Research Associate within the Department of Genetics and Genome Biology working with Dr. Chris Bayliss on the effect of phase variable genes on the switch from carriage to disease of *Neisseria meningitidis*. I am excited to use the LeMID Pump Priming grant to investigate the transcriptome of phase variable genes within pathogenic bacteria using RNA-seq datasets.

Jo Purves

I have been studying the impact of air pollution of the behaviour of respiratory bacteria for the last 3 years. I have recently secured a WTISSF fellowship to develop an *ex vivo* lung model to investigate the role exposure to air pollution has on bacterial infection during chronic lung disease. The LeMID pump priming grant will provide a chance to use advanced imaging techniques to further validate the model, complementing the work that will be carried out during my fellowship and providing important early proof of concept data for future grant applications.

Roxana Zamudio Zea

I am a young scientist with experience in genomic populations. I am planning to have interactions/collaborations with colleagues with skills in cellular biology in order to develop multidisciplinary and independent projects.

Caroline Cayrou

Recently, there is a renewed interest toward herbal drugs for the treatment of infection. However, herbal drugs are not the perfect treatment and they are some limitations. For instance, bacteria can develop resistance to herbal drugs as they do for antibiotics. The LeMID pump priming grant offers me the possibility to develop a new line of research in the University of Leicester by looking at the impact of herbal drugs on bacteria antibiotic resistance.