



BEYOND

THE

DOCTORATE

Joint Careers Event  
organised by

Wellcome Health Data in Practice DTP, HARP DTP  
and

MRC DTP in *Translational Biomedical Sciences*

**9 September 2024**

QMUL Graduate Centre, Mile End Campus, London E1 4NS

COME, JOIN THE CONVERSATION &  
NETWORK WITH THOSE SHARING THEIR  
DIVERSE CAREER STORIES AND ADVICE

The Careers Day is the perfect place to explore different career pathways and get valuable advice from alumni who have been through the experience.

<b>10:00 - 10:25</b>	Registration
<b>10:25</b>	Welcome
<b>10:30-11:30</b> Career paths in academia	Benjamin Werner Caroline Roney Meredith Hawking Sasha Howard
<b>11:30-11:45</b>	Short break
<b>11:45-12:30</b> Workshop 1	Nicola Faramarzi: <i>Funding/fellowship opportunities with the MRC</i> Eleanor Groves: <i>Are you Fellowship ready?</i>
<b>12:30-13:30</b>	Lunch break
<b>13:30-14:30</b> non-academic career paths	Hayley Wallen ( <i>Nature Reviews Methods Primers</i> ) Marcus Burger Ramos ( <i>QMUL, Matrix Dynamics</i> ) Katie Hurdle ( <i>Multiple Sclerosis Society</i> ) Kevin Tipping ( <i>AstraZeneca</i> ) Zoe Seager ( <i>Thalamos</i> )
<b>14:30-15:00</b>	Break
<b>15:00-15:45</b> Workshop 2	Emma-Marie Fry: <i>Empowering Careers Strategies for Researchers</i>

*Thank you to all of the companies, organisations and individuals for attending our Joint Career Event We greatly appreciate your support of the event and our current PhD students.*

# Careers Talks

## Career paths in academia

Benjamin Werner (Reader in Somatic Evolution, QMUL, London)



Benjamin is Reader in Somatic Evolution and leads a group that works on the evolutionary history of tumours, combining mathematics, computer simulations and genomic information to study evolutionary processes. After completing his PhD in mathematical models of cell population dynamics, Benjamin did a Post Doc at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Biology (Germany), working on the dynamics of haematopoietic stem cell and telomere shortening during ageing. In 2015, he moved to London to become the first Post Doc in the Cancer Evolutionary Genomics & Modelling Group of Andrea Sottoriva at the Institute of Cancer Research, where he worked on many aspects of somatic evolution, with the overall theme of

how to combine evolutionary theory and cancer genomic data. In October 2019 Benjamin joined the newly established Centre of Cancer Evolution and Computational Biology at the Barts Cancer Institute to establish his own research group on Evolutionary Dynamics. In 2021 he was awarded the UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship for the project "Quantifying the evolutionary dynamics of extrachromosomal DNA in human cancers".

Caroline Roney (Reader in Computational Medicine, QMUL, London)



Caroline is a Reader in Computational Medicine and a UKRI Future Leaders Fellow in the School of Engineering and Materials Science, Queen Mary University of London. She has a background in both mathematics and biomedical engineering, with an MMath in Mathematics from the University of Oxford, and an MRes in Biomedical Research from Imperial College London. She received her PhD degree in signal processing of cardiac arrhythmia data from the Department of Bioengineering and National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London (2011-2015). She then worked in the computational modelling team at Liryc, University of Bordeaux, funded by a Fondation Lefoulon Delalande fellowship (2015-2017). Recently, she was

an MRC research fellow at King's College London working in the Cardiac Electro-Mechanics Research Group (2017-2021). In 2022, she was awarded the UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship for the project "Mapping populations to patients: designing optimal ablation therapy for atrial fibrillation through simulation and deep learning of digital twin".

## Career paths in academia

Meredith Hawking (Lecturer in Social Science, QMUL, London)



Meredith is an NIHR School of Primary Care Post-doctoral Research Fellow with an interdisciplinary background in social science and public health research, currently based in the Centre for Primary Care, Wolfson Institute of Population Health at Queen Mary University of London. She also spends part of her time as a Qualitative Research Fellow for the ActEarly research collaborative in Tower Hamlets. Her current research explores child health and household practices from qualitative perspectives at the intersection of public health and social science. She also teaches on the Wellcome funded 'Health Data in Practice' Doctoral Training Partnership and 'Health Services and Public Health' PBLs. Her research interests include:

health practices, illness narratives and moral discourses, patient experiences of and engagement with public health programmes, decision making and communication in clinical encounters. She has previously explored these topics in relation to childhood obesity, atrial fibrillation and anticoagulation, cardiovascular disease, screening, vaccinations, and antibiotic resistance.

Sasha Howard (Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Career Development Fellow, Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant in Paediatric Endocrinology, QMUL, London)



Sasha graduated in Medicine from the University of Cambridge and University College London in 2004. She trained in Paediatrics before sub-specialising in Paediatric Endocrinology at Barts Health, UCLH and Great Ormond Street Hospitals. She completed a PhD in Molecular Endocrinology at the William Harvey Research Institute, Barts and the London School of Medicine funded by a Wellcome Trust Research Training Fellowship and a Barts Charity Clinical Training Fellowship. She was awarded the 2015 Henning Andersen prize for Paediatric Endocrinology (ESPE) and 2016 1st Oral Plenary Prize at the Academy of Medical Sciences Spring Meeting for Clinician Scientists. In 2017 she won a 4-year NIHR clinical lectureship alongside an Academy of Medical Sciences starter grant to continue her research into disorders of human

pubertal timing. She was awarded a Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Career Development Fellowship, stage 1 in 2021 and appointed Senior Lecturer at Queen Mary University of London and Honorary Consultant in Paediatric Endocrinology at Barts Health NHS Trust (Sept 2021).

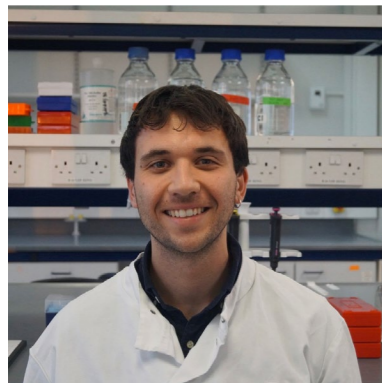
## Non-academic career paths

Hayley Wallen (Senior Editor at Nature Reviews Methods Primers)



After finishing an MChem in Chemistry at the University of Warwick, Hayley undertook a PhD in Archaeological Chemistry at University College London. Her research focused on using synchrotron radiation to study the corrosion and conservation of cast iron cannonballs from the Mary Rose shipwreck. Hayley joined Nature Reviews Methods Primers in August 2021, where she primarily handles papers on chemistry and materials science.

Marcos Burger Ramos (MRC DTP iCASE PhD student and co-founder of Matrix Dynamics, QMUL, London)



Marcos is a MRC funded iCASE PhD Student working in Oliver Pearce's group at the Barts Cancer Institute as well as Neobe Therapeutics. His work covers 3D tumour models, extracellular matrix biology and cancer immunotherapies, with a specific focus on cell therapies. Marcos is also co-founder of Matrix Dynamics, a Barts Cancer Institute/ QMUL service that provides contract research work using a patient sample-based preclinical assay platform for immunotherapies.

Kevin Tipping (Patent Director and Transaction Director at AstraZeneca)



Kevin is Patent Director and Transaction Director in AstraZeneca's Business Development & Operations team. After completing his PhD in Cellular and Molecular Biology, and before joining AstraZeneca as a Trainee Patent Attorney, Kevin gained experience as a Patent Technical Assistant at different European intellectual property firms

## Non-academic career paths

Katie Hurdle (Senior Research Officer at Multiple Sclerosis Society)

As Senior Research Officer, Katie supports management of the MS Society's research funding portfolio, including managing funding applications and active awards. Alongside this, Katie leads on development and delivery of the MS Society's Early Career Researcher Network. The ECR Network is co-produced with a steering group of ECRs working in MS research and offers a variety of ECR-specific funding, career development and networking opportunities. She also supports administration of the MS Society's Research Strategy Committee. Katie holds a PhD in Neuroimmunology from the University of Southampton and worked as a dementia researcher at the University of Edinburgh before joining the MS Society in April 2021.



Zoe Seager (Client Director at Thalamos)

Zoe has started her new role as Client Director at Thalamos in July 2024, where she leads all client facing functions at - from business development, onboarding, programme implementation, support and delivering success for their customers.

Prior to joining Thalamos, Zoe gained experience in Health Policies when she worked at the Department of Health and Social Care as a Senior Strategic Advisor in the Central Strategy Unit and as Deputy Director of Mental Health Policy and Operations.

After completing her PhD in Medical Microbiology, and before joining the DHSC, Zoe worked at the Wellcome Trust and gained experience as a Grant Adviser, Research Analyst (Vaccines) and Vaccines Program Lead.



# Directions

Graduate Centre  
QMUL  
Mile End Road  
London  
E1 4NS

## Public transport:

**Bus:** The campus can be accessed via bus 25 (Oxford Circus to Ilford), 205 (Paddington Station to Bow Church DLR Station) and 339 (Shadwell Station to Leytonstone Station).

**Underground:** The campus is located between Mile End (on the Hammersmith and City, District and Central lines) and Stepney Green (on the Hammersmith and City and District lines) underground stations.

