

Departmental
Postdoc Committee
Chairs Network

**Monday 24 October 2016** 

# Agenda

12.00	Introductions <i>Tariq</i>
12.05	Postdoc needs status report Tariq/Joy
	Priorities for 2016/17
12.25	15 point Development Framework
	Matt, Hannah and Mary-Beth
13.00	Committee engagement <i>Pieter</i>
13.25	Update from PdOC Joy/Tariq
13.30	Updates from OPdA Karina and Rob
14.00	End of meeting

# Purposes of the Network



Provide a representative postdoc 'voice'



Share best practice, ideas and experiences between departments

Provide face to face advice, support & training for **existing** departmental postdoc committees



Provide guidance and support for postdocs and departments in setting up new departmental postdoc committees

#### **Prioritised Postdoc Needs**

(Updated, May 2014)

Postdocs need opportunities / support / access to following:

1

Research
Excellence &
Recognition

2

Strategic
Career Plan &
Progression

3

Leadership & Teaching

4

Representation at Dept. & University

5

Appropriate & Timely Mentoring

6

Meaningful Professional Review 7

12

Personal & Professional Development

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Moving to Careers Outside Academia

9

Networking (Professionally & Socially)

10

Timely
Induction &
Welcome in
Cambridge

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Alumni benefits on leaving Cambridge 13

College Affiliations

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Wellbeing and Family support

# 2016/17 Priorities



# Research Funding

(needs 1,2,3)

- Ability to apply for independent funding
- Promotion RA-SRA-PRA
- Long term postdocs
- Relocation?

What are your main issues?
What do you want to know more about?
What questions would you like to ask?

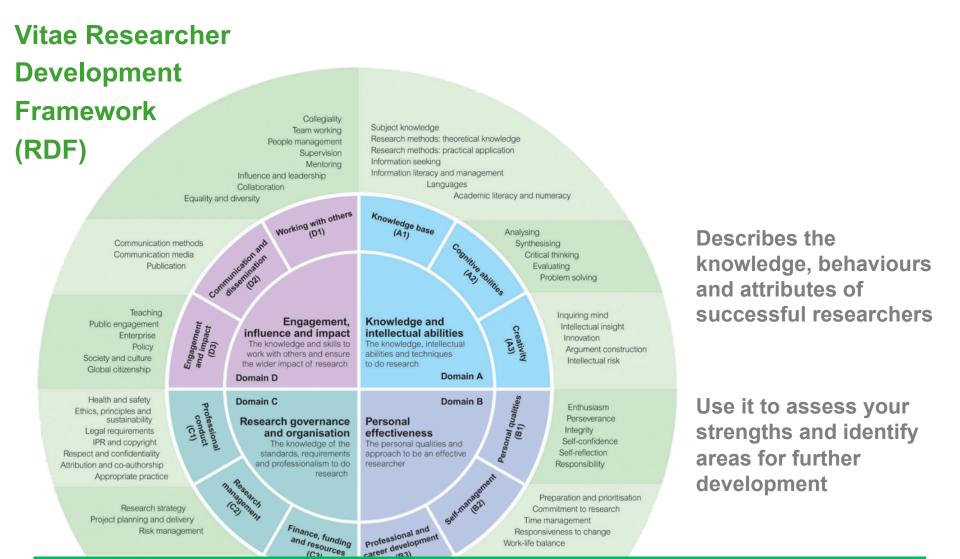
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# 15 point Development Framework



# Researcher Development Programme



Cambridge trial for Postdocs and PhD students from Sept 2016.

Melissa.Koops@admin.acm.ac.uk

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# **Themes for 2016/17**



"I suppose I'll be the one to mention the elephant in the room."

# Supporting your committee

- Sustainability and postdoc engagement
- Integration into department

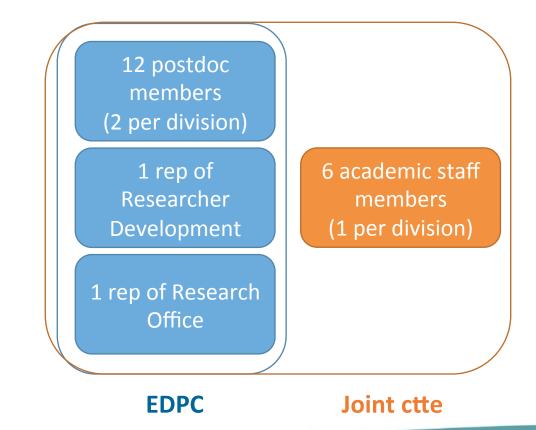


# Postdoc committee member recruitment and postdoc engagement

Pieter Desnerck

# Engineering Department Postdoc Committee

- Committee found in 2013
- ~275 postdocs
- Representative in:
  - Faculty Board
  - Athena Swan SAT
  - Move West Forum
  - DPCCN
  - EPC



# Engineering Department Postdoc Committee

- Organisation:
  - Chair
  - Vice-Chair
  - Secretary
  - Communication officer
  - Mentoring officer
  - Events officer
  - + supporting members
- Roles are assigned at the start of the academic year for 1 year
  - Changes during academic year
  - Changes after academic year

#### Recruitment:

- Leaving member suggestions
- Remaining divisional member suggestions
- Email from EDPC
- Email from Research office
- Email from Head of division

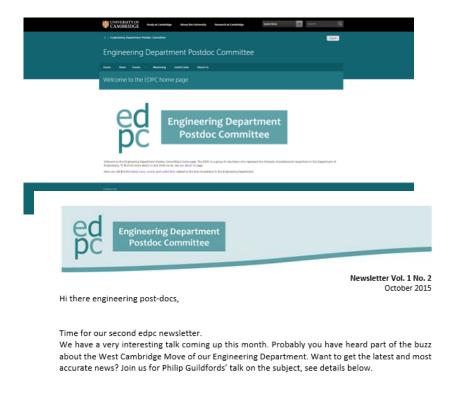
#### When:

- September/October
- Unless sudden drop-out

Keep eyes and ears open for enthusiastic colleagues!



# Engineering Department Postdoc Committee



Engineering department postdoc committee

@EDPC\_Cambridge

edpc-enquiries@eng.cam.ac.uk

Most effective (most time consuming): word of mouth!

About the needs of your committee.

- 1. How do you plan for sustainability of your ctte? (What happens when a ctte member leaves Cambridge or would like to step down).
- 2. How and when do you recruit new committee members?
- 3. How do you share the workload?

About wider engagement with postdocs in your department

- 1. How do you encourage postdocs to attend meetings/events?
- 2. How do you communicate with your postdocs?

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# **Updates from PdOC / AOB**

- PdOC after work: Pensions
   14 November 18.00-20.00
- PdOC Masterclass "How to accomplish more by stressing less" 22 November 9.30-12.30

#### **OPdA update for DPCCN (24 October 2016)**

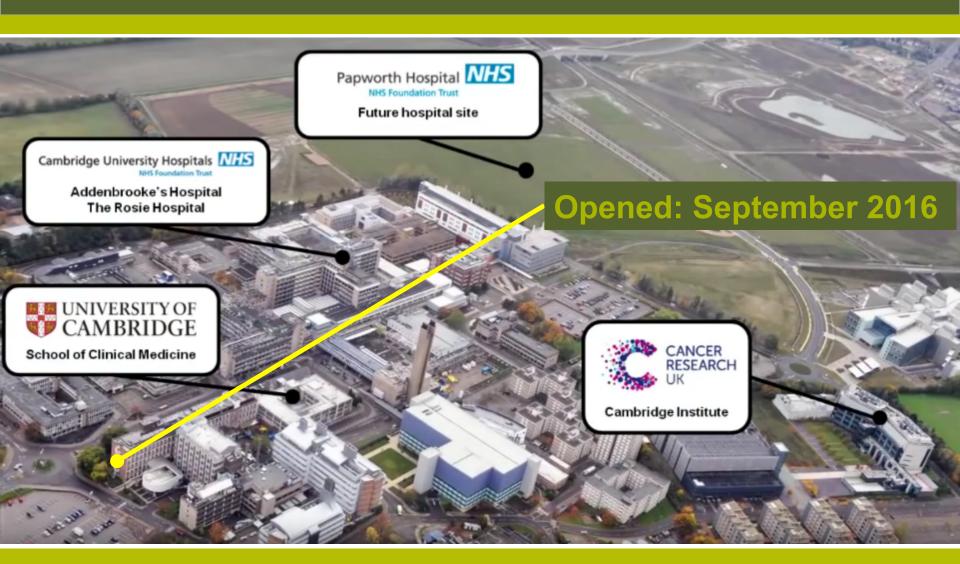


- Postdoc centres Biomedical Campus (opened) and NWC (planning)
- Communications Jenny Harwood
- Update on Heads of Schools meetings (AH and AHSS)
- Researcher Development funding of current pilot of Vitae's "planner"
- Researchers14 meeting with Research Councils (and Wellcome project)
- Mentoring second round and potential for national scheme (Researchers14)
- College affiliation meeting of College coordinators
  - entrepreneurial network meeting
  - data harvest of JRFs and CRAs (greater numbers)
- HEAPP European project (funded by partners and Isaac Newton Trust grant)



#### The Postdoc Centre @ Biomedical Campus

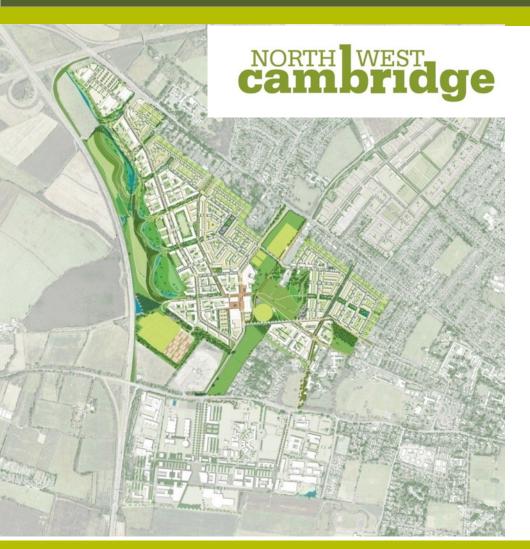






#### Early summer 2017: North West Cambridge NWC





Phase 1 (2016)
700+ units for key worker housing
(mostly research staff);

- Supermarket, shops, café, health centre, primary school, nursery, community centre.
- Sustainable buildings and landscape by outstanding architects.
- Priority for walking, cycling and bus access to City.



#### NWC development: The Postdoc Centre @ NWC

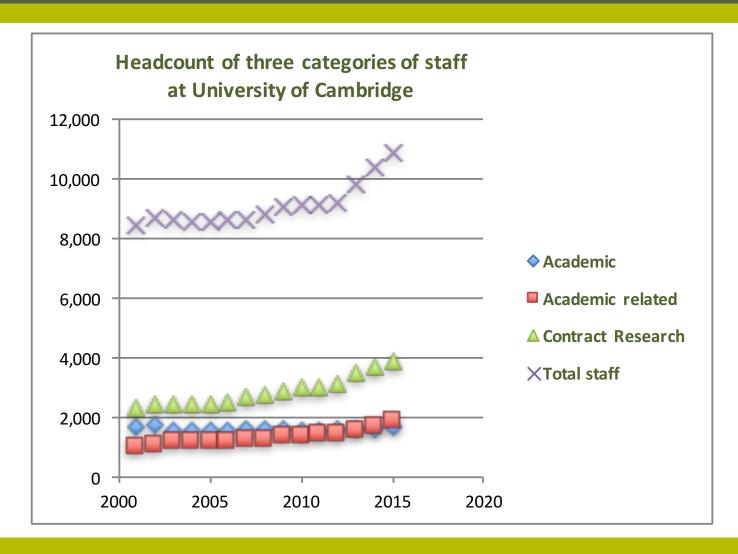






#### Cambridge's people: total staff by category

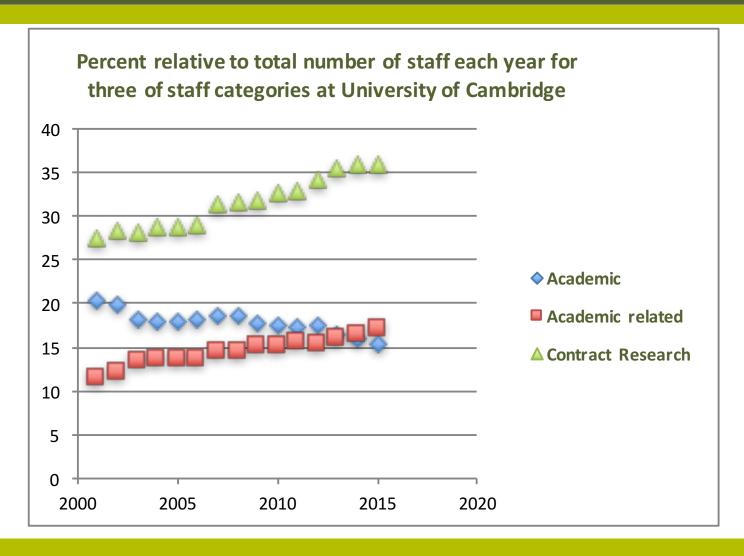






#### Cambridge's people: proportions each year







### **AOB**

 Researcher Development Committee – rep from Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences

# **Next Meeting**

Thursday 23 February 6-8pm

Visiting speakers:
Chris Abell PVC Research
Peter Hedges Head of Research Office