The Nottingham BBSRC Doctoral Training Partnership

Clare Barton
DTP Operations Manager
Virtual Open Day Agenda

• Welcome to the Nottingham BBSRC DTP by DTP Director, Professor Zoe Wilson
• Introduction presentation to the Nottingham BBSRC DTP – Clare Barton
• Welfare Provision within the DTP and Professional Industrial Placement Scheme – Alice Haslam & Sandra Rose
• Research Theme breakout sessions:
  • Agriculture and Food Security [Click here to join the meeting]
  • Bioscience for Health [Click here to join the meeting]
  • Biotechnology [Click here to join the meeting]
• NTU interview workshops – 4 parallel sessions
• Visa & immigration talk - Sofia Markopoulou
Welcome

Professor Zoe Wilson – DTP Director
Professor Sara Goodacre – Deputy Director
Rachel Van Krimpen – DTP Manager
Clare Barton – DTP Operations Manager
Introduction to Nottingham BBSRC DTP

- About the Nottingham BBSRC Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP)
  - The partnership
  - Our research areas
  - Structure of the programme
- Applying to the programme
  - Entrance requirements
  - The application process
- Funding
- Q&A
The Nottingham BBSRC DTP

• The Nottingham BBSRC DTP is funded by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and has been training postgraduate researchers since 2012
• The DTP is led by the University of Nottingham in partnership with Nottingham Trent University. National Biofilms Innovation Centre (NBIC)
• Other partners – Rothamsted Research, Research Complex at Harwell, Diamond Light Source, NIAB

• A diverse community of over 220 PhD students
• An alumni community of over 250 DTP graduates
Our Research Areas

- Agriculture and Food Security
- Bioscience for Health
- Biotechnology
Our Research Areas

Ageing
Animal health
Animal welfare
Bioenergy
Cell biology
Chemical biology
Crop science
Diet and health
Immunology
Industrial biotechnology
Microbial food safety

Microbiology
Neuroscience
Pharmaceuticals
Plant science
Regenerative biology
Soil science
Stem cells
Structural biology
Synthetic biology
Technology development
The 3Rs – replacement, refinement and reduction of animals in research
## Our Programmes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Programme</th>
<th>CASE Programme</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4-year programme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recruited to the programme</td>
<td>Recruited to a specific project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mandatory induction</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 x 9-week lab rotations</td>
<td>Start work on project immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Internship for PhD Students (PIPS) - 3 month placement in year 3</td>
<td>Industry partner placement – you will spend 3-12 months of your studentship with your industry partner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Training Week (year 1-3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Conference</td>
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NB: You can apply to **either or both** of the DTP programmes using the same application form. You can apply for **up to 3** CASE projects.
## 2024 CASE Projects - Agriculture and Food Security

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supervisor</th>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emily Burton</td>
<td>Kemin Industries</td>
<td>NTU</td>
<td>Optimisation of protease feed additives for poultry to increase protein utilisation efficiency from locally produced sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacha Mooney</td>
<td>Anglo American Woodsmith</td>
<td>Biosciences</td>
<td>Does fertilizer placement play a key role in crop establishment?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Brameld</td>
<td>Ab-Agri-AM Vista</td>
<td>Biosciences</td>
<td>The plasticity of insects microbiome and the impact of feeding to chicken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guillermina Mendiondo</td>
<td>Diageo</td>
<td>Biosciences</td>
<td>Future grains: evaluating impacts of elevated CO2 and temperature on yield and grain quality in cereals</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## 2024 CASE Projects - Biotechnology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supervisor</th>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neil Thomas</td>
<td>PeptiMatrix</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Engineering Biology approaches to functionalised hydrogel production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simone Morra</td>
<td>HydRegen Ltd</td>
<td>Faculty of Engineering</td>
<td>From nature to industry: applying H2-metabolosing enzymes to sustainable biocatalysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Markus Owen</td>
<td>Phenotypeca Ltd</td>
<td>Mathematical Sciences</td>
<td>Machine Learning for predicting yeast phenotype from genotype for biotech applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Archer</td>
<td>AstraZeneca</td>
<td>Vet School</td>
<td>MRNA cap methylation – localisation and mechanisms in gene expression and RNA therapeutics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Webb</td>
<td>Cairn Research Ltd</td>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>The Fast and Non-Spurious: High-content screening without artefact in barrier tissues on a chip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruman Rahman</td>
<td>Sferola Ltd</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Next-generation nanoparticle functionalisation for selective delivery to brain tumours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neil Oldham</td>
<td>Erebagen Ltd</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Native mass spectrometry for the discovery of new anticancer agents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenton Arkill</td>
<td>PeptiMatrix</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Role of extracellular matrix in hypoxic metastasis</td>
</tr>
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Training

- You will be joining the DTP as a cohort of students – building a wide ranging personal and professional network

- You will have access to high quality training opportunities throughout your studies which will support your skills development, including:
  - Research technique development
  - Good research practice
  - Mathematical and computational skills
  - Career training
  - Entrepreneurship, Commercialisation and Innovation
  - Writing, Presentation skills, Thesis and Viva Prep
Training: Some Examples

Induction Training

• Development needs analysis
• Presentation skills
• Academic posters
• Visits to partner organisations
• Lab skills
• Nanoscale and Microscale Research Centre
• Ethics, Responsible Research, Inclusive Innovation
• Anti-racism
• Programming and machine learning

Training Week

• Challenge Days
• Mental Health First Aider
• PRINCE2 Project Management
• Disability awareness
• Working with industry
• Media training
• Experimental design
• Nature writing masterclasses
• Infographics
• Communication skills

Mandy Gill – Project Officer
EDI and Wellbeing

Sandra Rose

Alice Haslam
Funding

- The 4-year programme is fully-funded
- The DTP studentship includes fees at the home level, a tax-free stipend, and funding to support your research and training
- For 2023/24 the stipend is £18,622
- We are able to recruit up to 30% of the cohort from our international applicants and fee waiver scholarships will cover the difference between home & international fees.
Applying to the Nottingham BBSRC DTP

Eligibility

Nationality:

- Applications are open to candidates with home (UK) fees status and international fee status.

- If English isn't your first language, you will also need to meet the relevant English language requirements. An IELTS score of 6.5 (no less than 6.0 in any element) is required, though we also accept alternative qualifications (see website).
Eligibility

Grades:

- 2.1 or above in a relevant undergraduate degree from a UK university, or equivalent earned outside of the UK
- 2.2 in an undergraduate degree from the UK, or equivalent earned outside of the UK, plus a relevant Masters degree, or relevant work experience
Eligibility

Individual eligibility queries should be sent to bbdtp@nottingham.ac.uk. We are not able to address these questions today.

There will be a presentation later from the visa & immigration team, who will share more information.
Applying to the Nottingham BBSRC DTP

Application Process

• Go to www.nottingham.ac.uk/bbdtp
• Click on ‘Apply’
• Read all guidance notes
• Complete online application form
• Upload your degree transcripts
Applying to the Nottingham BBSRC DTP

**Application Deadline**

The deadline for applications in this round of recruitment is Tuesday 16 January 2024 at noon (UK time).

You can apply for the standard programme and/or **up to three** CASE projects.

You may only apply to the programme once per academic year.
Tips for DTP Applicants

- Apply ahead of the deadline
- Ensure that your research interests align with BBSRC areas
- Seek support with your application – contact potential supervisors, speak to your University Careers Service
- Proofread your application and ensure that your answers address the questions
Applying to the Nottingham BBSRC DTP

What happens next?

• Applications will be considered once the deadline has passed.
• All candidates will be contacted with an outcome for their application.
• Invitations to interview will be sent at the end of February.
• References will be requested for shortlisted candidates only.
• Both CASE and standard DTP interviews will take place online via Teams during the first two weeks of March.
• Interview outcomes will be shared at the end of March.
Applying to the Nottingham BBSRC DTP

All queries should be sent to bbdtp@nottingham.ac.uk