



Daphne Jackson Trust
ANNUAL
REPORT

“I found the experience of being a Daphne Jackson Fellow very uplifting as it opened doors in the academic field, which had not been open to me before. The fellowship gave me the opportunity to attend workshops and meetings on a national and international level where I could bring my knowledge up to date and where I could network with other scientists and present posters of my work. I am a much happier person now and my self-worth and self-confidence has improved considerably.”

“I feel that I am extremely privileged to have been awarded a Daphne Jackson fellowship because it has allowed me to return to the area of science that I am most interested in, given me time to specialise further and it has given me the chance to develop a greater level of scientific independence.”

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CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

The Daphne Jackson Trust celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the formation of the Trust during 2012 and we had good reason for celebration as the Trust started reaping the rewards of the recent changes. An impressive 36 fellows were in post at the end of the year, a testament to the hard work and dedication of all those who support the Trust as Trustee, Friend of the Trust, or staff member. I should like to thank them all for their commitment and determination. I would particularly like to acknowledge the tremendous contribution of Katie Perry our increasingly energetic Chief Executive.

The Trust is reliant on its sponsors and donors to continue its work and to increase the number of fellows able to return to research careers. I was delighted to see that during 2012 six new sponsors came on board and a further six new sponsored fellowship arrangements were made. With a further eight sponsored fellowship arrangements in the pipeline for 2013 so far, the Trust is moving forward very well and starting to realise its potential. I should like to thank all the current sponsors and donors who generously support the Trust on an ongoing basis as this continued and reliable support is essential.

It gave me great pleasure to join sponsors, fellows, supervisors and others at the first Daphne Jackson Research Conference, and see 27 Daphne Jackson Fellows present their research with passion and fervour. The event, part of the anniversary celebrations, was held at the University of Bath in October and will now be a regular annual

event. Many commented afterwards on the remarkable diversity of research areas on display, and how this along with enthusiasm of the fellows had made the day both memorable and enjoyable. The conference was an enormous success and we are now planning the next conference in 2013 at the Royal Society in London. The other twentieth anniversary celebrations comprised of a lunch, kindly hosted and sponsored by the Institute of Physics in May and a networking reception held at the National Museum of Scotland in November. I am delighted to say that all three events have led to donations, new sponsorship pledges and fresh collaborative projects.

Finally, the Trust's rebranding helped to cement the image of the Trust as a modern, efficient organisation, able to embrace the future with certainty as it looks to the next 20 years. So with more sponsored fellowships promised, an event at the prestigious Royal Society and a new image, 2013 is set to be another exciting and successful year for Trust.



OVERVIEW OF 2012



“It is now two years since I became Chief Executive and I am delighted to see the changes to the organisation fully embedded and making a real difference to the operation of the Trust.”

2012 proved to be another very busy and rewarding year with some key milestones. First and foremost of these was the celebration of twenty years since the Trust was formed in 1992, and for me personally it was ten years since I first started working, albeit only one day a week, for the Trust in 2002. It is now two years since I became Chief Executive and I am delighted to see the changes to the organisation fully embedded and making a real difference to the operations of the Trust.

During the year the Trust was given a rebrand with a fresh and exciting new logo and further rebranding across the organisation and publicity materials will follow. We are now ready for some new development projects which will serve to strengthen our position as the only charitable organisation in the UK solely dedicated to returning scientists to their careers after a prolonged break. Let me just explain that by scientists I do mean all those working in areas of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, medicine and related disciplines. Having worked in science communication I realise that one must be careful to be fully inclusive but on the other hand it is good to be able to use one all encompassing term.

We now work with a number of varied and different stakeholders who have an interest in both increasing the numbers of talented scientists returning to careers and increasing the numbers of women in science. During the last year we have enjoyed attending a range of meetings and events in an attempt to raise awareness of the Trust and its work. We have also been proactive in seeking out new opportunities and networks with whom to work. We have made new collaborations and been represented on an ever increasing number of committees, working parties and judging panels of organisations working on the equality and diversity agenda.

Our all important work of attracting new sponsors and donors continues undiminished with me spending a significant amount of time personally meeting with senior management in universities and other organisations to drive forward the agenda of returners and bring it to the top of many senior people's 'to do' lists. I have been delighted with the results of this endeavour as evidenced by the fact that in the last two years we have attracted over 20 new sponsors and donors.

With the changes in staffing structure now in place I am delighted to be heading up an amazingly hard working small team of staff who, like me, are driven by seeing the difference our organisation makes to the lives of the scientists awarded Daphne Jackson Fellowships. I am looking forward to another profitable year in 2013 and for those of you who have not had a visit yet, I am on my way!



THE DAPHNE JACKSON TRUST IN 2012

2012 was a busy year for the Trust as it celebrated its 20th Anniversary with three excellent events as well as other opportunities for the fellows.

RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The highlight of the Trust's year was undoubtedly the first Daphne Jackson Research Conference held at the University of Bath on the 24th October. The conference gave the fellows an opportunity to present their research and enabled the Trust to demonstrate the high calibre of fellows to those who wished to find out more about the organisation.

Having called for abstracts, the Trust was overwhelmed by the number of fellows wishing to take part and the selection committee had a difficult job choosing the presenters. Seven fellows and recent past fellows were picked to give oral presentations and twenty others selected to present posters.

The posters and talks covered a fascinating range of subjects and specialist areas, from nuclear physics, through ecology to genetics. The atmosphere on the day was buzzing, with a hive of activity around the 20 excellent poster presentations. All seven oral presenters stepped up to the mark to give confident, interesting and passionate talks about their research.

A prize was awarded to Dr Caroline Taylor from the University of Bristol for the best oral presentation while Dr Joanna Geden from Warwick University was awarded a prize for the best poster presentation.

"I had a fantastic time at the conference – it was nice to meet everyone and it really inspired me. I found it very useful to prepare a poster and present my work as it was almost 7 years since I had been to my last conference! It gave me so much confidence," commented one fellow. Another commented, "It was an excellent day. I enjoyed presenting my research and talking to other fellows about their work. I am now exploring other conferences where I may present my research."

Rather than distributing the abstracts, the Trust decided to publish a set of case studies developed from the original abstracts but with the language simplified to ensure they were understandable to a wider audience. The document, covering the research of all 27 fellows who took part on the day is an excellent reminder of the quality and range of research undertaken by Daphne Jackson Fellows.





Dr Pia Ostergaard, the Trust's Senior Fellowship Advisor, was named Red Magazine's Hot Women Awards 'Power Part-Timer 2012'. Photo by Charlotte Medicott

COLLABORATIONS

A recent collaboration with the Association of Medical Research Charities saw the Daphne Jackson Trust become the first 'supporting member' of the organisation. This, in turn, has allowed us to network with medical research charities focused on areas that many of our Fellows are keen to return to, ensuring support is found from the most appropriate place.

Prostate Cancer UK has now agreed to sponsor two fellowships during 2013 and many other charities are interested in the work of the Trust.

The Trust works with organisations and networks that are active in supporting women in science, such as 'Women Like Us' and 'Women in Technology' as well as those with a focus on particular scientific areas, such as the Bioindustry Association.

'Women Like Us' was the organisation that brought the Red Magazine Hot Women Awards to our attention, leading to our nomination of Dr Pia Ostergaard, our Senior Fellowship Advisor, for the Power Part-Timer category. We are of course delighted that Pia won the award against some very stiff competition and we have had some fantastic publicity in the magazine highlighting the benefits of the fellowships.

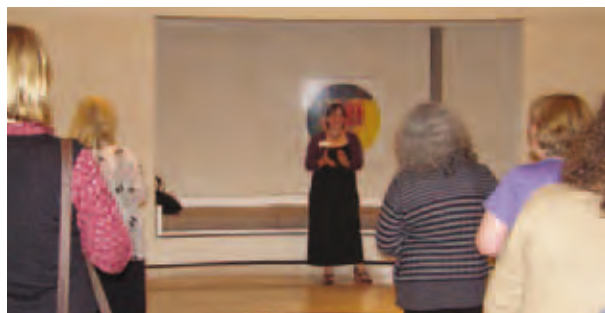
EDINBURGH NETWORKING RECEPTION

The National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh made the perfect venue to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Trust with friends and supporters in Scotland and from further afield. The Networking Reception was held in the imposing circular Bute Room at the Museum with views over Edinburgh's iconic castle.

It was an opportunity for the Scottish fellows, sponsors and hosts to meet, and a chance for others to find out more about the work of the Trust.

Past Fellow Dr Rachel Walcott is Principal Curator of Earth Systems at the National Museum of Scotland as well as working one day a week at the University of Edinburgh as a researcher. Rachel gave a stimulating but touching speech about her fellowship, and how it has helped to re-establish her career and Katie Perry, Chief Executive, spoke about her personal recollections of Daphne Jackson when the scheme was first launched in the 1980s.

The scheme has always been popular in Scotland with 27 Scottish fellows and past fellows, and a number of Scottish Universities having recently pledged sponsored fellowships. The event created more interest and has led to significant new opportunities which will be followed up in 2013.



LEARNED SOCIETY LUNCH

A very successful lunch was held in May for representatives of Learned Societies and Professional Institutions. The event was kindly hosted and sponsored by the Institute of Physics.

The Trust is delighted to have the support of a number of Learned Societies, and is pushing ahead with plans to engage many more with the work of the Trust. Small events such as this offer great opportunities to find out in more depth about the Trust and how it works. New working relationships and opportunities have been created as a result of this event.

AWARENESS RAISING

The Trust was represented during the year on many committees and working groups looking at issues faced by women in STEM, such as the Royal Society Diversity Steering Group and the Science Council Diversity Group. The Chief Executive continues to be active on judging panels for the Athena Swan Charter and was involved in the pilot project for the introduction of Athena Swan principles into Arts, Humanities and Social Science Departments.

Even with limited resources for publicity, the Trust worked hard this year to raise awareness of returners through both social media and more traditional forms of media. The Trust now tweets regularly and is active on LinkedIn and Facebook which in turn has led to interesting articles and blogs highlighting our work. Our links with iRelaunch in the USA led to the work of the Trust being featured in a very positive light in a Harvard Business Review article written by Carol Fishman Cohen, co-founder of iRelaunch and the Trust has featured in articles written in Research Fortnight.

The Modern Universities Research Group (MURG) proved to be an excellent forum to promote the Trust to a number of new universities who had previously not been involved with us. The Imperial College Fellowships Day, the Sanger Institute careers event and the Cambridge Science Festival were amongst other events attended by staff to promote the Trust.

An organisation's success and competitiveness depends on its ability to embrace diversity and draw on the skills, understanding and experience of its people. The potential rewards of diversity are significant: recruiting staff from the widest possible pool will unlock talent and make a major contribution to the impact of research and will benefit the economic and social wellbeing of the UK. RCUK expects that equality and diversity therefore is embedded at all levels and in all aspects of normal research practice.

*RCUK Expectations for Equality and Diversity,
January 2013*

WORKING TOGETHER, MEETING CHALLENGES TOGETHER

We are working hard to meet the challenges faced by returners by working together with many organisations across a range of sectors.

As an organisation we are driven by the need to address the issues that are being debated in Government, in universities and in the commercial sector about increasing the diversity of the workforce, stopping skills shortages and ensuring that qualified scientists are contributing to the UK economy by being in appropriate employment.

As issues of equality and diversity continue to grow in importance it is essential that all research institutions, both in academia and industry, recruit and retain staff from all walks of life – including those that have had a career break. With falling numbers of graduates entering science, engineering and technology careers, employers can no longer afford to ignore the fact that women and men who take a career break often do not return to their old jobs.

LEARNED SOCIETIES AND PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The need to foster and develop good working collaborations with the Learned Societies and Professional Institutions was a key priority during 2012 and in addition to the lunch held in May many other meetings took place which have led to working arrangements, sponsorship and donations. We are also grateful to a number of these organisations who help by promoting our fellowships to their membership, as we in turn, promote membership to our fellows.

There is an ever increasing list of those we work with including:

Biochemical Society

British Pharmacological Society

British Psychological Society

Institute of Physics

*Institution of Engineering
Designers*

*Institution of Mechanical
Engineers*

Physiological Society

Royal Academy of Engineering

Royal Astronomical Society

Royal Geographical Society

Royal Society of Chemistry

Science Council

Society for Biology

Society for Chemical Industry

Society for Experimental Biology

The Women's Engineering Society

SPONSORS, DONORS AND HOST ORGANISATIONS

There are an impressive, and ever increasing, number of stakeholders who are working with the Trust in many different ways.

DONATIONS

This year we received a number of donations for the general work and development of the Trust. These gifts are extremely important and allow us to do such things as develop the geographical networks of fellows, produce marketing material, improve the website and run events for fellows, past fellows and those interested in becoming involved with the Trust. Donations or gifts in kind, such as free meeting space, were gratefully received from the Motorola Solutions Foundation USA, the Buckee Family Trust, the Institute of Physics, the University of Bath, the University of Surrey, Waitrose (through the green token scheme) and from a number of past and current fellows who donate on a regular basis.

HOSTING A FELLOWSHIP

Host organisations and supervisors are a key part of the success of a fellowship and even if there is an external sponsor for a particular fellowship the host organisation provides a small financial commitment. The host agrees to pay any bench fees and consumables cost associated with the fellowship and the supervisor helps guide the fellow through the process of making a successful return to a career. Many hosts are now indicating their willingness, and indeed are keen, to ensure that the fellow is given every opportunity to remain at their institution post fellowship. With the increase in engagement with the principles of the Athena Swan Charter, many STEM departments in universities are looking to retain talent and are actively addressing issues which make a difference to retention such as working flexibly or part-time.

SPONSORING A FELLOWSHIP

Increasing the levels of sponsorship for fellowships was a priority during the year and has led to the development of 'sponsored fellowships' as well as sponsoring in reactive mode. A common misconception is that the Trust has its own funds with which to sponsor fellowships. This is not the case and all fellowships are sponsored by external organisations, sometimes jointly. The Trust will always engage with a number of sponsors who are happy to be matched with the most appropriate fellow, however it became clear that for a number of potential new sponsors the chance to have input to the selection process of the most appropriate fellow was a key factor.

A sponsored fellowship agreement allows a potential sponsor to determine the strategic research area for the fellowship and the level of sponsorship in advance. It may be possible to arrange matched funding from one of the Trust's existing sponsors if an organisation is



Fellows at a training course.

NETWORKING

The Trust was represented at many events throughout the year and the Chief Executive and others made useful contacts with representatives of many new organisations and networks as well as maintaining the interest of existing stakeholders. The fellows themselves often represent the Trust at regional events throughout the year.

The four training courses run by the Trust for its fellows offer a great opportunity for them to network with one another, as well as learning valuable skills. The courses are run in the North of England and Scotland as well as in the South during the two year fellowship and are on work/life balance, presentation skills, media skills and professional skills.

only able to offer half funding. The opportunity is advertised and once the potential candidates have submitted CVs and personal statements, the sponsor will work with the Trust to choose the most appropriate candidate. This candidate will then progress through the Trust's application and mentoring process in the normal way.

Sponsored fellowship arrangements were agreed during 2012 with Open University, Prostate Cancer UK, Royal Astronomical Society, University of Birmingham, University of Edinburgh, University of Glasgow, University of Huddersfield, University of Nottingham and the University of Surrey. Most will commence their fellowships during 2013. Since the end of the year and into the beginning of 2013 a further seven universities have been working towards agreements which are currently being advertised or will be advertised on our website and in other places very soon. Many of these arrangements are ongoing with an agreement to sponsor every year or every two years, thus ensuring a university has one or more Daphne Jackson Fellows in place at any time.

In addition to these sponsored fellowships the Trust welcomed a further six universities as sponsors of fellowships that commenced during 2012, namely the Universities of Aberdeen, Bath, Cambridge, Exeter, Leicester and Oxford Brookes. Also, since the end of the year and into 2013 a further two new sponsors have joined our list.

This section would not be complete without mentioning the support the Trust receives on an on-going basis from the Research Councils, BBSRC, EPSRC, MRC, NERC and STFC as well other sponsors of fellowships such as Aston University, Leverhulme Trust, Loughborough University, Newcastle University, the Physiological Society, Royal Academy of Engineering, University of Warwick, University of the West of England, Bristol.

CASE STUDIES

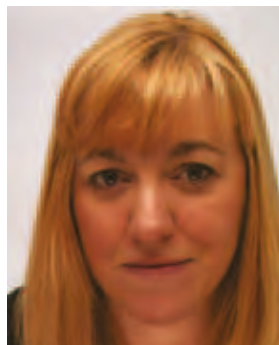
DR. HILARY KAY

Before her break, Hilary had an exciting career as a research astronomer. “I always wanted to be an astronomer and it was incredibly exciting to do astronomy research in exotic locations such as Hawaii and Australia. I loved the excitement of looking at stars with new telescopes and space-based observatories.”

However, after having had two children, Hilary took a career break. “I loved being at home with my children, being able to devote all my time and energy to bringing them up and helping them develop. However, when my youngest child started in nursery class I found myself with a couple of hours free each day and quickly realised I yearned for something more intellectually stimulating to fill my day. I knew that I wanted desperately to return to astronomy. I had always loved astronomy since I was a child and knew I would not feel content until I had at least tried to resume my career, although I knew it would be extremely difficult.”

Astronomy, like all scientific research, moves very quickly with new scientific discoveries and the introduction of new telescopes and facilities. Hilary knew that her break from research would mean that she would not be competitive in the job market. Additionally, her previous research field was not one which her local University was really active in and so she did not anticipate that there would be any employment opportunities locally. Fortunately, Hilary obtained one of the first Daphne Jackson Sponsored Fellowships, sponsored by the Royal Astronomical Society and hosted by Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics at the University of Manchester. This has enabled Hilary to return to her dream career, update her knowledge and skills, and also change research fields to one where her employability is increased.

Hilary started her fellowship four months ago but has already worked with data taken by the Atacama Pathfinder Experiment (APEX), a telescope located on high ground in the Atacama Desert, in northern Chile. She has learnt to use a new software package used for processing and analysing data obtained at sub-millimetre wavelengths. This will help her to investigate the temperature and amount of dust surrounding an intriguing star known as Sakurai's Object in order to shed some light on its current evolutionary state. Hilary will spend the bulk of her fellowship time analysing observations of similar types of stars, taken with the e-Merlin facility at Jodrell Bank Observatory and the Jansky Very Large Array (JVLA), an observatory in New Mexico.



“I am very excited to see what is happening with these fascinating stars. I love being back in research and working in the Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics at the University of Manchester. It is such a stimulating environment with the opportunity to learn from highly experienced astronomers and other researchers. I have felt very welcome and included from the start and I am involved in our weekly group science meetings. Combining the fellowship with a family is a real challenge but my supervisor has been very supportive and has been more than happy for me to work at home during school holidays and during domestic emergencies, for example whenever my children have been sick. He is very approachable and I am able to go to him for advice and help whenever necessary.”

I am really grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust, the University of Manchester and the Royal Astronomical Society for the opportunity to return to research. When I left astronomy a few years ago I never dreamed I would ever have the chance to return in the future. I love doing astronomy and can't believe how much I have missed it. I am excited about the new challenges my fellowship will bring and I am looking forward to see what the future holds.”



JO GEDEN

Jo Geden graduated from the University of Cambridge in 1993 with a First Class Honours Degree in Natural Sciences (Chemistry) before commencing a very successful career as a medicinal chemist in the pharmaceutical industry. She undertook a PhD in organic chemistry between 2002 and 2005 at the University of Warwick to advance her career. Her daughter was born soon afterwards and Jo decided to take a break from research so that she could spend time with her daughter during her early years.

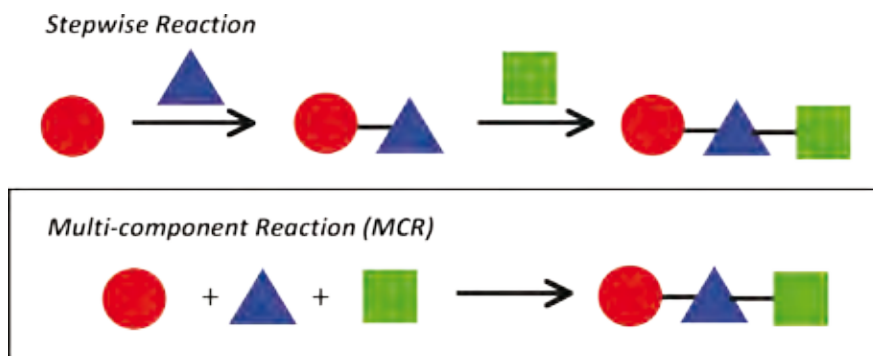
“My long term aspiration is to secure a permanent academic research position, and I will make applications for independent funding in the next year. Having been a researcher, team leader, and teacher in the past, I feel that I am well-suited to the role of an academic. I will also apply for positions in industry, as competition for academic positions in my field is fierce, and I have enjoyed previous employment within industry.”

“I cannot thank the Daphne Jackson Trust enough for the opportunity they have given me to return to my research career. I have re-entered my profession with renewed enthusiasm and aspiration for the future. I can strongly recommend the scheme to anyone wishing to return to research after a break.”

By the time her daughter had started school, Jo was keen to return to her much loved career in research chemistry. She looked for positions within pharmaceutical companies and other employers of organic chemists, but was unsuccessful in securing an interview. Recruitment consultants informed her that she had an excellent research background and CV, but her lack of recent research experience meant that she could not compete successfully with other qualified applicants.

Jo recalled that a former colleague had mentioned a fellowship available to scientists who had taken a break to raise their children. After some searching on the internet she came across the Daphne Jackson Trust, and was delighted to discover that there might now be an opportunity for her to return to research. She arranged a meeting with the Head of Chemistry, Professor Mike Shipman, at the University of Warwick, who agreed to act as her mentor and supervisor. In collaboration with Professor Shipman, Jo put together a research proposal entitled, “Atom Economical Synthesis of Pharmaceutical Scaffolds through Palladium Catalysed Multi-Component Reactions”. She was offered a Daphne Jackson Fellowship, funded by the EPSRC and the University of Warwick, which she started in February 2012.

Jo is coming to the end of her one year full-time fellowship and has made a number of achievements in her research. She has accomplished novel palladium catalysed multi-component reactions (MCRs) to assemble drug-like molecules in an efficient manner. MCRs are chemical transformations which combine several bond-forming events in a single operation. This methodology cuts down the number of chemical steps needed to prepare a molecule. Operation time, chemical reagents, solvents and waste, and the expenditure of energy are all reduced, making the process far superior to the traditional stepwise approach to organic synthesis. The advantages of multicomponent reactions (MCRs) are highly appreciated in pharmaceutical, agrochemical and other industries and an increasing number of products based on MCRs are being marketed or in development.

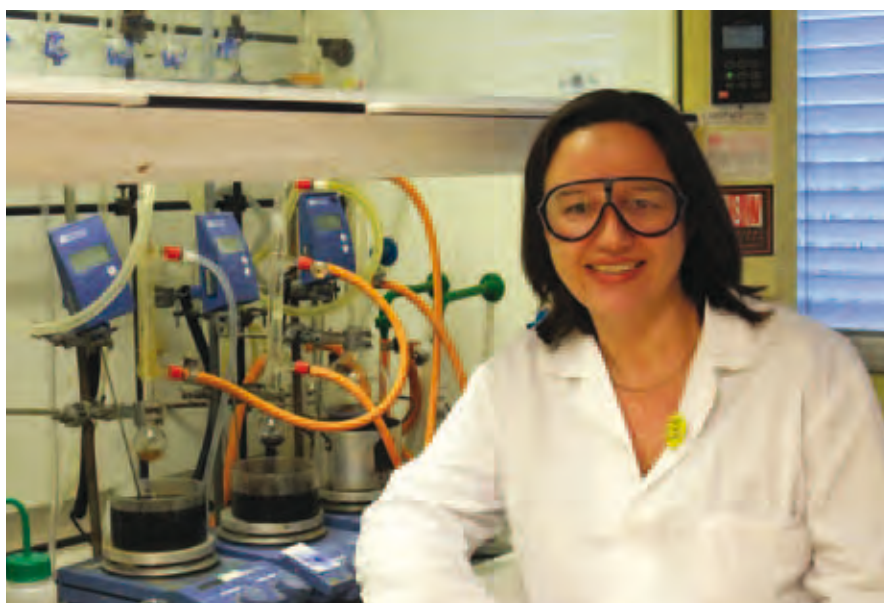


A diagram illustrating the difference between stepwise and multi-component synthesis "MCRs"

In October 2012, Jo was awarded the prize for best poster at the "Daphne Jackson Trust Research Conference", and has recently submitted a research paper for publication. She has been offered a position as Senior Research Fellow at Warwick until 2014 and will continue her research into palladium catalysed multi-component reactions.

Jo is delighted to be back doing synthetic organic chemistry research again. During her Fellowship she has refreshed and extended the knowledge and skills which she had before her career break, and is now in a strong position to compete with other applicants for future research opportunities. She enjoys the practical work, problem solving, and creativity associated with her research work, and her role as supervisor and tutor to students within the department.

"Whilst the first week in the lab felt a little daunting after 7 years away from the bench/fume hood, I soon felt like I'd never been away, and was making excellent progress with my research. I am delighted to be back doing a job which I find so satisfying. My expertise and self-confidence has returned, and my daughter has settled with ease into before and after-school care and holiday clubs. She enjoys socialising with children of all ages whilst I am at work. I have managed to strike a good balance between making achievements in my research, and also spending quality time with my family during evenings and weekends."



FELLOWS IN POST FELLOWS WHO STARTED DURING 2012



DR. HELEN CORNWELL

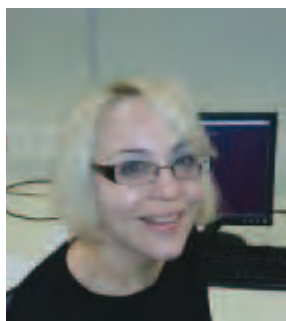
Date Started Fellowship
April 2012

Subject
Cost Engineering

Host
University of Bath

Sponsor
University of Bath & Royal
Academy of Engineering

I am really pleased to have been awarded a Daphne Jackson Fellowship. I have found that research facilities and technology have improved greatly over the last 20 years, along with the increased availability of many excellent training courses to update and add new skills. I have become familiar with a new research area, helped by a supportive research group. My research is progressing well, and I am now collaborating with an industrial partner. During the last 9 months I have presented a paper at an international conference, attended learned society events, events at the Royal Academy of Engineering, and technical workshops and training to support my research. Thank you to the Trust and to my sponsors for giving me this opportunity.



DR. HARRIET DAVIES

Date Started Fellowship
October 2012

Subject
Bioinformatics

Host
University of Birmingham

Sponsor
University of Birmingham
& BBSRC & MRC

I have been in position for three months and it is brilliant. Returning to work is a real blessing for me. My fellowship is not only enabling me to retrain in an area I have wanted to work in for ages, it has meant that I have been able to return to work when the opportunity to re-enter the work place is limited or non-existent for people who share a similar situation to myself. My confidence and self-esteem have taken massive strides in the short space of my starting, I feel more alive and happier in myself than I have done since my career break and my brain is finally getting a good work-out! Work-wise, for the first time ever, I actually have promising results; in the past, it would have taken me three to six months to get this far!



DR. NOKUTHULA DUBE

Date Started Fellowship
April 2012

Subject
Materials Science

Host
Imperial College

Sponsor
Royal Academy of Engineering

My fellowship focus is technical analysis in applied solar photovoltaics – an incredibly fast moving area. Solar PV technology is currently attracting high interest in academic research, in industry, and in energy policy. Recently, the application of PV technologies to low carbon pathways in international development has become a strong focus for R&D and policy development. My focus on applications within the sub-Saharan Africa context makes the fellowship a great enabler – an opportunity to develop but an opportunity to consolidate existing expertise.



DR. SHEILA FLANAGAN

Date Started Fellowship
October 2012

Subject
Biological Sciences

Host
University of Cambridge

Sponsor
University of Cambridge

Since the start of my fellowship four months ago I have been on an exhilarating adventure of discovery and rediscovery. The welcome I received from my host department has been very warm and incredibly supportive. There have been training courses to brush-up my old skills such as statistical analysis, and courses on my new area of neuroscience including EEG and MEG. I am about to start my pilot study on phonological aspects of dyslexia which I have been designing and programming. At the beginning of January I attended the 7th UK MEG Conference and am already looking forward to the Cambridge 25th Neuroscience Seminar in March.



DR. JOANNA GEDEN
 Date Started Fellowship
 February 2012 – full time
 Subject
 Synthetic Chemistry
 Host
 University of Warwick
 Sponsor
 EPSRC & University of
 Warwick

I am delighted to be back doing synthetic organic chemistry research again. During my fellowship I have refreshed and extended the knowledge and skills which I had before my career break, and am in a strong position to compete with other applicants for future research opportunities. I enjoy the practical work, problem solving, and creativity associated with my research work.



DR. ANKE HUSMANN
 Date Started Fellowship
 October 2012
 Subject
 Medical Materials
 Host
 University of Cambridge
 Sponsor
 University of Cambridge

I am only a few months into my fellowship. The changes this new opportunity has brought to my life have been fundamental. I am back doing what I really enjoy, working in the lab and learning something new every day. I have moved from experimental physics (my area before my career break) into a field that is new to me, medical materials. It was important to me to change research areas as my interests had changed over the years, and the independence of the fellowship has allowed me this fresh start. I am currently running an experiment to improve the fabrication of scaffolds used in medical implants and I am also writing a numerical simulation alongside the experiment.



DR. HILARY KAY
 Date Started Fellowship
 October 2012
 Subject
 Astrophysics
 Host
 University of Manchester
 Sponsor
 Royal Astronomical Society

I only started my fellowship at the Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics four months ago, but I feel I have settled in and made some good progress. Everyone has been very welcoming and supportive and I really love being back in research. I have been analysing data from a telescope that I have not used before which has allowed me to learn about new software packages and languages. I feel extremely fortunate to have been awarded a fellowship as it has given me the opportunity to both change fields within astronomy, and update my knowledge and skills, which will be of great benefit for my career.



DR. JANE KING
 Date Started Fellowship
 April 2012
 Subject
 Microbiology
 Host
 University of Manchester
 Sponsor
 MRC

Having had a long career break (10 years) I was quite nervous when I began my fellowship nine months ago. However, I now feel my confidence and expertise have grown and I am starting to re-establish myself as a research scientist. I love being back in the lab, being part of a research group again and using the skills that I worked so hard to obtain in the first place. I am very grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust for giving me this fantastic opportunity.

FELLOWS IN POST FELLOWS WHO STARTED DURING 2012



DR. MARGARET O'HARA

Date Started Fellowship
November 2011

Subject
Molecular Physics

Host
University of Birmingham

Sponsor
University of Birmingham &
EPSRC

I am overjoyed to be back in the lab and enjoying the new rhythm of life which allows me to be just as much a scientist as a mother. After three months back, I have re-established old research contacts, caught up with current literature, got to grips with new instrumentation and am working on an ethical approval application for the major study into human breath analysis that will form the basis of my research. I had almost forgotten the excitement of research; new measurements, new data, new discoveries waiting to be unfolded.



DR. CAROLINE SCOTT

Date Started Fellowship
May 2012

Subject
Molecular Biology

Host
Weatherall Institute of
Medical Research, Oxford

Sponsor
MRC

In May 2012 I started my fellowship and am particularly interested in how ATRX is involved in replicating and maintaining the genome stability of repetitive regions of the genome. I will use small pool PCR to look at microsatellite instability in the alpha-globin gene during ATR-X syndrome. The overall aim of the lab is to determine the role of such proteins in the regulation of gene expression and their involvement in human disease. Joining this lab has given me an opportunity to develop my skills and work as part of a team within an exciting and fast moving area of biomedical research.



DR. SRISIVANE SIVANESAN

Date Started Fellowship
November 2012

Subject
Electrical Impedance
Tomography

Host
Oxford Brookes University

Sponsor
Oxford Brookes University
& EPSRC

This prestigious fellowship, which I started in November 2012, has given me a great opportunity to return to academia after a very long career break and to update and develop my research skills. I am very grateful to the Trust for securing funding from EPSRC and Oxford Brookes University. I am fully enjoying my new position within the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Mathematical Sciences. My research project is related to the inverse conductivity problem which has practical applications in medicine, geophysics and industry in the form of Electrical Impedance Tomography (EIT). My colleagues working in the research area of biomedical imaging and instrumentation have extensive experience of working on EIT and they have provided constant encouragement and support.



DR. IMANE STRUDWICK

Date Started Fellowship
October 2012

Subject
Medical Physics

Host
University of Surrey

Sponsor
EPSRC & University
of Surrey

I started my Daphne Jackson Fellowship in October 2012 after a long career break. The fellowship has allowed me to return to research, to update my skills, explore and develop new techniques, with the hope to re-establish professional expertise as well as personal confidence. The first few months were very challenging and busy but it has been very stimulating and rewarding. I am extremely grateful to the Trust for allowing me to have this valuable opportunity. My return to research has so far exceeded my expectations and I am very glad to be back doing what I love.


DR. CAROLINE TAYLOR

Date Started Fellowship
February 2012
Subject
Medical Science
Host
University of Bristol
Sponsor
University of Bristol

The Daphne Jackson Trust has given me a fantastic opportunity to pick up the threads of the career that I had to leave behind. I am fortunate to have two very enthusiastic, accessible and supportive supervisors at the University of Bristol, who have been tremendously encouraging in helping me to find my feet again. I love all the opportunities that the fellowship brings and I have relished the challenges along the way. I am very glad to be in charge of my own future once again and looking forward to my second year.


DR. RACHEL WHITE

Date Started Fellowship
April 2012
Subject
Medical Science
Host
University of Aberdeen
Sponsor
University of Aberdeen

I started my Daphne Jackson Fellowship at the University of Aberdeen after a career break to raise my child as a single parent. My break was longer than expected as I wanted to be close to my family whilst my son was young and my employment opportunities were reduced as I only had 1 year post-doctoral experience. I am grateful to the Trust and university for enabling my return to research and for their support. I thoroughly enjoy my work and was surprised at how quickly I settled in. I have refreshed my skills and received training in cutting edge technologies. In addition, I have trained 2 students so they can assist me and complete their own projects. I attended the course on presentation skills and the Research Conference where I presented a poster for the first time in 5 years! My confidence received a real boost and it was good to meet the other fellows.


DR. BETINA WINKLER

Date Started Fellowship
July 2012
Subject
Animal Science
Host
Exeter University
Sponsor
University of Exeter & BBSRC

The Daphne Jackson Fellowship provided me with a unique opportunity to work again in research and to gain skills in a new field that I hadn't worked in before. My supervisor has been very helpful. During the first 6 months I did training in statistical analysis and GIS. I am now analysing datasets on the herd composition, tuberculosis incidence and environmental composition of farms for the risk factors of bovine tuberculosis. It has been challenging but extremely gratifying.

FELLOWS IN POST FELLOWS WHO CONTINUED DURING 2012



DR. REYNA AL-ASHAAB

Date Started Fellowship
May 2010
(one year extension)

Subject
Environmental Science

Host
Cranfield University

Sponsor
NERC

In May of 2012 The Daphne Jackson Trust and NERC brought yet another burst to my career by granting me with a one year extension to my fellowship. I therefore had the opportunity of completing research for a project with Defra and the Environment Agency on bioaerosols and odours from green composting facilities. I participated with a poster at the first DJT Research Conference in Bath and some of the results are also to be presented in a major conference in Boston this year. Additionally, a couple of papers are in preparation for submission. In all, through this fellowship I have regained the confidence needed to face what the future holds for my professional life. Thank you to the amazing DJT team.



DR. SARAH BUCKLAND

Date Started Fellowship
July 2011

Subject
Plant Community Ecology

Host
University of Sheffield

Sponsor
NERC

I am very pleased to have had the support of Sheffield NERC Biomolecular Analysis Facility who constructed two microsatellite libraries for my study species. This allowed me to test for suitable primers in order to examine the genotype identities of individuals under observation in a large pot experiment set up last summer at the Buxton Climate Change Impacts Laboratory. The two plant species responded differentially in a long-term (20 years) climate manipulation field experiment and as a result of the fellowship I will make a contribution towards the research group objectives that include becoming better equipped to understand and predict the response of grasslands to the impacts of climate change.



**DR. NAHLA OMER
AHMED EL TAI**

Date Started Fellowship
May 2011

Subject
Microbiology

Host
University of the West of
England, Bristol

Sponsor
University of the West of
England, Bristol

I am in my second year of the fellowship, during which I have achieved a substantial improvement in my performance. It has been a very positive, amazing experience, as I have updated my knowledge, brushed up my skills, and learnt new techniques such as cytotoxicity tests and gas chromatography. Currently I have obtained important data which is in the process of being published. Day after day I found myself on the right track, thinking about my future beyond the fellowship, confidently looking for jobs to meet my capabilities and experience. I feel that I made up for the missing years very quickly and thoroughly enjoyed being back in the challenging research and academic environment. I would like to take this chance to express my deepest gratitude to the Daphne Jackson Trust and the University of the West of England for making this great opportunity possible.



DR. JACKIE FERGUSON

Date Started Fellowship
January 2011

Subject
Cell and Molecular Biology

Host
National Institute of
Biological Standards and
Control

Sponsor
BBSRC

The second year of my fellowship has flown by. The results of my project to develop a gene expression-based bioassay for the detection of neutralising antibodies to the therapeutic protein, EPO, were published. I also presented a poster at the EPO2012 meeting at the University of Lübeck and was thrilled to be able to give a talk at the first Daphne Jackson Research Conference. Towards the end of 2012, I secured permanent, full-time employment as a senior scientist at NIBSC. Without this fellowship, I would not have had the recent relevant experience or confidence to apply for such a role and I am very grateful for the support of the Trust, my sponsor, supervisor and colleagues. I'm looking forward to the challenges ahead and feel thoroughly 'returned' to a career in science.


MRS JANET HARWOOD

Date Started Fellowship
August 2011

Subject
Bioinformatics

Host
Cardiff University

Sponsor
BBSRC

I work on chromatin structure and its regulation, and this is important because the malfunction of proteins involved in its control are important in human health. At the beginning of my fellowship, I worked on the budding yeast genome, using next-generation sequencing data to analyse chromatin structure. I presented this work at the Wellcome Trust /Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Genome Informatics conference in Cambridge. Since then I have developed our computational biology tools so that we can analyse the chromatin structure of the larger and more complex human genome. This work coincided with the publication of a large data set by the ENCODE project (encyclopedia of DNA elements). Currently I am using ENCODE data to look at changes in chromatin structure at regulatory elements throughout the human genome.


DR. MODUPE JIMOH

Date Started Fellowship
September 2011

Subject
Chemistry

Host
Loughborough University

Sponsor
EPSRC & Loughborough University

Since starting my fellowship in 2011, I have been able to attend all four Trust courses, scientific workshops and even participate at the Trust's first ever Research Conference held at the University of Bath. I am amazed at the way things have gone really well, with the support of the Trust, sponsors and supervisor. I have been faced with adjusting to an ever changing world of research, keeping up with the workload and upholding work/life balance as a single parent. With about nine months left of my fellowship, I am now in the process of winding up my research work, actively seeking future opportunities and glad I had the chance to return to a scientific career after a long break.


DR. TZANKA KOKALOVA

Date Started Fellowship
April 2011

Subject
Nuclear Physics

Host
University of Birmingham

Sponsor
STFC

This year was even better, probably because I am really getting the life-work balance in equilibrium. I've been to Australia for an experiment and one of the highlights for me this year was the opportunity to present my work at the first Research Conference of the Daphne Jackson Trust. After my talk I had so much positive feedback from people I met for the first time that it was a real boost to my confidence. It was also absolutely beautiful to see so many fellows and all the science they do. Lots of woman power! I am approaching the end of my fellowship and I am very happy that I have got a contract from the University, but a little bit sad because I truly enjoyed the time as a Daphne Jackson Fellow. Thank you for everything!


**DR. SOLVEIGH
LASS-EVANS**

Date Started Fellowship
June 2010
(one year extension)

Subject
Geochemistry

Host
British Geological Survey

Sponsor
NERC

My fellowship at the British Geological Survey in Edinburgh has been a fantastic experience. My project involves modelling the human impact on environmental quality and I have been able to quantify polluted areas in the Clyde catchment resulting from human activities during the last century. I am very pleased to be involved in the field of environmental geochemistry and I was particularly excited to give an oral presentation at an international conference in Portugal in July 2012. I am extremely grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust and to everyone involved in my fellowship, in particular my supervisors, for their help, support and encouragement.

FELLOWS IN POST FELLOWS WHO CONTINUED DURING 2012



DR. MORAG MASKEY

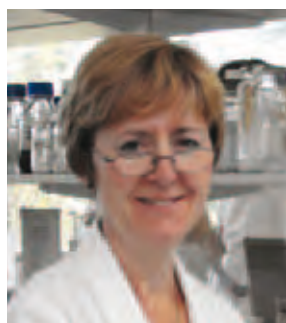
Date Started Fellowship
November 2011

Subject
Psychology

Host
Newcastle University

Sponsor
Newcastle University

I am now into the second year of my fellowship. It is exciting to be using cutting edge technology that has made a difference to children with autism and their families. I am using virtual reality environments to address anxieties in young people on the autism spectrum. I presented this work on a poster at the First International Conference on Innovative Technologies for Autism in Valencia last summer. Also in 2012 I had a paper published. I recently embarked on a university training course for Principal Investigators and have submitted two grant applications which would allow me to continue this research. When I was awarded the fellowship I knew there was going to be a lot of hard work, particularly as I was moving into a new area of research. Thankfully, there is a very supportive team at the University. I could never have achieved anything like this without the Daphne Jackson Trust. This is without doubt the most rewarding work I have ever done.



**DR. DEBRA
FREDERICKSON MATIKA**

Date Started Fellowship
September 2011

Subject
Molecular Biology

Host
University of Edinburgh

Sponsor
University of Edinburgh

It has been both challenging and fulfilling to be back in research within the intense dynamic of a large group, great for motivation, exchange of ideas and learning new techniques. I'm investigating whether zinc finger transcription factors have a role in regulating nitric oxide changes that occur during defence responses in Arabidopsis. To do this I have had to acquire a huge repertoire of new techniques e.g. using PCR to verify gene 'knockouts', using RT-PCR to measure gene expression levels in RNAi 'knockdowns', epitope-tagging of genes of interest using the Gateway system of cloning, transforming Arabidopsis with Agrobacterium to transfer the gene of interest and inoculating mutants with pathogens to generate data on susceptibility. Over a year in, I now have almost all the genetic tools I need to start to address the original question, and others! In the next few months I will be using state of the art genomics technologies to compare how gene expression changes during infection when the zinc finger genes are 'switched off' and which ones are directly regulated by the zinc finger proteins. I've just started a course to help me interpret the datasets that will be generated. I am grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust for affording me this great opportunity to update my skills and regain my confidence.



DR. JOSEPHINE MMOJIE

Date Started Fellowship
November 2011

Subject
Environmental Engineering

Host
Aston University

Sponsor
Aston University

I have had a varied career, having worked in various industries from oil and gas to building design but always had the intention of returning to my first choice of career which was research. Having been honoured with a Daphne Jackson Fellowship, this has enabled my dream to become a reality and in November 2011 I started my research into the application of more sustainable fuels, derived from biomass, at EBRI. I have already made some progress under the fellowship, with my first paper, which is nearing completion. I have been invited to submit an abstract/poster and possibly a publication for a conference on environment communication in Sweden.


DR. BEATE NÜRNBERGER

Date Started Fellowship
September 2011

Subject
Evolutionary Biology /
Bioinformatics

Host
University of Edinburgh

Sponsor
NERC

As I have re-immersed myself in research over the past fellowship year, I am beginning to feel like a proper scientist again. Formal course work in bioinformatics provided the necessary background for my project and my skills are continuously being extended as I progress with data analysis. The support from my mentor at Edinburgh University has been tremendous and has greatly helped me in juggling the part-time work schedule. At two conferences, I was able to present my work and to gather ideas about possible future directions for my research, which will feed into applications for follow-on funding.


DR. ALLEN MSWAKA

Date Started Fellowship
July 2011

Subject
Environmental Microbiology

Host
Queen's University Belfast

Sponsor
BBSRC

I have been in position for one and a half years and have thoroughly enjoyed my return to scientific research. I am thankful to the Daphne Jackson Trust and the BBSRC for giving me the opportunity to refresh my skills and also helping to make this experience smooth and rewarding. The latest highlight of my fellowship has been the publication of my paper in the Microbial Biotechnology Journal. I am continuing with my laboratory experiments where I am studying the effects of chaotrope- and kosmotrope-induced stress by environmentally relevant solutes on the growth of saprotrophic organisms and catalytic activities of their enzymes. I am currently writing a grant proposal with my supervisor as well as working on a review article. I have continued to acquire teaching experience by writing and giving lectures, setting and marking exams on the Applied and Environmental Microbiology Module (2nd Year Honours). I attended the first Daphne Jackson Trust Research Conference at the University of Bath where I presented a poster. I have also attended three Daphne Jackson training courses, all of which I found very useful and appropriate.


DR. FRANCES PEARL

Date Started Fellowship
July 2011

Subject
Computational Biology and
Chemogenomics

Host
Institute of Cancer Research

Sponsor
MRC

I am now in the second year of my fellowship, which I am thoroughly enjoying. The bioinformatics group that have hosted me have been very supportive and have helped me update my programming skills and have introduced me to novel bioinformatics software used in the drug discovery process. In September I presented a poster at an International Bioinformatics Conference (ECCB 2012), on the database that I developed. It was great to be back and feel confident again within the wider scientific community. I would like to thank my host, the MRC and the Daphne Jackson Trust for supporting my fellowship.

FELLOWS IN POST FELLOWS WHO CONTINUED DURING 2012



DR. MALARVIZHI RAMESH-JEYASHANKAR

Date Started Fellowship
November 2011

Subject
Microbiology

Host
University of Reading

Sponsor
BBSRC

This fellowship has been a major stepping stone in the progress of my career. It has bridged the huge gap of nearly 5 years I had after finishing my PhD. It has boosted my confidence tremendously for which I am grateful. I have learnt a lot of techniques and acquired good knowledge about the subject for which I am thankful to my supervisor Prof. Simon Andrews. Other than the project I have also attended other training provided by the Daphne Jackson Trust and the University of Reading that will be useful for my career as a researcher. On the whole the fellowship has been a major turning point in my career and personal life.



DR. MIRANDA SMALLWOOD

Date Started Fellowship
January 2011

Subject
Medical Science

Host
University of Exeter

Sponsor
University of Exeter & MRC

I gave a talk at the Society for Free Radical Research International (SFFRI) conference at Imperial College, London in September 2012. I have also supervised fourth year medical students in their SSU in "rheumatoid arthritis" and a BClinSci project student. I have found my confidence continues to grow as I meet these new challenges. I completed my fellowship in January 2013 and have secured some further short term funding, but I am writing a paper and will also be submitting grant proposals. I think juggling work/home will get a little easier as both my children will be at secondary school from September.



DR. JOANNE TAYLOR

Date Started Fellowship
October 2011

Subject
Ecology

Host
Royal Botanic Garden
Edinburgh

Sponsor
NERC

I feel very fortunate to be a Daphne Jackson Fellow and to be working at the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh. I have managed to align my project with a long term reciprocal transplant study of Scots Pine carried out by the James Hutton Institute and the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology. This has been a huge opportunity and enables more complex experimentation and analysis. In addition the experience with contemporary molecular analysis and bioinformatics is vital in my area of biology today. Furthermore, it is such a joy to be back doing research again!



MRS REBECCA WARD

Date Started Fellowship
April 2011

Subject
Building Physics

Host
University of Cambridge

Sponsor
Royal Academy of Engineering

The second year of my fellowship has been thoroughly rewarding. The research at Kew has benefited from collaboration with colleagues, and has produced some useful and interesting results. In May 2012 I presented a paper at the 5th Annual Building Physics Conference in Kyoto, Japan, and have had two more papers accepted for conferences in 2013. I was also a finalist in 'Strictly Engineering', a poster competition at the British Science Festival. Time has flown past, and I'm approaching the end of my fellowship full of confidence that armed with new and refreshed skills I will be able to return to a career in industry.



DR. KIM WOODRUFF

Date Started Fellowship
November 2011

Subject
Neuroscience

Host
University of Manchester

Sponsor
Leverhulme Trust and the
Physiological Society

2012 has been a busy year for me. I settled into my fellowship and began setting up the study. Working with patients who suffer from dementia means the study must comply with the mental capacity act and required ethical approval from the National Research Ethics Committee. After obtaining this approval the study has been adopted to the NHS Research Portfolio. This has meant extra funding from the NHS to provide a study coordinator, research nurses and laboratory analysis by the hospital pathology labs to compliment those obtained by our lab. Patient recruitment is underway, and preliminary results are encouraging. I have also successfully completed my PGCert LTHE, attended two conferences, various training events and have had an abstract accepted for poster presentation. I am proud to be a Daphne Jackson Fellow, and am grateful for the opportunity I have been given.



MS DALIA ZAKARIA

Date Started Fellowship
September 2010
(on hold for maternity leave)

Subject
Microbiology

Host
University of Bristol

Sponsor
University of Bristol

I am more than half way into my fellowship during which I have learnt many techniques and gained new skills which make me very optimistic about my employability in the near future. After unexpectedly finding myself pregnant, I am taking leave from my fellowship. Both the Trust and my sponsor have agreed to this leave of absence and I hope to return to my fellowship in June 2013 to complete my project and retraining. I am really looking forward to returning to complete the fellowship successfully.

FELLOWS IN POST FELLOWS WHO COMPLETED DURING 2012



DR. DAVID AYRE

Date Started Fellowship
November 2010

Subject
Materials Science

Host
Cranfield University

Sponsor
EPSRC

During the past 12 months I have managed to complete my project and have drafted a paper for journal publication (further work still required). The high point was presenting my work at the recent Daphne Jackson Trust Research Conference held at the University of Bath in October 2012. During the final months of my Fellowship I managed to secure a permanent full-time position as a member of research and teaching staff at Cranfield University.



DR. JOANNA
BRZESZCZYŃSKA

Date Started Fellowship
October 2010

Subject
Molecular Biology –
Regenerative medicine

Host
University of Edinburgh

Sponsor
Leverhulme Trust

My fellowship provided me with the opportunity to enter and explore the field of stem cell biology thanks to which I started collaboration with excellent scientists and gained valuable experience in regenerative medicine. I participated in very prestigious scientific courses and conferences about stem cells. During my fellowship I presented my research results at two conferences and my extended collaboration also resulted in papers, which have been already submitted or I will submit soon to journals. Needless to say, the period of the fellowship allowed me to elevate my scientific position and increased my employability. 6 months before the end of my fellowship I received a job offer at the Roslin Institute. In January 2013 I moved back to my host laboratory, where I am currently employed and funded from the 5-year EU grant and where I continue the research on pluripotent cells in the area of regenerative medicine. I believe that my success can be a positive example that can help future DJT fellows not to give up and always believe in themselves. The new knowledge, experience and valuable collaborations, which we can gain as DJT fellows, create broad possibilities to develop new careers. My experience is that being very positive and having a 'can do' attitude with the help of the DJT one can re-engage with a career in science.



DR. PRITI CHIVERS

Date Started Fellowship
August 2009
(Six month extension)

Subject
Cancer Molecular Biology

Host
University of Surrey

Sponsor
MRC

I completed my fellowship in January 2012 after a six month extension. I am currently working part time in the same department, working on colon cancer, breast cancer and on another project analysing anticancer effects of certain bio-compounds, whilst awaiting the outcome of a grant application submitted last year. I am collaborating with others in the faculty with the intention of submitting further grant applications and am also actively involved in the Cancer Research Network at the university. As a result of these collaborations I have co-authored a publication in my field of cancer research in a peer-reviewed journal. During and after my fellowship I have supervised UG/MSc student projects, which I found very rewarding. I could not think of these achievements when I had my career break and cannot thank the Daphne Jackson Trust enough for all their help.



DR. ROWENA HOARE

Date Started Fellowship
February 2010

Subject
Fish Immunology

Host
University of Stirling

Sponsor
University of Stirling

I enjoyed returning to research, have completed my fellowship in 2012 and am currently working at the University of Stirling as a Research Fellow. The two years flew past and involved a steep learning curve having been out of my field for nearly 10 years. I have updated my skills in immunology, bacteriology and molecular techniques. I am currently involved in some teaching for Masters courses at the University. I am now working on a number of new projects funded by the Medical Research Council and the EU. I am forever grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust for giving me the opportunity.


DR. JENNIFER OLIVER

Date Started Fellowship
April 2010

Subject
Biotechnology

Host
University of Kent

Sponsor
Rolls Royce

The fellowship was a wonderful experience which opened many doors. I'm now at the University of Greenwich working on anaerobic digestion and enjoying the new challenges this brings. Some of the best aspects of the fellowship included the training days. I am certain I have the present post through the confidence gained at these as well as through the work. Undoubtedly this also aided my (lone) attendance at a 2012 conference in Barcelona where I presented a poster and, importantly, substantially increased my network.


DR. KATE O'NEILL

Date Started Fellowship
May 2010
(Three month extension)

Subject
Molecular epidemiology

Host
University of Oxford

Sponsor
GlaxoSmithKline

2012 saw the end of my fellowship, which finished in July after a short extension to allow completion of the project. I have come away from my fellowship a completely new person, with many achievements under my belt. I have joined two international childhood cancer consortia and attended their meetings and workshops, which has opened all sorts of doors in terms of enriching knowledge and networking. I have also given oral presentations at two conferences (including the first Daphne Jackson Research Conference). I have been fortunate enough to have written and published some of my results, exploring the association between birth weight and risk of childhood cancer, and have further written a review on the topic (also published). The other aspect of my fellowship project, addressing whether childhood leukaemia may be linked to infection, formed the basis of a grant application that I wrote and submitted in my final months, which I am pleased to say was successful! With the help of the University, and my experience as a fellow, it was agreed that I could undertake my position on a part time basis. I remain working in the same group, but now I run the laboratory projects, and even have my own technician! I would not have envisaged myself in this position two years ago, and I am entirely grateful for the Trust for helping to pave the way.


DR. GERHARD ZIEBOLL

Date Started Fellowship
January 2010

Subject
Chemistry

Host
University of Leeds

Sponsor
EPSRC

I undertook research concerned with the origin of RNA, a major unsolved problem related to how life originated on earth. The outcome of my research has been very promising and publications are in preparation. I had the opportunity to attend two national and one international conference to network with other scientists in my field. Currently I am involved in teaching at the university of Bradford and hope to continue my research and teaching career. Re-entering my scientific career was without doubt a major turning point in my life.

WHAT THEY ARE DOING NOW



CAROLYN CARR

Start Date
September 1998
Subject
Chemistry
Host
University of Oxford
Sponsor
EPSRC

I did my fellowship from 1998-2000 in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Oxford, using NMR spectroscopy to study anti-malaria drugs and peptide structures. Towards the end of my fellowship, I started working part time for a University spin-out company, Synaptica Ltd, using mass spectrometry to analyse proteins and peptides implicated in the development of Alzheimer's disease. For the first year I was still based in the University, but in 2001 the company moved to its own labs in the Biotech Incubator at Harwell. Unfortunately, the company ran out of money in 2003 and folded. Since then, I have been a senior post-doctoral researcher in the Cardiac Metabolism Research Group in the Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics at the University of Oxford. I study stem cell therapy for the heart, with a focus on using MRI to measure cardiac function after cell transplantation and NMR spectroscopy to investigate stem cell metabolism. I have supervised five DPhil students who have completed their studies and have a further six students currently working with me. I have presented my work at meetings, both in the UK and internationally, and also to British Heart Foundation volunteer groups.



HELEN FORD

Start Date
September 2003
Subject
Optics and Lasers
Host
Cranfield University
Sponsor
Royal Academy of Engineering

I was awarded a Daphne Jackson Fellowship in 2003, following a partial career break after the birth of my children in 1996 and 1999. I had been clinging on to my post-doctoral research career by working, on average, about a day per week at my previous university, piggy-backing on existing projects, but the fellowship gave me the opportunity to kick-start a research project of my own in optical coherence tomography (OCT); a field in which I had not previously worked. My fellowship project went very well, and was extended to a third year, with support from my sponsor, the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Since finishing the fellowship, I have continued to gain experience in OCT, and have supervised two PhD student projects in the field. Together with my Head of Department, I submitted a successful follow-on proposal to the EPSRC in 2007. This provided the significant funding we needed to buy some key pieces of equipment, allowing us to pursue some more ambitious ideas in the field. I am also working on a TSB-funded collaborative project with colleagues in Cranfield Health, using OCT to monitor changes in post-harvest food crops. I am pleased to say that I have produced several conference and journal publications from my OCT work. In recent years, I have acquired additional responsibilities, including conference travel, leading small pieces of consultancy work, and participating in research student interviewing, assessment and examination. I am currently waiting to hear about the outcome of one submitted grant proposal, and have two more in preparation. I sometimes feel that 'part-time' is a very inaccurate description of my working life, let alone my life as a whole. The past year, in particular, has been extremely busy, both in and out of work. I had not fully appreciated that teenagers require just as much time and energy from their parents as younger children! My two are both very much scientists, like myself and my husband, so I go from science at work to more science at home, turning to novels late in the evening for some light relief.

JENNY BARNWELL

Start Date
December 1993

Subject
Medical Physics

Host
University of
Birmingham

Sponsor
Nuffield Foundation

I am still in the same post working as a senior Trials Management Team Leader in the Cancer Research UK Clinical Trials Unit at the University of Birmingham. I will be 60 in a couple of years time and looking forward to retirement so there will be no changes (hopefully) before then. I remain deeply indebted to the Trust for enabling my return to work.

Yael Meller Harel

Start Date
January 2008

Subject
Biosciences

Host
University of Leeds

Sponsor
BBSRC

Having had to return to Israel unexpectedly for family reasons in 2009, I started to work as a research engineer at the Volcani Centre, a research institute for plant science applied to agriculture.

I studied the effect of various control agents on the induced resistance of plants to fungal diseases. In particular, the research on the biochar (the solid product of biomass pyrolysis) - mediated induced resistance lead to novel discoveries with potential application in agriculture.

I enjoy my work very much, and do my best to balance it with a happy family life. I remain very grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust for allowing me to go back to my research career and would like to warmly advise to anyone who feels that he missed the academic train, to turn to the Trust for a new departure!


JULIE KIRK

Start Date
November 2004

Subject
Particle Physics

Host
Rutherford Appleton
Laboratory

Sponsor
PPARC

I held my fellowship from 2004-2006 at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Oxfordshire. During the fellowship I performed research in the field of particle physics, working on ATLAS, one of the particle detectors at the Large Hadron Collider in CERN, Geneva. Since completing my fellowship I have been fortunate to continue with this research at RAL, employed by STFC on a part-time contract. With the turn-on of the LHC, the last few years have been an extremely exciting time to be involved in particle physics, culminating in the discovery this year of a "Higgs-like boson". I am currently leading one of the ATLAS trigger groups (responsible for deciding which of the 40 million collisions per second we should record to disk). I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenges of understanding the ATLAS detector during its first years of operation and being part of the team producing the first particle physics measurements in a new energy regime.

As well as research, I am involved in organising the yearly "Particle Physics Masterclass" at RAL. During this week long event, we welcome over 600 'A' level students to the lab to give them a glimpse of particle physics research. I introduce the students to some real ATLAS data and help them to "find the Higgs", hopefully inspiring them to go on to study physics at university.

I am extremely grateful to the Daphne Jackson Trust for the opportunity to return to my chosen field of research after a career break of 8 years. I am sure that without the fellowship I would not have had the confidence to do so.

SPONSORS AND DONORS

The Trust is delighted to receive regular donations from a number of fellows, past fellows and supporters. This is a list of all sponsors and donors who have sponsored fellowships and made donations from the establishment of the Trust in 1992 until November 2012.

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