

Alexandra Ashcroft

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

PHD IN DEVELOPMENTAL
MECHANISMS

Expected Oct 2018 | Cambridge, UK

MPHIL IN DEVELOPMENTAL
MECHANISMS

October 2015 | Cambridge, UK

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

BSC IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

June 2014 | London, UK

1st Class Honours

ASSOCIATE OF KING'S COLLEGE
LONDON

June 2014 | London, UK

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

STUDY ABROAD

Sep 2012 - Jun 2013 | Irvine, USA

Cum. GPA: 3.94 / 4.0

AWARDS

- 2016 Rosemary Murray Graduate Research Fund Grant
- 2016 BSDB Conference Travel Grant
- 2015 BSDB Conference Travel Grant
- 2014 Layton Prize
- 2014 Wellcome Trust PhD stipend
- 2013 Cardiovascular Project Scholarship (BHF center at KCL)
- 2013 Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship
- 2013 RSA Fellowship
- 2012 UROP Research grant
- 2012 myScholarship (KCL)
- 2012 Duke of Edinburgh Award, Silver
- 2011 Kitchener Scholarship

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

PHD STUDENT | FERGUSON-SMITH LAB

Oct 2015 – present | University of Cambridge, UK

I am studying genes in the DLK family and their implications for health and disease.

ROTATION STUDENT | RUSSELL LAB

Apr – Jun 2015 | University of Cambridge, UK

Investigated the affect of *Wolbachia pipientis* on the transcriptome of *Drosophila melanogaster* embryos.

ROTATION STUDENT | FRANZE LAB

Jan - Mar 2015 | University of Cambridge, UK

Studied the affect of substrate stiffness gradients on retinal ganglion cell growth.

ROTATION STUDENT | FERGUSON-SMITH LAB

Oct - Dec 2014 | University of Cambridge, UK

Investigated the role of DNA methylation in transcriptional consistency as part of Cambridge BLUEPRINT.

UNDEGRADUATE RESEARCHER | AVKIRAN LAB

Jan - Mar 2014 | King's College London, UK

Examined adrenergic regulation of cardiac deacetylases.

WINSTON CHURCHILL FELLOW | BASSLER LAB

Jul - Sep 2013 | Princeton University, USA

Quantified QrrRNA copy number in *Vibrio harveyi*.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER | CRAMER LAB

Sep 2012 - Jun 2013 | University of California, Irvine, USA

Explored the role of ephrin-A5 in the development of the murine auditory brainstem.

INTERN | ASHCROFT LAB

Jun - Jul 2009 | Oxford University, UK

Investigated the functional effects of a mutation in the K_{ATP} channel.

POSITIONS HELD

NATIONAL

MEMBER | BRITISH SOCIETY FOR DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY COMMITTEE

2015 - present | United Kingdom

CONSULTANT | DORLING KINDERSLEY'S SUPER HUMAN ENCYCLOPAEDIA

2014 | United Kingdom

FELLOW | WINSTON CHURCHILL TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP

2013 | United Kingdom

FELLOW | ROYAL SOCIETY OF THE ARTS

2013 - present | United Kingdom

MEMBER | PEARSON STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD

2013 - 2014 | Pearson Education, UK

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL

MEMBER | ANNUAL PDN RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

2014 - 2015 | University of Cambridge, UK

ASSOCIATE | BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES SOCIETY COMMITTEE

2013 - 2014 | King's College London, UK

SKILLS

LANGUAGES

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| English | Native Speaker |
| Mandarin | Intermediate |
| French | Lower Intermediate |
| German | Basic |

COMPUTING

R • Adobe InDesign • \LaTeX • Matlab
Linux • Microsoft Windows/Office
Graph Pad Prism

LINKS

LinkedIn
Research Gate
ORCID

MEMBER | BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES STUDENT STAFF LIAISON COMMITTEE
2011 - 2012 | King's College London, UK

PRESENTATIONS

ORAL

Social Bacteria: using bacterial communication to interfere with virulence

November 2014 | Biomedical Sciences Society, King's College London, UK

Ephrin-A5 as a substrate for axon targeting in auditory brainstem development

May 2013 | Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of California, Irvine, USA

POSTER

Ephrin-A5 as a substrate for axon targeting in auditory brainstem development

May 2013 | Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of California, Irvine, USA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

MENTOR | KING'S COLLEGE LONDON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2014 - present | King's College London, UK

MENTOR | PEER ASSISTED LEARNING

2013 - 2014 | King's College London, UK

Mentored students in earlier years: created presentations, information packets and helped deliver study skills workshops. I created the inaugural undergraduate research symposium and worked with academics to receive a grant from the College Teaching Fund to fund the programme.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

AMBASSADOR | STEMNET, UK

2014 - present | STEMNET, UK

PUBLICATIONS

Männikkö, R., Stansfeld, P. J., Ashcroft, A. S., Hattersley, A. T., Sansom, M. S., Ellard, S., & Ashcroft, F. M. (2011). A conserved tryptophan at the membrane-water interface acts as a gatekeeper for Kir6. 2/SUR1 channels and causes neonatal diabetes when mutated. *The Journal of physiology*, 589 (13), 3071-3083.