

The Rutherford International Fellowship Programme

An EU Horizon 2020 COFUND award

Philip King – Programme Coordinator

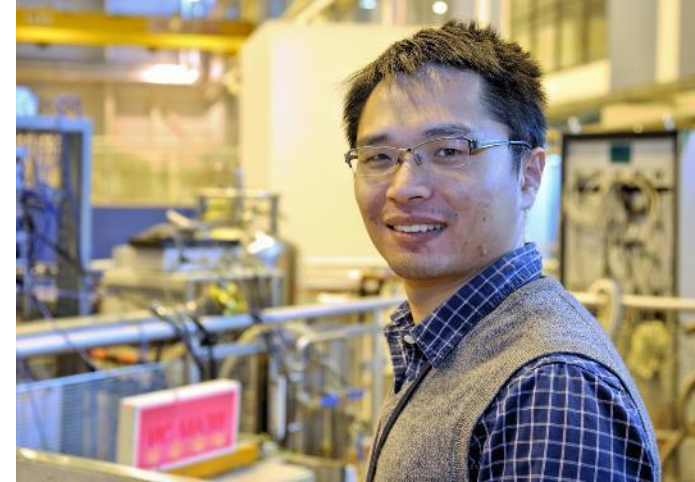
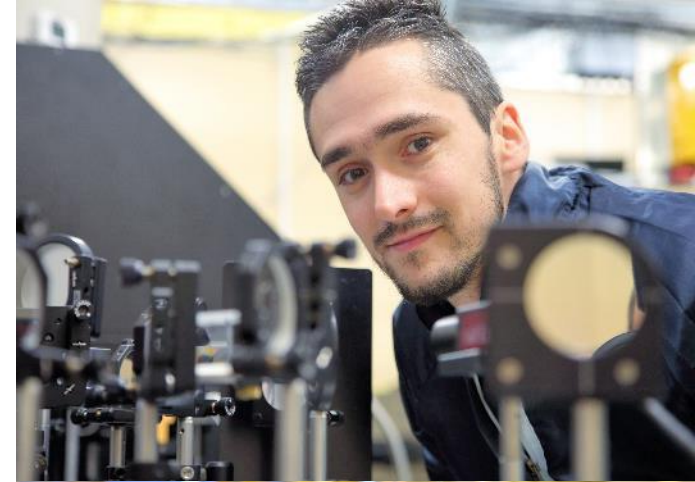
This project received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 665593 awarded to the Science and Technology Facilities Council.



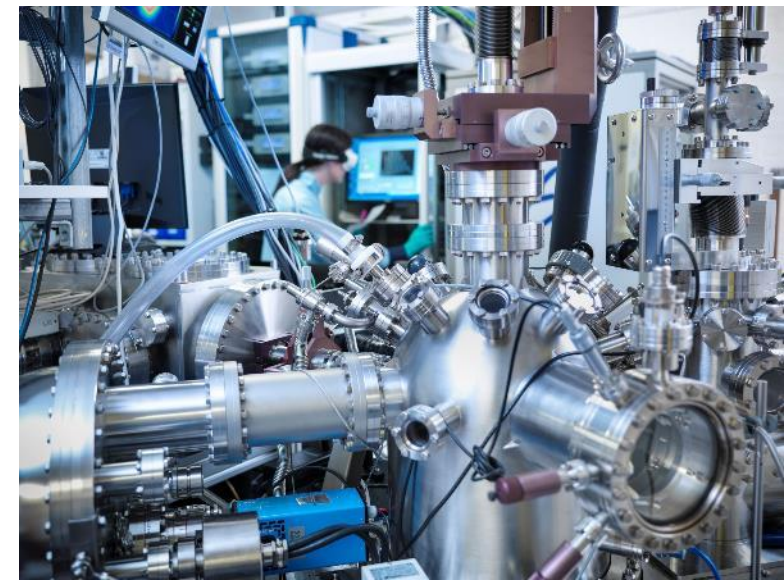
ISIS Neutron and Muon Source



RI
FP Rutherford
International
Fellowship
Programme



Setting the scene: STFC



- STFC: UK research council responsible for large-scale facilities (in UK and overseas)
- STFC: UK research council responsible for particle physics, astronomy, nuclear physics
- ISIS Neutron & Muon Source
- Central Laser Facility
- Diamond Light Source
- Particle Physics Department
- RAL Space
- UK Astronomy Technology Centre
- Scientific Computing Department
- Accelerator Science & Technology Centre



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Setting the scene: STFC

Three primary sites:

- Rutherford Appleton Lab
- Daresbury Lab
- UK Astronomy Technology Centre

UK Astronomy Technology Centre
Edinburgh, Scotland



Polaris House
Swindon, Wiltshire



Chilbolton Observatory
Stockbridge, Hampshire



Boulby Underground
Laboratory
North Yorkshire



Daresbury Laboratory
Sci-Tech Daresbury Warrington, Cheshire



Rutherford Appleton Laboratory
Harwell Didcot, Oxfordshire

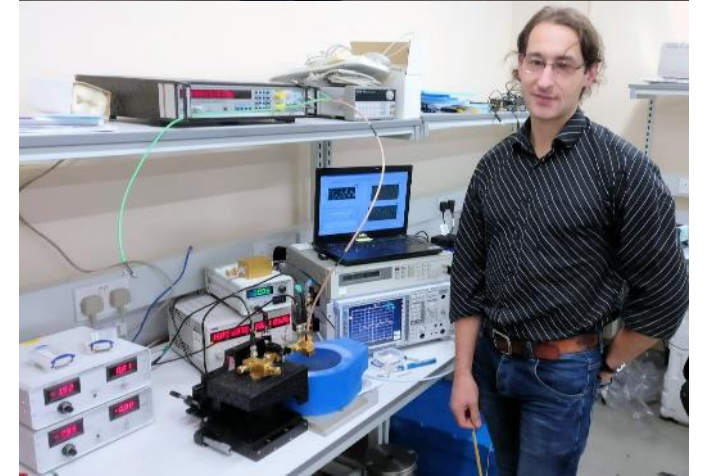


A few details . . .

- EU COFUND Post-doctoral programme
- Time period: 2015 – 2020
- Value of EU award: €2.54M

Aims:

- to employ ~36 post-docs on 2-yr+ contracts
- To provide excellent research environments
- To enable them to develop their careers
- To ensure good employment and working conditions
- To ensure mobility of researchers



A few details . . .

Cofunding: needed to be found by departments or the researcher

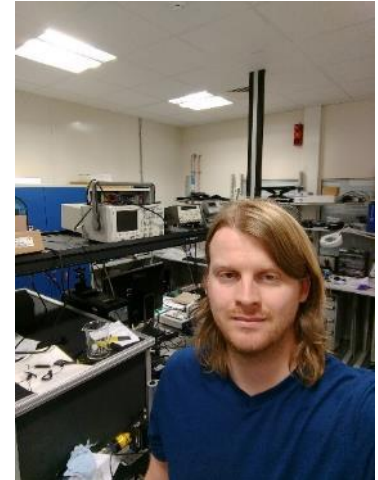
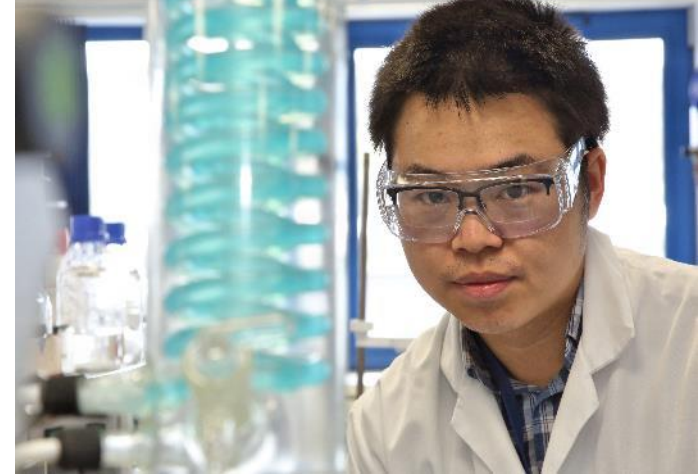
- Can come from any source (other than another EU grant)

Examples included:

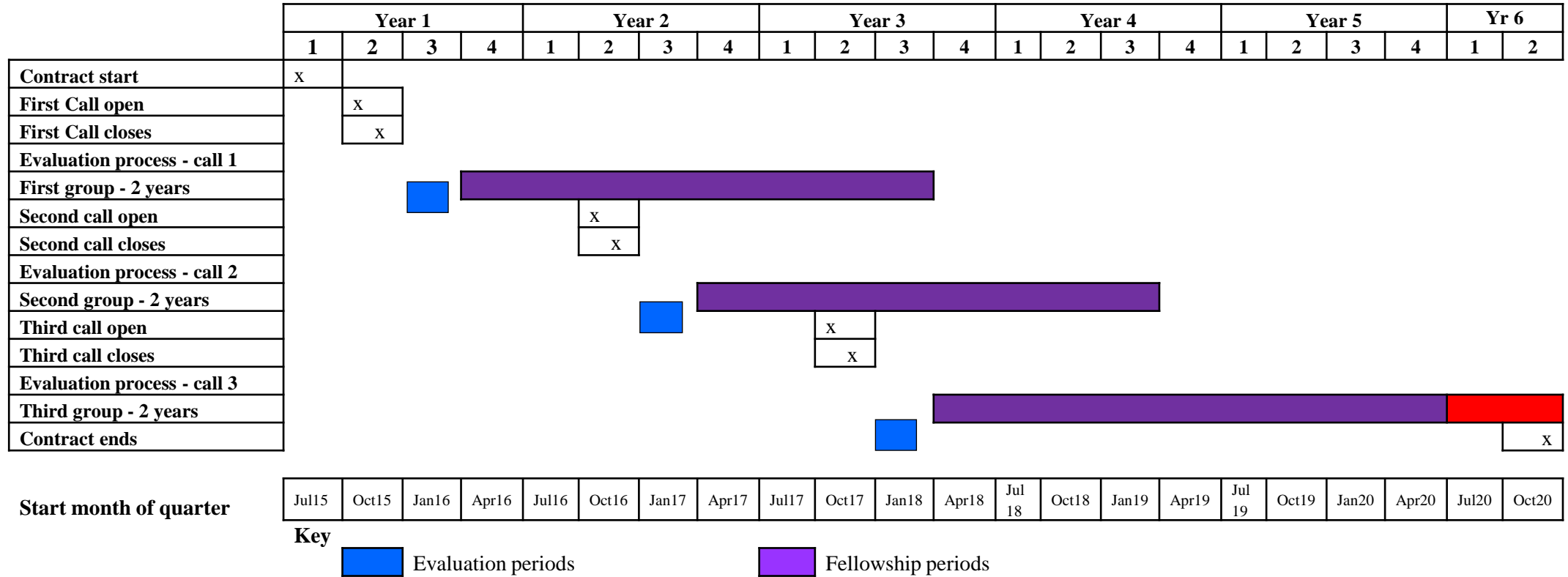
- Departmental core funding
- International agreements
- University funding
- Personal award
- A wide variety of other grant sources
- Industry



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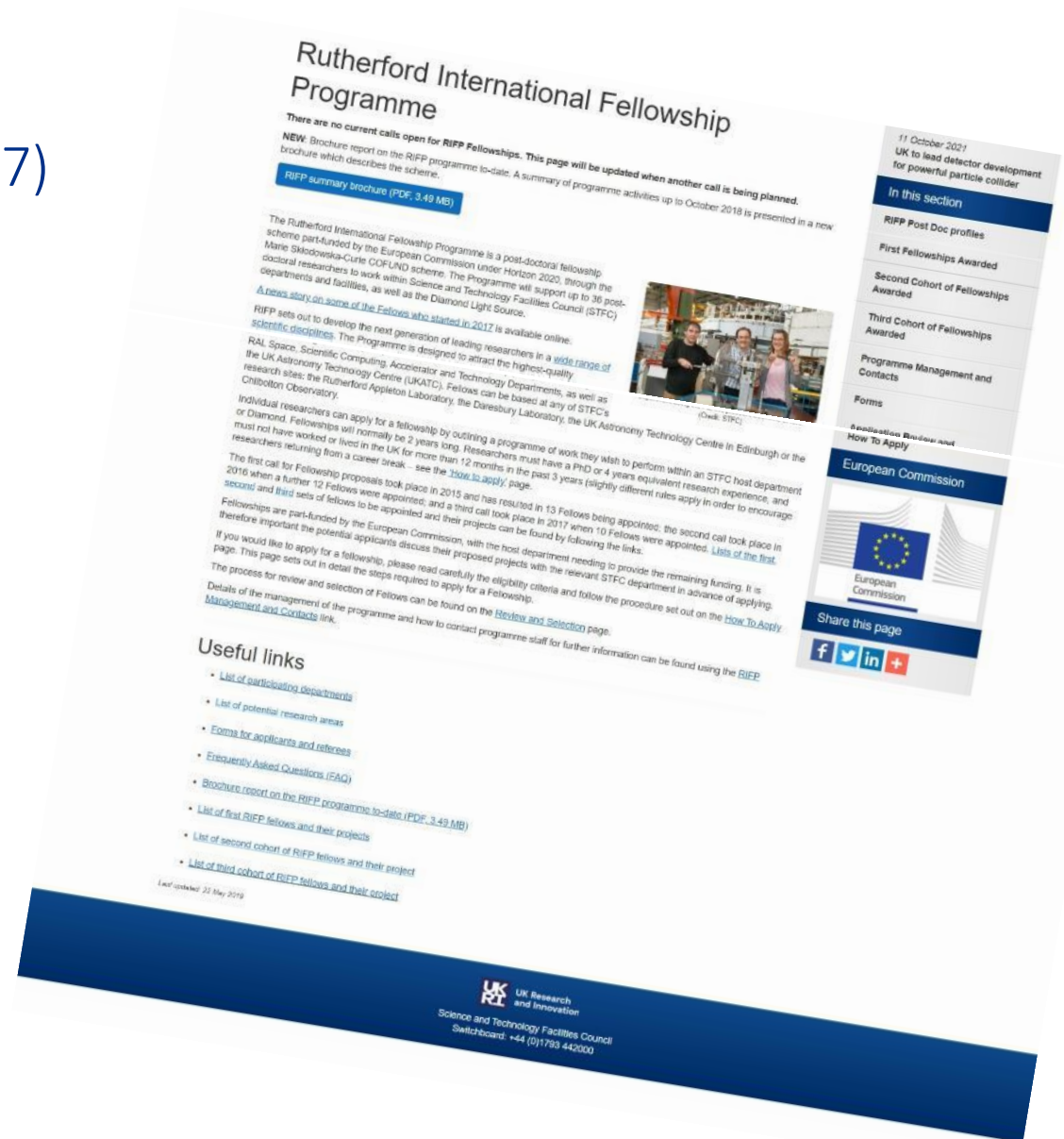


A few details . . .



A few details . . .

- Open calls for proposals (in 2015, 2016, 2017)
- Selection process:
 - eligibility check
 - referees comments
 - interviews
 - ethical assessment
- Projects created by applicants, in collaboration with host department – ‘bottom-up’
- Full details of how to apply, criteria, etc, on RIFP website



Advertising calls

- Journal adverts
- EU sites
- Women in science sites
- Departmental and subject mailing lists
- Posters
- Postcards
- Social media

- Aimed to encourage more female applicants



The Rutherford International Fellowship Programme
Spend two years working on your own research programme in the UK at STFC's science and technology facilities.



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- 2-year EU Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowships
- Fellowships can be held at the Diamond Light Source, the ISIS Neutron and Muon Source, the Central Laser Facility, the UK Astronomy Technology Centre, RAL Space, the Accelerator Technology Centre, Particle Physics Department and STFC's Technology Department
- Applicants must have a PhD or 4 years equivalent research experience and can't have worked in the UK for more than 12 months in the 3 years prior to the application deadline.

Further details:
<http://www.stfc.ac.uk/funding/fellowships/rutherford-international-fellowship-programme/>

Next application deadline: Friday 29th September 2017

The Rutherford International Fellowship Programme has received funding under the EU Marie Skłodowska-Curie programme, grant agreement No 665593



Post-docs employed



117 Fellowship applications
(21% female)



35 Fellows employed
(29% female)



18 different countries Fellows came from



Science and outputs

A very wide range of science undertaken:

- astronomy and astrophysics
- high energy particle physics
- accelerator technology development;
- fundamental and applied materials studies using neutrons, muons or x-rays;
- earth observation for climate studies;
- satellite technology;
- laser technology development.



179 journal
publications
produced



135 conference
talks, 48
posters



196 technical
and 125 general
training events

Training strongly supported:

- Each researcher had a training budget
- Conferences and technical training
- Transferrable skills training
- Training days

Science and outputs

- Public engagement strongly encouraged
- Including involvement in European Researchers Night
- 34 researchers employed following their RIFP post-doc.
- 16 in permanent positions
- 12 continued within STFC employment



75 public
engagement
events



16 permanent,
18 fixed-term
future positions



12 Fellows
remained in STFC
employment

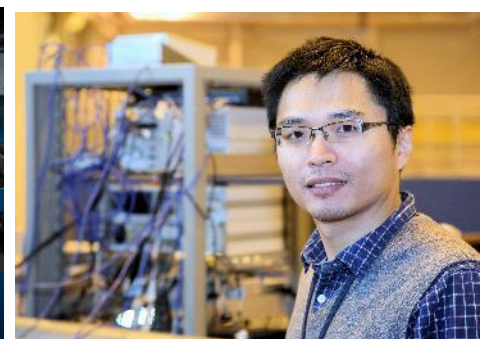
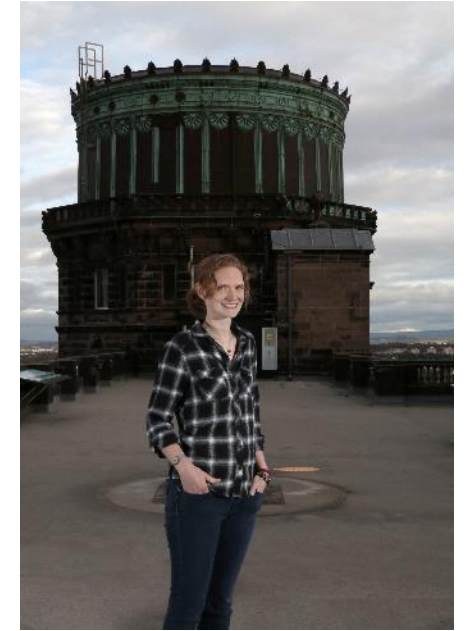
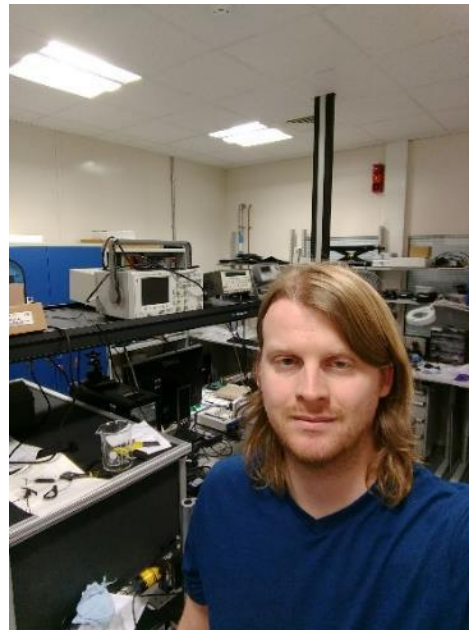
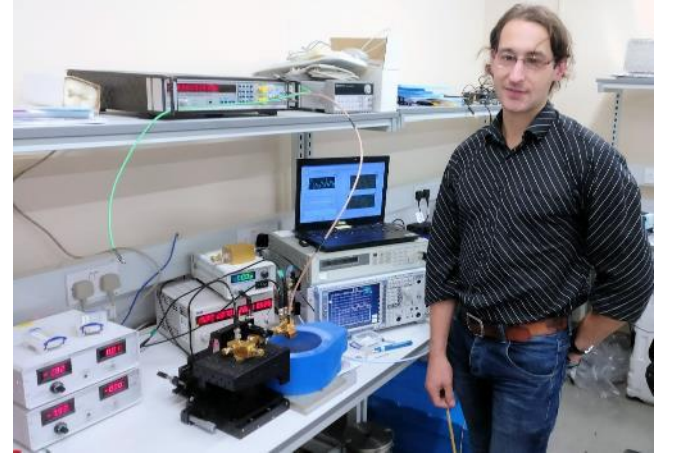
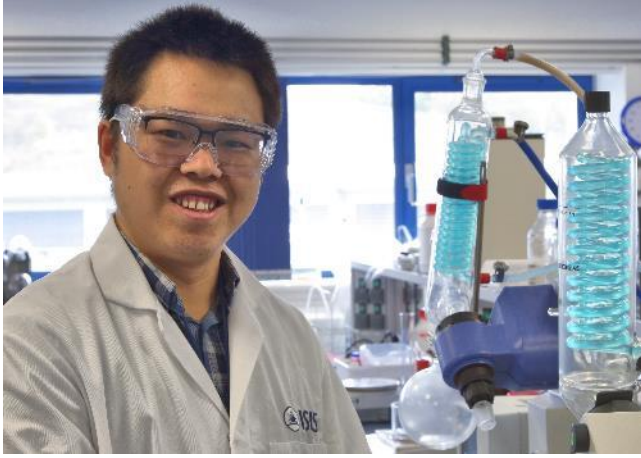


Thoughts and lessons learnt

- Remember your grant agreement – you have to do what it says!
- Ensure you have good admin support, particularly for calls
- Create a cohort – researchers like to know each other
- Organise training events
- Collect stats from the word go:
 - applicants
 - researchers employed
 - activities: conferences, posters, training undertaken, publications, public engagement, etc
- Ensure ethical review is maintained
- Publications: try to ensure they credit your grant and the EU
- Publications: open access is mandatory (green or gold)

Thoughts and lessons learnt

- At selection time, have a reserve list in case one or two decide not to accept
- Front-loading the recruitment – if you have good and appropriate candidates – to take more on earlier (enables you to deal with people leaving early, etc).
- Some researchers will leave early . . . giving additional person-months to use
- Some researchers will request extensions (or you may be able to offer extensions if people leave early) – have a process for evaluating this to ensure it's done fairly



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