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Professor Brendon Noble

# AMS SPRINGBOARD 7

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# KNOW YOUR FUNDER !

Our mission is to advance **biomedical** and **health research** and its translation into benefits for society

The current president is [Professor Dame Anne Johnson DBE PMedSci](#).

Past Academy presidents

[Professor Sir Robert Lechler FMedSci](#), President 2015-2020

[Professor Sir John Tooke](#) FMedSci, President 2011-2015

[Professor Sir John Bell](#) FRS HonFREng FMedSci, President 2006-2011

[Professor Sir Keith Peters](#) FRS FMedSci, President 2002-2006

[Professor Sir Peter Lachmann](#) FRS FMedSci, President 1998-2002

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# KNOW YOUR FUNDER !

## HEIs with Springboard awards



- 01 Aston University
- 02 Cardiff University
- 03 Coventry University
- 04 Durham University
- 05 Imperial College London
- 06 King's College London
- 07 Loughborough University
- 08 Newcastle University
- 09 Queen Mary University of London
- 10 Queen's University Belfast
- 11 St George's University of London
- 12 University College London (UCL)
- 13 University of Aberdeen
- 14 University of Bath
- 15 University of Birmingham
- 16 University of Bradford
- 17 University of Bristol
- 18 University of Cambridge
- 19 University of Dundee
- 20 University of East Anglia
- 21 University of Edinburgh
- 22 University of Essex
- 23 University of Exeter
- 24 University of Glasgow
- 25 University of Lancaster
- 26 University of Leeds
- 27 University of Leicester
- 28 University of Liverpool
- 29 University of Manchester
- 30 University of Nottingham
- 31 University of Oxford
- 32 University of Reading
- 33 University of Sheffield
- 34 University of Southampton
- 35 University of St Andrews
- 36 University of Stirling
- 37 University of Strathclyde
- 38 University of Surrey
- 39 University of Sussex
- 40 University of York

- Dr Niharika A Duggal, University of Birmingham, Gut microbiome dysbiosis and immune ageing: investigating associations and potential for novel therapies.
- Dr Scott Allen, University of Sheffield, Investigating how the MGO-NRF2 cellular protection pathway is affected in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).
- Dr Heather Bailey, University College London, Understanding the consequences of congenital cytomegalovirus infection: a feasibility study.
- Dr Manuel Banzhaf, University of Birmingham, Creating a genome-wide mycobacterial stress-response map. (GCRF)
- Dr Sarah Bath, University of Surrey, Is mild-to-moderate iodine deficiency in pregnancy a risk factor for hearing impairment in children?
- Dr Megan Bergkessel, University of Dundee, Measuring activity dynamics in non-growing populations of bacteria.
- Dr Valerie Brandt, University of Southampton, Investigating mechanisms of change and their neural underpinnings in patients with tic disorders receiving habit reversal training.
- Dr Rochelle Burgess, University College London, Mapping patterns of risk and resilience to mental health consequences of child marriage in Zimbabwe (MARCH). (GCRF)
- Dr Bernadette Carroll, University of Bristol, Spatial regulation of mTORC1 in Tuberous Sclerosis.
- Dr Alan Cartmell, University of Liverpool, What features of bacterial carbohydrate sulfatases can be exploited for human health?
- Dr Ines Cebola, Imperial College London, Investigation of NAFLD-associated epigenetic dysregulation.
- Dr Liye Chen, University of Oxford, Investigating the functional basis of shared genetic risks across immune-mediated inflammatory diseases.
- Dr Gemma Clarke, University of Leeds, Understanding access to palliative care by ethnic minority groups in the UK: with a focus on South Asians and those with refugee or asylum seeker status.
- Dr Rebecca Coll, Queen's University Belfast, Investigating the regulation of the human NLRP3 inflammasome.
- Dr James Connolly, Newcastle University, Deciphering the regulatory mechanisms underpinning niche-adaptation of pathogenic Escherichia coli during systemic infection.
- Dr Anne Cori, Imperial College London, Developing reliable epidemic forecasting using branching processes: Ebola as a case study.
- Dr Lauren Cowley, University of Bath, Novel machine learning models for real time pathogen management.
- Dr David Doupe, Durham University, Stem Cell Derived Signals in Intestinal Stem Cell Homeostasis.
- Dr Antonio Fernández Pardiñas, Cardiff University, PATRON - Pharmacogenomics of Antipsychotic Treatment and Response.
- Dr Maria Filippetti, University of Essex, Understanding the developmental mechanisms underlying emotional eating.
- Dr Taya Forde, University of Glasgow, A novel targeted sequencing approach for untangling the epidemiology of endemic anthrax, a neglected zoonosis. (GCRF)
- Dr Rene Frank, University of Leeds, The in situ molecular architecture of Alzheimer's disease pathology.
- Dr Jennifer Greaves, Coventry University, Investigating the function and substrate interaction network of ABHD16A, a novel regulator of protein S-acylation.
- Dr James Hall, University of Liverpool, Understanding the spread of multi-resistance megaplasmids in Pseudomonas.
- Dr Sally Hargreaves, St George's University of London, Developing and testing an innovative multi-disease screening and catch-up vaccination tool to strengthen delivery systems to migrants in UK primary care.
- Dr Musa Hassan, University of Edinburgh, Using single-cell dual RNA sequencing to interrogate host immunity to pathogens.
- Dr Kristina Kirschner, University of Glasgow, What is the role of secondary senescence in disease? Elucidating the role of Notch signalling in secondary senescence.
- Dr Efterpi Kostareli, Queen's University Belfast, Epigenetic effects of BTK inhibition in chronic lymphocytic leukaemia.
- Dr Eneko Larrañeta, Queen's University Belfast, Intranasal implantable devices for prolonged drug delivery in schizophrenic patients.
- Dr Bethan Lloyd-Lewis, University of Bristol, Deciphering the contribution of development and age to breast cancer aetiology
- Dr Leeanne McGurk, University of Dundee, Defining novel therapeutic targets for TDP-43-associated neurodegenerative disease.
- Dr Erik Mire, Cardiff University, Deciphering the interplay between maternal obesity and neuroimmune interactions during brain development.
- Dr Sile Molloy, St George's University of London, Impact of combined oral therapy of fluconazole plus flucytosine for treatment of asymptomatic cryptococcal antigen positive patients in advanced HIV patients in Tanzania: A single arm intervention trial. (GCRF)
- Dr Valentina Mosienko, University of Exeter, Novel mechanisms in depression: investigating the effects of astrocytic lactate on emotional behaviour.
- Dr Ana Namburete, University of Oxford, Ultrasound-Based Assessment of Brain Folding Patterns in Early Pregnancy.
- Dr Laura Nellums, University of Nottingham, EMERGE: Examining Migration and the Epidemiology of Resistance in Groups in Europe.
- Dr Graham Norquay, University of Sheffield, Using hyperpolarised 129Xe MRI to evaluate tumour hypoxia in patients with lung cancer.
- Dr Patricia P. Esteban, Aston University, A novel microfluidic co-culture platform to study functional responses of neuronal and glial cells ex vivo.
- Dr Sebastian Pattinson, University of Cambridge, 3D Printing Imperceptible Orthoses with Biomimetic Geometry and Molecular Structure to Enable Healthy Gait.
- Dr William Peveler, University of Glasgow, Fluorescent Sensor Arrays for Serum-Based Liver Fibrosis Detection.
- Dr James Smith, University of East Anglia, Investigating cardiomyocyte communication in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.
- Dr Laura Southgate, St George's University of London, Characterisation of the cellular role of ATP13A3 and functional impact of variation underlying pulmonary arterial hypertension.
- Dr Rachel Sparks, King's College London, Learning Movement Signatures from Video-Telemetry to Localize Epileptic Seizures.
- Dr George Stothart, University of Bath, Developing functional biomarkers of early Alzheimer's disease.
- Dr Clare-Louise Towse, University of Bradford, Role of isomerisation in cardiac amyloidosis.
- Dr Patrick Walker, Imperial College London, Evaluation of the potential for rapid diagnostic testing for malaria within antenatal care to provide sustainable, dynamic and scalable malaria surveillance. (GCRF)
- Dr Gernot Walko, University of Bath, Targeting YAP/TAZ as a novel therapeutic strategy in cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma.
- Dr Helen Waller-Evans, Cardiff University, Developing an NPC1 activity assay using the novel fluorescent substrate AQ2 for use in basic research and drug discovery.
- Dr Qian Wu, University of Leeds, Defining the structural mechanism of the cellular response to DNA interstrand crosslink lesions.

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# KNOW YOUR CALL

These awards provide up to £100,000 over two years and a personalised package of career support to help **newly independent biomedical scientists** to **launch their research careers**.

## The current members of the selection panel are:

Professor Frances Platt FMedSci (Chair), University of Oxford

Professor David Delpy CBE FRS FREng FMedSci, University College London

Professor Paul Martin FMedSci, University of Bristol

Professor Rick Maizels FRSE FMedSci, University of Glasgow

Professor Rhian Touyz FMedSci, University of Glasgow

Professor Daniel Rueckert FREng FMedSci, Imperial College London

Professor K K Cheng FMedSci, University of Birmingham

Professor Sylvia Richardson FMedSci, University of Cambridge

Professor Julian Peto FRS FMedSci, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Dr Rina Dutta, King's College London

Professor Clare Lloyd FMedSci, Imperial College London

Professor Angus Lamond FRS FRSE FMedSci, University of Dundee

Professor Zafar Bashir, University of Bristol

Professor Margaret Frame OBE FRSE FMedSci, University of Edinburgh

Professor Wenying Shou, University College London

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# TIPS FORM THE PANELS

## APPLICANT

**Track record** (CV-experience, **fellowships**) and evidence of **senior-authored high quality original papers**.

Ideal applicant is on the upward curve, **good signs of the research taking off** (**perhaps some small grants, first papers published...**) but not already at the top of the curve.

Ensure that your **career history is clearly described**, allowing referees to paint a clear picture of your path and **what kind of scientist you are**. If there are unusual career moves or periods which could be viewed as stagnations or even regressions, a clear explanation would be useful.

A **reflective description of up to three publications**, explaining clearly why they are the most significant and relevant to the application and, most importantly, what the applicant's own unique role/contribution was in each. The description should also cover the methodological rigour and challenge as well as the scientific significance/impact of the project.

The **career plans should convey a clear motivation for why the applicant thinks they are ready for a Springboard award at this time**. This is a chance to show they have properly considered the eligibility criteria and who this level of award is aimed at.

I like to see something which indicates **a wider interest either outside their field, the broader applications of their research** or just something outside their research career.

Springboard is not so suited for those who have already “sprung” - even if the maximum grant income is below the limit, **if the applicant appears to have “arrived” they are less favoured**.

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# TIPS FORM THE PANELS

## RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Evidence that the **project is not a continuation of previous supervisor's work**, but something new that the applicant has developed.

The research project needs to be innovative and exciting. Make sure you can **explain the innovation and significance in ways that are easily understood**.

A **succinct scientific summary**, that brings together the key points and is well-written.

A **well-drafted lay summary** that has clearly been read over by non-specialists and is at a level that non-scientists can understand. It should cover both **what is going to be done and why it is important**.

If it is a re-submission, showing how the applicant has taken on board the external peer reviewer and panel's feedback point-by-point is really helpful to us in our Panel discussions.

**Identify the risks/potential problems in the project** and show thought about how these will be mitigated or how the programme of work will be adapted to handle this.

**To set an application apart I look for it to pass the "so what" test.** i.e., having read the application I can feel interested in knowing the outcome of the research rather than thinking "OK – but so what?" \_

The project must be of the right scale for the resources requested. Don't be over ambitious.

**Demonstrate what the proposed Springboard funding would enable and why it can't be done with any existing funding or other grants you have applied for.**

The budget is flexible and should be as self-contained as possible, i.e. not dependent on major finance from other sources.

**If collaborations are not really meaningful to the project don't include them.**

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# TIPS FORM THE PANELS

## RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT AND SUPPORT

Explain **why your host institution is a good place for the type of project you have proposed, and for the career you wish to develop.**

Evidence of **real commitment by the host institution** (not simply a generic letter of support). The institution needs to invest (mentoring, resources, personnel, space etc.) in ensuring successful career progression.

A key point is the **research time made available to the applicant.** The host needs to show that they are making a significant allowance for this.

Institutional **letters of support should state why this applicant** (and proposal) **is important to their department**, how they currently support the applicant and any specifics.

If you are proposing an overseas attachment, make sure you explain clearly why you need to go there and clearly define objectives. It is not enough to say that the place you wish to go to is a top international centre.

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