

Jo Smith PhD

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CAREER PROFILE

PhD qualified researcher in the Genetics of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases currently seeking Medical Science Liaison role. Demonstrable experience in communicating and adapting complex ideas for diverse audiences including key opinion leaders (KOL's), Healthcare providers (HCP's) and the general public through conferences and public engagement events. Self-taught data analyst and computer programmer, with specific expertise in the statistical programming language R. Proven ability to mine and present data in innovative and concise formats as evidenced by PhD thesis and publication (in progress).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Edinburgh

2011 -2016

PhD Human Genetics - Investigating the role of the gene, TLE1, in Crohn's disease

Key points:

- Competition funded Medical Research Council (MRC) scholarship
- In depth understanding of Gastroenterology, Auto-immune Diseases and relevant therapeutics.
- Translational project, developed relationships with HCP's, KOL's, administrative staff and academics leading to further grant funding, access to biological samples and expertise.
- Well versed in bringing stakeholders together and knowledge of how to achieve the best out of multidisciplinary teams of academics, technical staff and HCP's.
- Proficiency in the statistical programming language, R. Ability to analyse and interpret data from high throughput, next generation sequencing, gene expression and gene methylation arrays.
- Scientific paper in preparation "*TLE1 regulates expression of TUSC3, CCND1, RIOK1 and SGPL1*".
- Oral and Poster presentations at Edinburgh Institute for Genetics and Molecular Medicine Conference 2014 and IBD meetings with KOL's and project stakeholders, audiences of up to 300 people including seven KOL's.

Imperial College London

2010-2011

MSc Human Molecular Genetics MERIT

- Self-organised six month research project at the Francis Crick Institute, London.
- Use of cutting edge techniques to analyse the properties of cancer stem cells in glioblastomas.

University of Leicester

2007-2010

BSc Biological Sciences 2.1

- Three month research project based on the development and implementation of a novel assay to analyse geotaxis behaviour in fruit flies.
- Developed an in depth knowledge of the statistical programme, SPSS.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Edinburgh

Science Communicator

Sep 2012-Present

Organising and presenting at a variety of science communication events including conferences and science festivals. Presenting to audiences of over 300 people. Events included Edinburgh International Science Festival and the Cancer Research UK Science Ceilidh.

Laboratory based teaching

Sep 2011-2015

Supervision and teaching of undergraduate students in the laboratory.

Medical Biology Tutor

Dec 2013-May 2014

Teaching of Biology related current affairs topics, preparation and marking of guided discussions and presentations to three groups of 30 students.

In addition to these roles, I have undertaken numerous, temporary office based roles in customer services/information departments during university holiday periods.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS/ACTIVITIES

IT Skills

Excellent Excel and statistical knowledge
Knowledge of HTML programming and website design.

Language Skills

French and Spanish (Good conversational)

References available upon request