



Biotechnology and  
Biological Sciences  
Research Council



Engineering and  
Physical Sciences  
Research Council

## EBNet Newsletter - February 2020



### Thank you to all participants at the EBNet Research Colloquium

Our thanks go to all the Speakers and attendees who made the journey to Edinburgh for the inaugural EBNet Research Colloquium. We aimed to examine EB from multiple viewpoints and disciplines. Most presentations will become available online shortly and hopefully we sparked some fruitful discussion in advance of our BIV/POC funding Calls. Having provided a platform for everyone to share their sense of what priorities and activities their Network should promote we are still open to your insights. Thought of something on the way home? - let us know [here](#).

*(Details of all six BBSRC NIBBs can be found [here](#))*

## News

### COMING SOON

#### Proof of Concept Launch - 1st Open POC Call – to £100K.

Call Opens: 2 March 2020

Deadline: 24 April 2020

EBNet POCs are a BBSRC/EPSCRC-funded initiative aimed at supporting innovation and research.

Awards can range from up to £50K for single discipline, to £100K for cross discipline (multi-institution) and £25K for desk-based studies. These are intended to enable accelerated innovation and progression through the Technology Readiness Levels (range 1-4). Awards are paid at 80% FEC and the applicant must be BBSRC eligible. More [here](#).

#### EBNet Early Career Researcher (ECR) Conference

25/26 June 2020, University of Manchester

This entirely free 2-day event connects ECR members (PhD students/Young Professionals through to new Lecturers) to share research and experiences across the range of EB activity nationwide. Pre-approved bursaries are available for Travel/Accommodation and a free Networking dinner is included. To join us for this relaxed and friendly event, [Register](#) and send an [abstract](#). Attendees must contribute with a poster or presentation.

### CLOSING SOON

#### Business Interaction Voucher - 1st BIV Call - to £20K.

Deadline: 28 February 2020

EBNet BIVs are a BBSRC/EPSCRC-funded initiative aimed at connecting industry and academic partners. Need guidance? contact us in advance with any queries. More [here](#).

#### Next Quarterly Placement Call

Deadline: 18 May 2020

Awards have a value of up to £1,500 for UK-based placements and £3,000 for overseas placements. More [here](#).

Save the date: 2-3 July 2020 (tbc)

An EBNet workshop "**Designing a standardised microbial bio-electrochemical system**" is being planned. The event will feature a mix of technical talks and collaborative design sessions, with the aim of collecting ideas for a device that will be widely used by the research community, enabling easier comparison of results and greater participation in the field. Details for how to register are coming soon. [Contact us](#) if interested.

#### Survey

A NERC-BBSRC funded research project is being carried out by [STARS](#) researchers at Cranfield, Lancaster, and Nottingham Universities to identify the extent to which *soil science* currently contributes towards several industries, including *waste & water management*. Can you help align research priorities with industry needs by taking their [survey](#)?

*(Get in touch if you would like to host an event. We are always looking to support enthusiastic members to disseminate and explore topics of wider interest.)*

## Research Colloquium News

Thank you to our UK and International Speakers for contributing to top level talks on topics ranging across academia: engineering, biology, sociology, finance/LCA and industry. Our flash presenters also helped to showcase the breadth of topics covered - but all circling back to the harnessing of engineered microbial systems. We only wish that the packed programme offered more time for mutual discussion. Do contact us if you wish to be networked.



The winner of the ECR Poster competition was awarded a grand prize (an EBNet book token!) by Network Co-PI A/Prof. Tony Gutierrez, Heriot-Watt University. Congratulations **Mr Yumechris Amekan, University of York** with "BONCAT-RACS A technique to visualize and sort active microbes in anaerobic digestion"



## Forthcoming Events

*Find selected upcoming events below or look further ahead with our [online Google calendar](#).*

*What have we missed? Whether local or international, niche, general interest or 3rd party - provided the topic is EB, we can share with the wider membership.*

### [Specialist in Land Condition \(SiLC\) Annual Forum 2020](#)

6 March 2020, The Royal Geographical Society, Burlington House, London

### [AgroRES Interreg Europe Seminar: renewable technologies for farms](#)

9 March 2020, Higher Fingle Farm, Exeter

### [GCRF Demonstrate Impact Competition Briefing Round 2: How to Increase Impact Through Innovation in Developing Countries](#)

12 March 2020, Edinburgh

### [Early Career Women in Water 2020 Conference](#)

17 Mar 2020, Cranfield University

Poster and Presentation prizes sponsored by EBNet

### [CIWEM: Central Southern Innovations evening seminar](#)

19 March 2020, Boldrewood Campus, University of Southampton

Session one sponsored by EBNet - free event. From 6pm.

### [UKWIR Annual Conference: Transforming the Water Sector through collaborative research and innovation](#)

19 March 2020, Hilton London Tower Bridge

### [KTN: Inspiring Investment](#)

7 April; 7 July; 13 October 2020, London

[KTN: Second Clean & Sustainable Growth Study Group with Industry.](#)

20-22 April, University of Nottingham

[The Royal Society: Microbial ecology for engineering biology](#)

20/21 April 2020

Kavli Royal Society Centre, Chicheley Hall, Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire

[Bioelectrical Engineering Conference \(BEE 2020\) Workshop](#) -'Academic and Industrial Opportunities in BEE'

27-28 April 2020, Radcliffe Conference Centre, University of Warwick

[Delivering on net zero carbon in wastewater management. Progress and prospects](#)

15 July 2020, The Hilton Birmingham Metropole, NEC, UK

[FERIA Conference, the European Conference on Fuel and Energy Research and Its Applications](#)

14/16 September 2020, University of Nottingham

[BBNet International Conference "Biomanufacturing on the road to a net zero carbon economy"](#)

23-25 September 2020, Shrigley Hall, Cheshire

For more, go to: [Events Roundup](#)

## Funding

*Funding opportunities for academia and industry are highlighted below.*

*Want a partner? Contact us with your details and we can connect you with members with similar interests or put a request out through the network*



[Privilege Finance Dissertation Sponsorship](#)

Deadline: 28 February 2020

Suitable for U-Graduate and MSc students, this has a max. award of £1000

[NBIC 3rd POC Call](#)

Deadline: 6 March 2020

[JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship](#)

Deadline: 12 March 2020

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) is the leading research funding agency in Japan.

[BBNet: 2nd BIV Call](#)

Deadline: 13 March 2020

[WRAP: Value from food waste small scale grant](#)

Deadline: 26 March 2020

[HVB: Enterprise Fellowships](#)

Deadline: 15 April 2020

[UKRI-BBSRC Collaborative Training Partnerships](#)

Deadline: 5 May 2020

It is anticipated that up to 10 CTPs will be awarded with total funding of £22.5M available.

[HVB: Business Interaction Vouchers \(BIV\)](#)

Deadline: 12 May 2020

For more, go to: [Funding Roundup](#).



## Training, PhD Studentships & Jobs

Did you know we have funds available to help members access placements in industry or academia. Could you host one to share what you know? Contact us now.

### [AquaEnviro Training courses](#)

Digester operation and making the most of biosolids: SEWAGE SLUDGE - 7 May 2020, Leeds  
Introduction to Wastewater, Treatment & Handling Sludges – 20/21 May 2020, Leeds  
Operating & Optimising Activated Sludge Plants: Compliance at least cost – 2/3 June 2020, Leeds  
Digester operation and making the most of the digestate: WASTES - 9 June 2020, Leeds  
Chemical & Biological Phosphorus Removal - 10 June 2020, Leeds  
Microscopic Analysis of Activated Sludge - 16 June 2020, Aqua Enviro Training Suite, Wakefield

### [CIWEM Training modules](#)

Various

### [IChemE: Chemical Engineering for Scientists](#)

24 March 2020, Rugby; 13 October 2020, London; 10 November 2020, Rugby

### [ADBA: Plant Optimisation Training](#)

26 March 2020, North Lincolnshire

### [ADBA: Health and Safety Awareness in AD](#)

31 March 2020, Wiltshire

### [IChemE: Chemical Engineering for Other Engineers](#)

19 May 2020, Rugby

### [PhDs](#)

#### **Chemical and Biological Recycling of Plastics**

University of Nottingham. Deadline: 27 February 2020

#### **Microbial bioprocessing and functional magnetic nanomaterials**

Aston University. Deadline: 29 February 2020

#### **Flow dynamics of industrially relevant two-phase particle-liquid suspensions**

University of Birmingham. Deadline: 30 April 2020

#### **Making impact assessment relevant for the 21st century**

University of East Anglia. Deadline: 31 May 2020

## Publications

### [Microbial Community Predicts Functional Stability of Microbial Fuel Cells](#)

Keaton Larson Lesnik, Wenfang Cai & Hong Liu  
Environmental Science & Technology; 7 Jan 2020

### [Addressing environmental sustainability of biochemicals](#)

Ólafur Ögmundarson, Markus J. Herrgård, Jochen Forster, Michael Z. Hauschild & Peter Fantke  
Nature Sustainability, Jan 13 2020

### [An innovative biotechnology for metal recovery from printed circuit boards](#)

Alessandro Becci, Alessia Amato, Viviana Fonti, Dafina Karaj & Francesca Beolchini  
Resources, Conservation and Recycling, Volume 153, February 2020

### [Resource recovery from waste streams in a water-energy-food nexus perspective: Toward more sustainable food processing](#)

Isuru A. Udugama, Leander A. H. Petersen, Francesco C. Falco, Helena Junicke, Aleksandar Mitic, Xavier Flores Alsina, Seyed Soheil Mansouri & Krist V. Gernaey,  
Food and Bioproducts Processing; Jan 2020, 119 p133-p147

Still here?

**Green Stories Writing Competitions**

Deadlines: 21 March 2020 and various others

Could you write 500 words in a short story competition? Or a children's book or even a novel? This competition aims to use stories to promote sustainability. Prizes vary by category.

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