



Biotechnology and
Biological Sciences
Research Council



Engineering and
Physical Sciences
Research Council



[UN World Water Day](#) – 22 March 2020

(Image courtesy of Pexels.com)

EBNet Newsletter - March 2020

News

POSTPONED EBNet-sponsored events

19 March 2020 - CIWEM Event, University of Southampton

17 March 2020 - Early Career Women in Water 2020 Conference

Due to COVID-19 these events have been postponed - rescheduled dates currently tbc.

We constantly review our own events and plans may change to reflect the circumstances.

IMPORTANT: ECRs who have already registered for ECR2020 are currently advised to hold off booking nonrefundable travel/accommodation - alas, we can only reimburse if the travel takes place.

NOW OPEN

Open Proof of Concept Call – up to £100K

Deadline: 24 April 2020

EBNet POCs are a BBSRC/EPSRC-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 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. Register for this popular event [now](#) and send us your [Abstract](#) by 17 May.

CLOSING SOON

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 coming soon.

(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.)

Spotlight On...

Innovation and TRL levels

There are now more avenues than ever to promote lasting impact from your research. Progression through the "Technology Readiness Levels" is one of the key parameters for our current POC Call.

An academic working with Industry in a consortium or partnership will already have a sound grasp of basic IP issues (a.k.a. post-grads & proprietary tech in the age of Instagram - anecdotes anyone?) - or dealing with contractual IP agreements before a project can even start. Universities generally have internal sources of help.

But what if you think your research has genuine commercial potential? Budding entrepreneurs should check out [ICURe](#) for extensive personal support developing a business from your early research. UKRI has pipelines in place at all levels to support innovation like the [Enterprise Fellowship](#) or [Follow-on Funding](#).

Want to see what challenges Industry deem important? Take a look at the [KTN-innovation eXchange](#) - a cross sector program supporting innovation transfer by matching industry challenges to innovative solutions from other sectors for faster development. Current challenges include finding alternative routes for producing "difficult" chemicals.

There are also [Connecting Capability](#) Centres cover much of the UK including [Thyme](#), [Clean Growth UK](#) and [SETsquared](#) amongst others.

EBNet are keen to support innovation - email us to share any info you think we should promote.



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.

[KTN: Addressing the Challenges of Microfibres](#)

16 April 2020, National Oceanography Centre

[Institute of Water: Environment Conference 2020: Climate Change and Water](#)

22 April 2020, Bristol

[Brownfield Summit 2020](#)

12 May 2020, London

[All-Energy Conference](#)

13/14 May 2020, Glasgow

[5th International Conference on Contaminated Land, Ecological Assessment and Remediation](#)

13-15 May 2020, Middlesex University

[CIWM: Resourcing the Future Conference](#)

9-10 June 2020, London

[IWA: 5th International Conference on Ecotechnologies for Wastewater Treatment](#)

22-26 June 2020, Milano, Italy

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



[E3B: Business Interaction Voucher](#)

Deadline: 7 April 2020

[Microbiology Society: Research Visit Grant](#)

Deadline: 8 April 2020

[BIFFA: Built Environment and Natural Environment Partnership Grants Schemes 2020](#)

Deadline: 17 April 2020

Awards between £250,000 and £750,000 for large-scale projects of regional or national significance.

[Innovate UK: Smart Grants](#)

Deadline: 22 April 2020

[The Royal Society: Industry Fellowships](#)

Deadline: 28 April 2020

[CCNet: Summer Studentships 2020](#)

Deadline: 30 April 2020

To fund undergraduate students who wish to gain experience in the field of C1 gas fermentation - up to £2500 for up to 10 weeks.

[E3B: Proof of Concept Award](#)

Deadline: 29 May 2020

[NERC: Pushing the Frontiers Call](#)

Deadline: 7 July 2020; Briefing Webinar: 6 April 2020

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



Awards, PhDs & 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.

Awards

[9th UK wide Doctoral Researchers Awards \(DRA\) competition](#)

Deadline: 31 March 2020

Open to all PhD students and recent postdocs. Awards – various. Relevant to: Natural & Life Sciences; Management & Social Sciences; Engineering Sciences

[IChemE Global Awards](#)

Deadline: 26 June 2020

[PhD Studentships](#)

Modelling and optimising the microbial biorefinery process to enhance waste transformation for the promotion of a circular bioeconomy

Queen's University Belfast. Deadline: 31 March 2020

The application of positron emission particle tracking to the study of flow and mixing of solid-liquid systems in industrial stirred vessels

University of Birmingham. Deadline: 30 April 2020

Soil microbial communities and biodegradable plastic

Edinburgh Napier University. Deadline: 31 May 2020

Publications

[Prevention of biofilm formation by quorum quenching](#)

E. Paluch, J. Rewak-Soroczyńska, E. Jędrusik, E. Mazurkiewicz, K. Jermakow
Applied Microbiology & Biotechnology, March 2020, Vol. 104, Issue 5

[Real-time dissolved carbon dioxide monitoring II: Surface aeration intensification for efficient CO2 removal in shake flasks and mini-bioreactors leads to superior growth and recombinant protein yields](#)

V.R Chopda; T. Holzberg; X. D. Ge; B. Folio; L. Wong; M. Tolosa; Y. Kostov; L. Tolosa; G. Rao
Biotechnology and Bioengineering; Jan 9, 2020

[Oil spill modeling: Mapping the knowledge domain](#)

Jake R. Nelson, Tony H. Grubestic
Progress in Physical Geography, Feb2020, Vol. 44 Issue 1

[Remediation of cadmium and lead polluted soil using thiol-modified biochar](#)

Jiajun Fan, Chao Cai, Haifeng Chi, Brian J.Reid, Frédéric Coulon, Youchi Zhang & Yanwei Hou
Journal of Hazardous Materials, Volume 388, 15 April 2020

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