Career Paths in Cardiovascular and Metabolism – making the connections

COMMERCIALISATION AND GENERAL CAREERS

Alison Schuldt
Milner Therapeutics Institute
Bringing Discoveries to Life
• Lives can be transformed when the strength of academia and business combine. As a biomedical research institute, we act as catalyst and driver, forming dynamic partnerships to unlock the power of emerging discoveries. We galvanise science into life changing treatments.

Kathryn Chapman
Deputy Director

Tony Kouzarides
Director
We unlock emerging discoveries to have clinical benefit in two ways

Research Scientists & clinicians

Entrepreneurs

Investors

Pharma Biotech

Joint research

Start-ups

Life Changing Therapies

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

MILNER THERAPEUTICS INSTITUTE
A University research Institute with a unique mix of components

- Academic research groups
- Own experimental research capabilities
- Internationally recognized Artificial Intelligence group
- Pharma Consortium
- Joint projects with multiple pharma companies
- Biotech accelerator and incubator
- Critical mass of expertise in functional genomics
Milner Therapeutics Consortium

• Our consortium agreement is signed by 11 pharma companies and 3 academic institutions

• Allows for fast material transfer

• Funds are set aside by pharma for joint research projects in Cambridge

• Pre-clinical, target discovery and

• disease models
Innovation Board

- Two Board members per company
- Key point of contact into research teams
- Meets together four times/year
- Focus on priority areas for external pre-clinical collaboration
Examples of collaborative projects

- 28 projects so far in oncology, infectious disease, neuroscience, chemistry, disease models
- Pre-clinical research – disease understanding, target identification
Pre-competitive research project: case study

- Autophagy in neurodegeneration project (initiated Jan 2021 for two years).
- Multiple companies (Astex, Lilly, Eisai)
- Multiple academics (Nick Ktistakis (Babraham Institute), John Skidmore and James Duce (ARUK ALBORA Drug Discovery Institute), Alex Whitworth (MRC Mitochondrial Biology Unit)
- Complementary models and assays to assess autophagy targets
Ways of working together to create effective partnerships

MILNER THERAPEUTICS CONSORTIUM CALL 2022

Seeking proposals for academic-industry research collaborations that can transform pioneering science into therapies.
Therapeutic start-ups within our Institute

Biotech Accelerator
- Laboratory space for companies
- Mentoring
- Seed funding / equity share

Affiliated Investors:
- Genentech
- Cambridge Innovation Capital

Biotech Incubator
- Laboratory space
- Pharma connections
- Mentor and clinician network
- R&D knowhow and expertise

Affiliated Investors:
- TAIHO Ventures, LLC
- Cambridge Innovation Capital

Jason Mellad
CEO
How you can engage with us

Joint research

- Therapeutics Consortium
- Research Institute

Start-ups

- Bio-Accelerator
- Bio-Incubator

Life Changing Therapies

Astellas

Life Changing Therapies

Startcodon

Frame shift
We are a catalyst for networking between academia and business

• Milner Therapeutics Symposium: JUNE 28th
• Talks, networking, workshops, start-up pitches
• Largest annual life science symposium in Cambridge
• 400 in person participants and similar online
• Only open to affiliated businesses and free to academics
Working in the Milner team!

- Facilitating international academic-industry partnerships
- Creating collaborations around excellent science
- Communicating science to diverse audiences
- Driving events that foster collaboration
- Attracting funding to create assets (e.g. functional genomics)

- Leading research teams and project management
- Supporting start-ups
- Contract agreements and funding applications
- Business strategy and budget planning
- Connecting into national initiatives to create a global UK
How did our team get here?

Kathryn Chapman, Deputy Director
PhD UK, Postdocs in US and UK
Industry research (GSK)
Funding (UK Gov strategy)

Rebecca Harris, Head of Target Discovery
PhD UK, Postdocs in US and UK
Industry (Ferring and Horizon)
Project Manager (Sanger & Uni)

Alison Schuldt, Head of Partnerships and Alliance
PhD/postdoc in UK
Science publishing (Nature journals)
Research strategy & Comms (Cambridge)

Nicola McCarthy, Consortium manager
PhD & Postdocs in UK
Science publishing (Nature journals)
Industry (Horizon)