

# **PoLNET postdoctoral research associate call Webinar, 12pm 22 June 2023**

*Mark Leake, University of York, PoLNET Chair*

*Starting soon...*

1. What is PoLNET?

2. The PoLNET PDRA call

3. Q&A

# 1. What is PoLNET?

HOME ABOUT POLNET3 PHYSICS OF MEDICINE POLNET 2 POLNET 1 USEFUL LINKS CONTACT US

## Physics of Life: Welcome

Welcome to the Physics of Life network. We are a community driven network consisting of scientists from the physical and biological sciences. The Physics of Life network first began its journey in 2012 (PoLNET1: 2012-2016). It then moved to a second phase (PoLNET2: 2017-2020) and is now in its third phase (PoLNET3: 2020-2023). The third phase of the network has also broadened its ambitions to specifically encourage engagement from clinical and medical communities through the formation of a new, separate arm to the network 'Physics of Medicine, 2020-2023'.

## Our aims

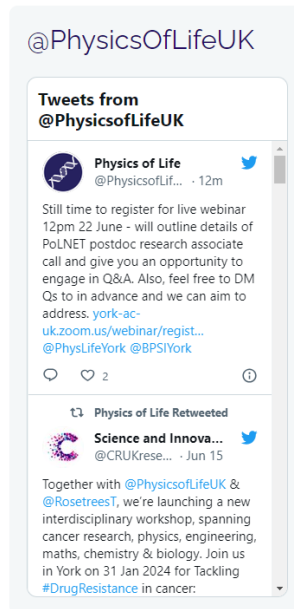
The goal of our network is to bring researchers from the biological and physical sciences together to tackle the challenge of integrating understanding from single molecule to systems biology.

## Our Funders

PoLNET 1 and 2 were supported by EPSRC and BBSRC.

PoLNET3 is funded by the UKRI Physics of Life Strategic Priority Fund, led by EPSRC, BBSRC and MRC (standard grant EP/T022000/1).

'Physics of Medicine: building a network at the interface between medicine and the physical sciences' (grant PGS19-2/10092) is supported by the welcome addition of the Rosetrees Trust.



- Community-driven UKRI-funded network of physical and life scientists
- Goal is to bring together researchers across the physical-life sciences interface
- Core aim is to integrate understanding across multiple scales

# Delivering PoLNET aims

## Steering group

**Mark Leake** Professor of Biological Physics, University of York  
**Martin Cann** Professor of Biosciences, Durham University  
**Stephen Smye** Professor of Medicine and Health, University of Leeds  
**Karis Baker** Physics of Life Network manager

**Olwyn Byron** Professor of Biophysics, University of Glasgow  
**Pietro Cicuta** Professor in Department of Physics, University of Cambridge  
**Susan Cox** Fellow in the Randall Division of Cell & Molecular Biophysics at KCL  
**Carina Dunlop** Senior Lecturer of in Mathematics, University of Southampton  
**Simon Hanna** Reader in Experimental Physics, University of Bristol  
**Martin Howard** Professor of Computational and Systems Biology, John Innes Centre  
**Jamie Hobbs** Professor of Physics, University of Sheffield  
**Graham Leggett** Professor of Chemistry, University of Sheffield  
**Gareth Davies** Procter & Gamble  
**Andrew Turberfield** Professor of Physics, University of Oxford  
**Peter Weightman** Professor of Physics, University of Liverpool  
**Rivka Isaacson** Reader in Chemical Biology, KCL

## Management team



**Karis Baker**  
Network  
Administrator



**Stephen Smye**  
Physics of  
Medicine Chair &  
Co-Chair PoLNET



**Martin Cann**  
Co-Chair PoLNET



**Mark Leake**  
Chair PoLNET

# PoLNET activities

NOTICE- Novel Optical Technology in Cardiac Electrophysiology

20-21 April 2023, Glasgow

Caroline Muellenbroich, 03/05/2023

## Overview

NOTICE- the conference on Novel Optical Technologies in Cardiac Electrophysiology was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2023 in Glasgow. NOTICE aims to bring together interdisciplinary community of practice dedicated to using light to investigate the heart. NOTICE was created and first hosted by the University of Florence, Italy in 2018. NOTICE Glasgow in 2023, the second instalment after the inaugural meeting, featured 4 plenary sessions with over 50 researchers from 27 institutions in 8 countries who came together for 2 days to share their science of applying optical imaging, microscopy and manipulation technology to understand cardiac structure and function.

The four scientific plenary sessions covered 13 invited talks on clinical perspectives, novel optical instrumentation, cardiac optogenetics and correlative imaging and 4 panel discussions. Other great work was presented in lab tours of local early career researchers, flash presentations and a poster session with more than 25 contributions resulting in 5 best poster prizes for early career researchers.

The local organisation committee, led by me, comprised PhD students and PDRAs from both the School of Physics and Astronomy and from our partner organisation in the college for life sciences- the Institute for Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences. Together, we welcomed our attendees to an unusually sunny Glasgow and the Advanced Research Centre as conference venue.



## Physics of Life Summer School 2022:

Interdisciplinary Challenges: from Non-equilibrium Physics to Life Sciences

25- 29 April, 2022

The Higgs Centre for Theoretical Physics, School of Physics and Astronomy, King's Building Campus, University of Edinburgh

**Organised by:**  
Davide Michieletto (University of Edinburgh)  
Elisabeth Agoritsas (EPFL, Lausanne)  
Gianmaria Falasco (University of Luxembourg)  
Helena Massana-Cid (University of Rome)  
Mattia Marendi (University of Edinburgh)  
Antonio Ortiz-Ambriz (University of Barcelona)  
Valentina Ros (LPTMS Paris-Saclay)

Physics of Life Summer School  
Interdisciplinary Challenges:  
from Non-Equilibrium Physics to Life Sciences  
a workshop made by early career researchers for early career researchers

Higgs Centre for Theoretical Physics  
Edinburgh, 25 to 29 April 2022

Theory of Machine Learning  
Active Matter  
Biophysics and Polymers  
Glasses and disordered systems  
Non-Equilibrium Statistical Mechanics

Sponsored by:



UNDERSTANDING THE  
**Physics of Life**

**From Molecules to Systems:**  
*Towards an Integrated Heuristic for Understanding the Physics of Life*

27-30 March 2023  
Harrogate Convention Centre

**Organising committee:**  
Martin Howard (John Innes Centre, Chair)  
Karis Baker (University of Durham)  
James Briscoe (The Crick Institute)  
Olwyn Byron (University of Glasgow)  
Kevin Chalut (University of Cambridge)  
Pietro Cicuta (University of Cambridge)  
Mark Leake (University of York)  
Laura Machesky (The Beatson Institute for Cancer Research & University of Glasgow)  
Ewa Paluch (University of Cambridge)  
Andrew Turberfield (University of Oxford)  
Mark Wallace (King's College London)




## Conference overview

This new large-scale conference "Physics of Life 2023" represents the wide diversity of the UK biological physics community. Organised jointly by PoLNet3, IOP Biological Physics, the British Biophysical Society, Physics of Living Matter and Physics meets Biology, this in-person meeting will project the excitement of science at the interface between physics and biology. In addition to keynote lectures, the conference will feature parallel sessions on a full breadth of topics, with many contributed talks, thereby ensuring a wide focus and inclusion of the most exciting science.

## Physics of Life ECR Grant Writing and Career Development Bootcamp

28-29 June 2022  
Room G001, Human Biology Building, NUI Galway  
This is a satellite to the BBS biennial meeting 2022.

**Organising committee:**  
Mark Leake (University of York)  
Nirvana Caballero (University of Geneva)  
Peter Crowley (NUI Galway)  
Michelle Peckham (University of Leeds)  
Mark Wallace (KCL)



## Workshop overview

This workshop will focus on developing skills for ECRs in the area of the Physics of Life to write grants and develop their careers further. In December 2021 the Biological Physics Group of the IOP hosted an ECR conference that captured a focused discussion panel at the end of the event. The overwhelming feedback from the participants was for the need for a bootcamp that would offer both grant writing and career development skills that are focused on the specifics of the Physics of Life remit. Although several UK institutions offer a range of grant/fellowship courses there is not currently a single UK workshop that specifically focuses on this area within the Physics of Life.

- Supporting conferences/workshops, sandpits, pump-priming...
- Helping to develop strategic visions for UK
- Supporting the next generation of PoL researchers...

## A Roadmap for Understanding the Physics of Life

There is currently a schism in biology between, on the one hand, reductionist approaches that begin at the single molecule level and attempt to integrate molecules into larger systems of interacting molecules; and on the other, systems biology approaches that typically neglect molecular-scale phenomena and attempt to model the behaviour of whole biological systems. To understand Life we must resolve this fundamental problem. From the reductionist perspective, which typifies much of biochemistry, the challenge is that many biological phenomena seem too complex for there to be a realistic chance of achieving complete understanding that yields predictive power; for systems biologists there is a different challenge: many phenomena that affect entire systems (whether organisms, or ecosystems) have their origin in molecular-scale phenomena, and a complete description of biology must account for this.

Physicists have much experience of tackling cross-length-scale problems, including the grand challenge to build a unified theory of physics, integrating quantum mechanics with general relativity, or in statistical mechanics, description of the behaviour of ensembles of molecules using molecular-scale properties. The experience that physicists have of addressing difficult cross-length-scale challenges has provided them with unique insights that may be pivotal in solving the fundamental challenge of modern biology: how do we integrate molecular-scale and systems-level descriptions of biological phenomena?

This hypothesis was the starting point for our Network. Our activities during the past three years have enabled us to compile a picture of some of the important challenges that physicists and biologists, working in partnership, must solve in order to understand the physics of life.

### 1. Collaboration: Underpinning Everything

For progress to be made in addressing the grand challenge of understanding the physics of life, it is vital that physicists and biologists work together in partnership. Progress will not be made by physicists simply serving as tool-makers for biologists, or by physicists taking biological themes as a justification for work on their pet problem. Real progress in understanding the physics of life will result from a problem-focused partnership between biologists and physicists. Equally critical to the success of this shared venture are (i) respect by physicists for the complexity of biological problems; (ii) the recognition by biologists that physicists can bring uniquely valuable insights; and (iii) the recognition by physical scientists that great physics may start with a biological hypothesis.

### (i) The Unique Insights of Physics

As noted above, statistical mechanics and the search for a grand unified theory of physics have provided physicists with an abundance of experience of the challenges associated with understanding cross-length-scale problems. These challenges are theoretical; the importance of theory, and the quality of much work already being done on the theory of biological problems, has been a key theme to emerge from our network. Theory is relevant to fundamental questions (for example, on the nature of evolution, or the flow of information in biological systems) and to problems closely related to the end-user challenges that we address in section 4 (for example,

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

## Introduction

PoLNet will be delivering a call aimed at Post-doctoral Research Associates (or those on an equivalent position) working on research aimed towards improving our understanding of living systems, through combining novel interdisciplinary perspectives and expertise from physics and the life sciences (biological, biomedical or both). This call is funded by UKRI's Physics of Life Strategic Priority Fund and Wellcome.

Apply for funding to run feasibility experiments, develop theory, learn about another discipline and/or develop a new collaboration, to help you to play a more leading role in shaping research and progress your career.

Access mentoring will be offered to all those considering submitting an application, please indicate your intention to apply by submitting an Expression of Interest.

Up to £25,000 (80% full economic cost) is available per award for projects of up to 6 months. Funds are available at 80% of full economic cost for all costs.

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

## Who can apply

- You can apply if you have a PhD or have worked in a relevant field for at least four years by the start date of your award.
- You must have a current post-doctoral research associate (PDRA) or equivalent position on a UKRI or other funded grant held at a UK institution.
- You must not currently hold or have previously held a significant grant (usually defined as those which included PDRA time, capital equipment or were in excess of £100,000 (FEC)).
- You must be hosted and supported by an eligible UK research organisation (host). Read the [guidance on institutional eligibility](#).
- There are no restrictions on nationality
- We encourage applications from across the UK in particular those who come from under-represented groups within STEM subjects and may have had a career break prior to their current PDRA position.
- Applicants may only submit one application.

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

## Requirements of Host Organisation

Applicants will need to demonstrate that they have:

- Support from your line manager at your current institution.
  - Confirmation from your line manager and, if different, the PIs of any grants you are working on, that this work can be accommodated alongside existing plans, for example by extending contracts.
  - Your line manager should be eligible to apply as a primary investigator on a UKRI grant.
- Support available for undertaking the proposed project
  - This should confirm arrangements within the host organisation(s) where the work is to be undertaken, such as supervision, an environment for you to continue your professional development, and training where relevant.
  - Confirmation from head of department or school of access to any facilities required for the proposal.

There are no limits on the number of applications that an academic or host department or school can support.



# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

## What we're looking for

- Awards should enable applicants to progress their careers and play a more leading role in shaping research. Applicants should describe how this award could help them develop their research and career.
- Work should be aimed towards improving our understanding of living systems, through combining novel perspectives and expertise from physics and the life sciences (biological, biomedical or both).
- Grants should last no more than **6** months, and a maximum contribution to each from this fund will be £25k.
- Funds can be used for applicants' salary, travel, subsistence, consumables, lab access, but not equipment.
- These awards are intended to enable applicants to run feasibility experiments or develop theory, learn about another discipline and/or develop a new collaboration, to help progress their careers.
- Applicants can apply for a grant to undertake independent research or to visit a lab to develop ideas for a new collaboration. The key for these visits is that they have the potential to catalyse new collaborations or research. Labs visited could be in the UK or overseas, they could be part of a research organisation or owned by a stakeholder (including relevant industrial and public sector collaborators).
- Work that is a continuation of existing research will need to demonstrate that it either testing a new approach or building a new collaboration.

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

- Work should be aimed towards improving our understanding of living systems, through combining novel perspectives and expertise from physics and the life sciences (biological, biomedical or both).
- Awards should enable applicants to progress their careers and play a more leading role in shaping research.

## Assessment Criteria

Proposals will be assessed against the following three criteria:

### 1. Vision (joint primary criteria):

Please describe what are you hoping to achieve with your proposed work.

Explain how your proposed research:

- is of excellent quality, high value and importance within or beyond the field/area.
- has the potential to advance our understanding of living systems or generate new knowledge, thinking or discovery within this field, through combining novel interdisciplinary perspectives and expertise from physics and the life sciences (biological, biomedical or both).
- is timely given current trends, context and needs.

### 2. Approach (joint primary criteria):

Explain how your plan to deliver the work you are seeking funding for:

- is effective, appropriate and transparent in its methodology and/or approach
- is feasible and identifies risks and how they will be managed
- if applicable, summarises the previous work and describes how this will be built upon and progressed

### 3. Career Development:

Please describe how this award will help you to gain more independence as a researcher and contribute to your professional development.

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

## What level of risk will the panel accept?

The scheme intends to have a high tolerance for risk – it will use bespoke assessment criteria designed to embed a positive review culture in supporting 'high-risk' ideas. The assessment will focus on the potential of the idea rather than a detailed assessment of preliminary data or track record. However, the panel will be looking for evidence that you have considered the broad feasibility of the project, any potential risks involved and the learning potential in the result of negative results.

## Is there a requirement of preliminary data?

There is no requirement for preliminary data. However, we will expect applicants to provide relevant background and reasoning for why their research idea might work as well as a risk assessment to demonstrate that the research is well thought out.

## Optional support with developing your application

Applicants are offered the option of access mentoring to support them in preparing applications to this call.

This mentoring will include a Webinar on how to approach writing a proposal and follow up information after the Webinar. It will also include at least one small group session with an established researcher in the physics of life field to discuss good practice in preparing an application. PoLNet, UKRI and Wellcome hope the mentoring scheme will give applicants greater insight into the grant application process and funding system and make the process of applying for an award more accessible.

## Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

We are committed to ensuring fairness is fully reflected in this funding process. As part of this we will work to uphold fairness in peer review as described at [Evolving and upholding fairness in peer review – UKRI](#).

All applicants will be offered the option of access mentoring with this call to support them in preparing their application.

If you have specific requirements and would like to discuss reasonable adjustments, please contact [k.h.baker@durham.ac.uk](mailto:k.h.baker@durham.ac.uk) at PoLNET to highlight personal circumstances as soon as possible. This information will be used for administrative purposes only: the details will not be sent to panel members.

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

## How applications will be assessed

### Eligibility Check

Initial remit checks will be made to verify that the proposal is in scope (defined in the 'Scope' section) and the eligibility of applicants (as outlined in the 'Who can apply'). They will also include checking that applicants have the required support from Host Organisations (as described in 'Requirements of Host Organisation' sections above).

PoLNet will office reject proposals for which any of the following apply:

- the proposal is out of scope.
- applicant is not eligible to apply.
- the required support from the Host Organisation has not been provided.
- more than £25k has been requested.
- a duration of longer than 6m has been requested.

### Assessment of Proposals

- Eligible applications will be considered by an expert panel. This will be a group of researchers representing the disciplines covered by physics of life research.
- The panel will be observed by representatives of all funders.
- No feedback will be given to applicants.

The process will comply with the [Principles of peer review assessment and decision making - UKRI](#)

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

## How to apply

### Expression of Interest Stage - Deadline 01 July 23

- Register an Expression of Interest [here](#) and indicate whether you would like to request access mentoring.
- UKRI and Wellcome would like to evaluate this scheme and the impact of access mentoring. Therefore, after funding decisions have been made, PoLNet will use applicants' contact details to invite all applicants to this scheme (at both EoI and full proposal stage) to complete a survey of participants' experiences of this scheme.

### Proposal Stage - Deadline 07 Nov 23

- 4 page application form outlining the proposed research from the applicant and addressing all three assessment criteria.
- A statement showing:
- Support from your line manager at your current institution.
  - Confirmation from your line manager and, if different, the PIs of any grants you are working on, that this work can be accommodated alongside existing plans, for example by extending contracts.
  - Your line manager should be eligible to apply as a primary investigator on a UKRI grant.
- Support available for undertaking the proposed project
  - This should confirm arrangements within the host organisation(s) where the work is to be undertaken, such as supervision, an environment for you to continue your professional development, and training where relevant.
  - Confirmation from head of department or school of access to any facilities required for the proposal.

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

## PoLNET Post-Doctoral Research Associate Pump-Priming Expression of Interest Form

These will be used by PoLNet to contact you to arrange a mentor (if you have requested one). They will also be used to invite you to complete an evaluation survey (to assess the impact of this scheme) for UKRI later in the year. We will use this to match you with an appropriate mentor (not at your host organisation and avoiding any conflicts of interest you have identified.)

We will also use this to inform expertise requirements of expert panel.

[mark.leake@york.ac.uk](mailto:mark.leake@york.ac.uk) [Switch accounts](#)

\* Indicates required question

Email \*

Your email address

Salutation: \*

Your answer

First name: \*

Your answer

Surname: \*

Your answer

Organisation \*

Your answer

Department \*

Your answer

### Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

We are committed to ensuring fairness is fully reflected in this funding process. As part of this we will work to uphold fairness in peer review as described at [Evolving and upholding fairness in peer review – UKRI](#).

All applicants will be offered the option of access mentoring with this call to support them in preparing their application.

If you have specific requirements and would like to discuss reasonable adjustments, please contact Dr Karis Baker at [k.h.baker@durham.ac.uk](mailto:k.h.baker@durham.ac.uk) at PoLNET to highlight your personal circumstances as soon as possible. This information will be used for administrative purposes only: the details will not be shared with panel members.

Would you like to be included in the access mentoring scheme for this call? \*

If you have a conflict of interest, please contact Dr Karis Baker at [k.h.baker@durham.ac.uk](mailto:k.h.baker@durham.ac.uk) with the information. The information will be used for administrative purposes and selecting your mentor, it will not be shared with members of the research community.

Yes

No

If you would like a mentor, what are you most interested in getting out of mentoring?

Where practicable, this will be used to inform the mentoring programme.

Your answer

Send me a copy of my responses.

Submit

Clear form

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

## Other Information

- The grants will be funded by UKRI and it is anticipated that Wellcome will co-fund this call (subject to an MoU being agreed).
- Wellcome is an independent, global charitable foundation (registered charity number 210183). Like all registered charities in England and Wales, Wellcome is regulated by the Charity Commission.
- Both Wellcome and UKRI will have access to the proposal and grant documents for this call. This will include relevant personal data of applicants from grant applications which will be shared with UKRI and Wellcome as observers of the panel. It will also include grant information shared with UKRI and Wellcome as co-funders, for the purposes of monitoring and evaluating the impact of the Physics of Life programme.
- Therefore, in addition to UKRI terms and conditions, Wellcome's grants privacy statement will also apply.
- Evaluation Survey after the grants have been awarded
  - The survey will include optional questions about participants' demography.
  - Survey data will be anonymised and participation in this exercise will have no impact on how applications to this call are assessed.
  - Your personal data will be handled in line with UK data protection legislation and managed securely. If you would like to know more, including how to exercise your Rights, please see UKRI's privacy notice.
  - The anonymised survey data (which will include EDI data) will be shared with Wellcome.
  - If you have further questions about this survey, please contact Sarah Newman at [sarah.newman@epsrc.ukri.org](mailto:sarah.newman@epsrc.ukri.org)

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call



UNDERSTANDING THE  
**Physics of Life**

## Post-Doctoral Pump-priming Project Application Form

| Postdoctoral Principal Investigator (the main person who will conduct the work) |             |          |  |
|---|-------------|----------|--|
| Title:  | First name: | Surname: |  |
| Email:  |             |          |  |
| Division / Department:  |             |          |  |
| Organisation:   |             |          |  |
| Will the named researcher be based here:  |             | YES / NO |  |

| Project Title |
|---------------|
|               |

| Project Aims (Maximum 500 characters with spaces)  |
|--|
| <i>How will this help you learn about another discipline/test a new approach/develop a new collaboration, to help your research/career? How will this improve understanding of biological/biomedical systems, through combining novel perspectives and from physics and life sciences?</i> |
|  |

| Lay Summary (Maximum 2000 characters with spaces) |
|---|
|   |

| Co-creation between the physical and life sciences (Maximum 500 characters with spaces) |
|---|
| <i>How is this work a co-creation between the physical and life sciences?</i>           |
|   |

| Funding Information  |                          |                    |                           |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
|  |                          | Full Economic Cost | PoLNET contribution (80%) |
| <b>Directly Incurred</b>   | Staff                    |                    |                           |
|  | Travel and subsistence   |                    |                           |
|  | Equipment                |                    |                           |
|  | Other                    |                    |                           |
|  | Subtotal                 |                    |                           |
| <b>Directly Allocated</b>  | Investigators            |                    |                           |
|  | Estates costs            |                    |                           |
|  | Other directly Allocated |                    |                           |
|  | Subtotal                 |                    |                           |
| <b>Indirect Costs</b>  | Indirect costs           |                    |                           |
| <b>Exceptions</b>  | Staff                    |                    |                           |
|  | Other costs              |                    |                           |
|  | Subtotal                 |                    |                           |
| <b>Total</b>   |                          |                    |                           |
| Start Date:  |                          | End Date:          | Duration (months):        |
| Have these costings been approved by the PIs Institution including covering 20% shortfall from FEC?  |                          |                    | YES / NO                  |
| Any potential conflicts of interest you believe should be identified?  |                          |                    |                           |
| Please indicate if there are any medical ethical issues associated with this project. Guidelines can be found here:<br><a href="https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/">https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/</a> |                          |                    |                           |

| Justification of Resources (Maximum 1000 characters with spaces)   |
|--|
| <i>Are costs justified/appropriate? What could this project lead to? Will there be the potential for further funding? Will the travelling researcher be adequately supported? Will this facilitate the wider research?</i> |
|  |



# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

**Case for Support – Background, Vision and Objectives, Project Plan, and Benefit to the Physics of Life Community** (*Sans serif 11 point font, 2pp max, including any figures and references*)

- I agree to my submitted data being shared with UKRI and the Wellcome Trust
- I would like to receive an email copy of my responses

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call



# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

## Grant Conditions – in addition to standard UKRI Terms and Conditions

- PoLNET<sub>3</sub> will nominate a dedicated contact or contacts. The PoLNET contact (s) must have access to all documentation of Governance and Reporting bodies, in so far as it relates to the administration and application of the grant. If the documentation is subject to commercial confidentiality the PoLNET contact(s) will be required to sign non-disclosure documents.
- Grant should start by 1 April 2024, no slippage of the grant start date beyond this date will be permitted unless under exceptional circumstances.
- The duration of the grant will be 6 months and must end before 31 March 2025, inclusive of any extensions.
- Grant extensions or delays to the start date may only be requested in exceptional circumstances (for example, maternity/paternity leave). The grant holder is responsible for minimising any extensions and risks must be managed accordingly. Delays must be reported to the PoLNET contact.
- A brief final report summarising the outcomes of the grant will be requested by PoLNET. The reporting requirements will be provided to successful applicants when awards are made.
- Additional financial or non-financial information may occasionally be requested outside of the standard reporting cycles. The grant holder agrees to comply with these requests in a timely manner.
- UKRI reserves the right to add additional grant conditions at the point that the grant is awarded.
- Applicants' data relevant to the grant shall be shared with the Wellcome Trust and UKRI.
- The Wellcome Trust must be acknowledged as a funder of the scheme alongside UKRI.
- The Wellcome Trust's charitable status must be acknowledged.
- By accepting this Grant you acknowledge:

The Wellcome Trust's contribution to this grant, UKRI's Privacy Notice and the Wellcome Trust's Privacy Notice, That Personal Data will be shared with the Wellcome Trust and retained by them in line with their Retention Schedule as required by the purpose of the processing, and shared with third parties in accordance with the Wellcome Trust's Privacy Notice (to include without limitation work contact details career history salary information including pay grades full name and email addresses of investigators; Research Organisation; Value of the award; start and end dates; Title and Abstract; Orcid ID).

# PoLNET post-doctoral research associate call

## Application links

<https://www.physicsoflife.org.uk/polnet-pdra-call-2023.html>

## Register Expression Of Interest

Indicative Full Application Form (Subject to Change)

Equality Impact Assessment

### Are holders of fellowships covering salary and consumables eligible for this scheme?

If you currently hold or have previously held a significant grant - usually defined as those which included PDRA time, capital equipment or were in excess of £100,000 (FEC) - you would not be eligible.

### Can a postdoc apply if they will no longer be employed at their host institution when decisions are announced?

You must have a current PDRA or equivalent position at the time of applying *and* you should expect to satisfy this employment criterion for the duration of the award.

### Is £25k the “80% value”, so the FEC value is £31.25k?

As is usual with most UKRI funding, the contribution from UKRI will be 80% FEC (i.e., £20k)- so, the host institution will need to agree to cover the remaining 20% (i.e., £5k). In the full proposal your support letter from the relevant host HoD should detail this.

### Will this grant call be open in subsequent years?

As it stands, this is a one-off grant call.