Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter for those thinking of studying Life Sciences at Warwick. We hope you enjoy finding out a little more about our School and its students and staff. In this edition meet our new placements officer Laura Yetton, and find out what some of our current students have been involved in.

Full course details are on our web pages (warwick.ac.uk/uglifesci) and if you would like to visit the School then come along to an Open Day (warwick.ac.uk/uglifesci/events/) or why not attend one of our Public Science Evenings (warwick.ac.uk/publicscience). If you have any questions about studying with us then please do get in touch via ug.lifesciences@warwick.ac.uk.

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Study Life Sciences

Despite not being directly related to my Biomedical Science degree, employers target science students for a multitude of roles due to the skills associated with your study. These skills were vital for my success within L’Oréal, having already become adept at understanding and evaluating complex and multifaceted systems and situations.

This experience has not only developed my business skills and acumen, but has informed my future career expectations - I am now keen to pursue a career in business strategy. I would recommend prospective students consider the prospect of a placement year as part of their degree, as the opportunity could lead to many more in the future!”

Jake Wall
BSc Biomedical Science with Placement Year student

Passionate about Placements by Laura Yetton

I am passionate about all things employability and have been able to witness the life changing impact placements and internships have upon students. I enjoy nothing more than speaking to students at the end of their placement experience and hearing about the amazing things they have accomplished, from publishing academic papers, to managing a vast budget, the opportunities really are endless!

My role as Placements Officer has two main objectives, to support students in their search for placements and internships and to develop relationships within industry in order to increase opportunities. Students can meet with me to discuss placement options, applications, interviews and any other stage of the recruitment process.

I am also responsible for organising a whole host of events, sessions and workshops for Life Science students. Most recently the Placements Poster Session, where returning students presented their posters and discussed their placements with current staff & students. Also, the Careers Networking Event where alumni came to talk to students about their career journey.

My advice to prospective students would be, take every opportunity to engage with the services available to you on campus (of which there are many), as they will all encourage your personal and professional development.

Laura Yetton, Placements Officer
Gold for Warwick iGEM
Warwick iGEM represented the University as part of an international genetic engineering competition held in Boston in October. The team, which included Life Sciences students Gurpreet Dhaliwal, Jack Lawrence, James O’Brien, Janvi Ahuja, Jonathan Whiteside, Olivor Holman, Ray Evans and Alizah Khalid won a gold medal for their Safe Water project which is fantastic recognition of their hard work.

Achieve more
The University’s cinematic ‘To Achieve More’ campaign video featured Biological Sciences student Niamh Gibson and her life at Warwick: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GjRrvBj RELU

BioCafe by Raksha Gohel, MBio Biomedical Science student.

BioCafe is a weekly peer-support session for students, run by students. I remember being in my 1st year and having so many questions and stressing about what felt like the most important lab report of all time. Looking back, I realise that I should have stopped worrying about the outcome and focused more on the journey. At BioCafe, we hope to help students in all years with any advice they may need, whether it be on lab reports, essay writing, revision techniques, summer work experience or just to listen to their rants over some pizza because we remember what it was like to be in their position! Being a BioCafe mentor has been one of the most rewarding things I have done whilst being at university, and it’s even more gratifying when students have told me that they benefitted from it and want to help others in return. The best thing about the School of Life Sciences is the sense of community, and being able to learn from other people’s experiences is a great way to help one another get the most out of their degrees.

Undergraduate runs STEM CREST Awards by Brittany Harrison, BSc Biochemistry student.

Every Wednesday throughout August, 25 year 9 and 10 students from various secondary schools across Nuneaton, Rugby and Bedworth joined me to complete STEM CREST awards - the only nationally recognised award by the British Science association for STEM enrichment outside of school curriculum. It has been a pleasure to be able to offer these young people the facilities to expand on their own scientific interests.

We have been carrying out investigations related to health and disease, which has involved microbiology techniques that I didn’t get to practice until the second year of my degree. Science is an eternally incomplete topic, and I feel that this fact is only truly understood when exploring science in a practical and creative way, as opposed to text-book learning in schools. Running the CREST awards has provided these young people with a mature learning experience which much more truly represents the everyday life of a scientist.

WATE Winner
Dr Phil Young, Director of Undergraduate Studies for Life Sciences, recently won a Warwick Award for Teaching Excellence (WATE). He joins our 5 previous winners of this prestigious award recognising staff who have made a difference in learning and teaching.

New Vlogger Orien Daly
Orien will join Emma Wearing, our current blogger, sharing their experiences of study and life at university. Look out for their blogs and vlogs at Our Warwick.

Check out Orien’s ‘Day in the Life...’ vlog at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S300QwXd6kQ

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