



UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL

# Tackling isolation: Community-building for postdocs

NPDC21  
24 • 09 • 2021



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N8  
15 YEARS  
2021

# Today we will be talking about

• • • •

- 1 Our journey
- 2 Our reasons
- 3 What are your reasons?
- 4 How to get started



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# Our journey



Imperial College London,  
Institute of Cancer Research



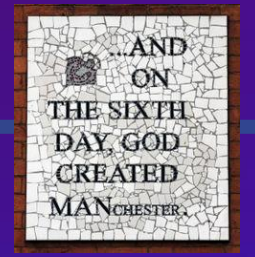
University of  
Copenhagen



briefly  
Karolinska  
Institutet  
Stockholm



UNC Chapel Hill  
USA



University of  
Manchester



**Dr Joan Chang**

 @tranejoan

MANCHESTER  
1824

The University of Manchester

about me





Imperial College London,  
Institute of Cancer Research

PhD academic  
representative



University of  
Copenhagen

The Association  
of Students  
And Postdocs  
(ASAP) organiser



briefly  
Karolinska  
Institutet  
Stockholm



UNC Chapel Hill  
USA

- CMB committee
- TRUtalks organisation



University of  
Manchester

- Research Staff Representative
- National Postdoc Appreciation Week organisation
- Postdoc Futures



**Dr Joan Chang**

 @tranejoan

MANCHESTER  
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The University of Manchester

about me



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# Our journey



Universidad de Chile




University of Warwick



University of Liverpool



**Dr Blanca Perez-Sepulveda**

 [@BlancaPerSep](https://twitter.com/BlancaPerSep)



about me





Universidad de Chile




University of Warwick



University of Liverpool

- UK Research Staff Association
- UoL Research Staff Association
- IVES Postdoc Association
- Postdoc Rep in various committees:
  - Research & Impact
  - Wellbeing group
  - PGR Wellbeing Ambassadors
  - Research in an Inclusive and Sustainable Environment
  - Others

**Dr Blanca Perez-Sepulveda**

 @BlancaPerSep



about me






## What are *your* reasons?

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We want to hear your opinion!

 Scan the QR code  
or

 [Click on this link](#)



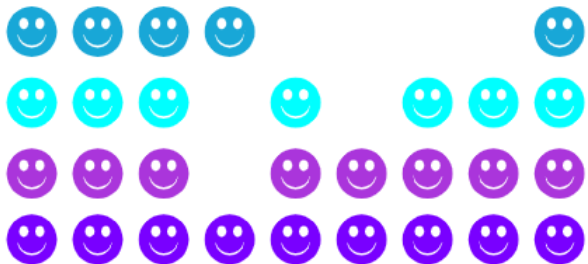


## Have you engaged with Postdoc communities or organised events?

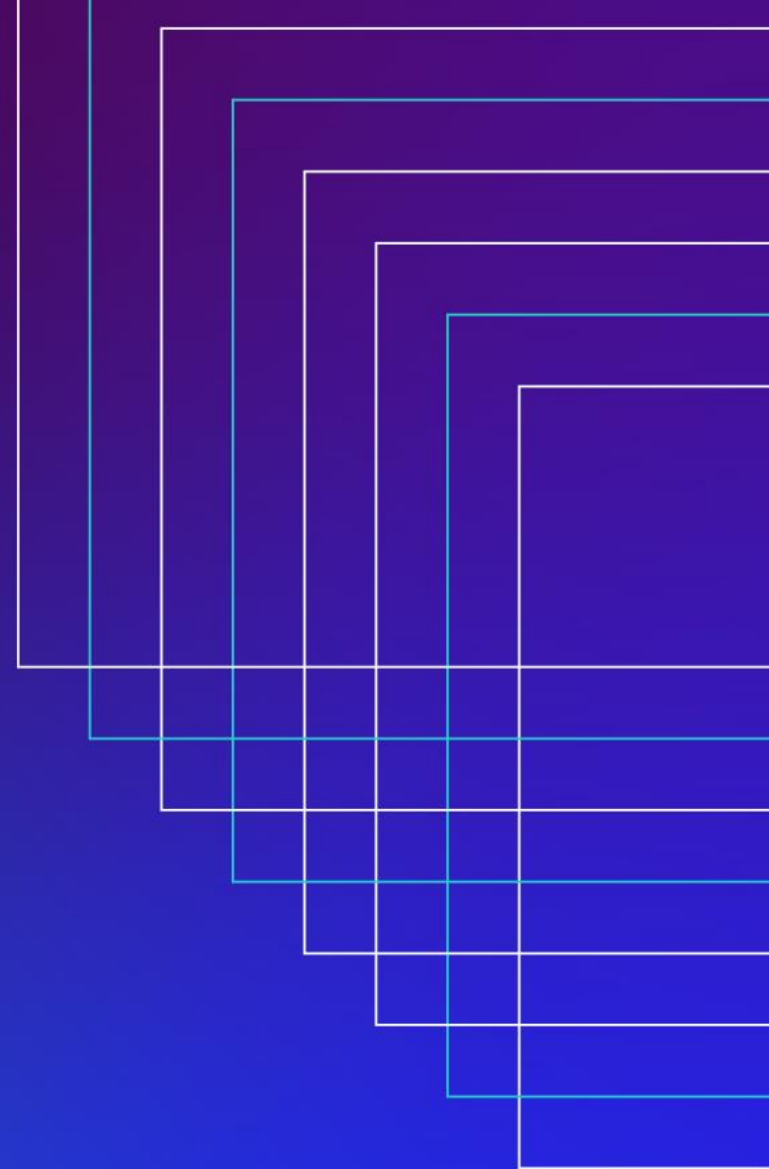
Drag a star if you have engaged with **Postdoc communities**



Drag a smiley face if you have **organised events**



<p>Yes, actively</p>	<p>No, but I would like to</p>
<p>Yes, but not at the moment</p>	<p>No, and I'm not interested</p>



## Why have you (not) engaged?

Would like to know peers	To engage both scientifically and as a wider community	To meet others	Also as a means to policy decision at the national level	interdisciplinary collaborations	The importance of improving an inclusive community
Would like to know the community what it is all about	Personally I think It also helps you to reflect self at the moment of meeting others	No aware of the opportunity			
To know their Research (Attimes) :P			networking		
To build a team if peers are interested	tried joining a committee but was not selected		To encourage communication		curiosity
To support others	To make positive change				



## What would motivate you to engage (more)?

Time	Apart from the community building, also making efforts to promote equal career opportunities across the platform				good mentor	
I think Institutes should include dedicated time to engage and create events	Type of Events					common communication platform
				back to normal		
More ideas for events	Time, and longer contract	Encouragement from surroundings / line manager				
To see a positive change						



UK Research Staff Association

**UKRSA**

supported by Vitae

 @UKRSAvitae



In association with Vitae

Aims to provide a collective voice for research staff across the UK, through building researcher communities and influencing policy

Find out more by emailing [blancaps@Liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:blancaps@Liverpool.ac.uk)



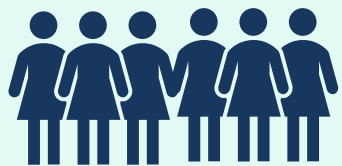
**Postdoc  
Appreciation  
Week**

**#LovePostdocs**

 @UK\_NPAW



Ethos: to organise a big UK/ROI-wide free online event(s) to kickstart Postdoc Appreciation Week, so that all Postdocs can participate regardless of whether their institution has events in place or not



**Postdoc Futures**

“Grassroot” initiative that is in communication with Wellcome/UKRI to help shape a better future for Postdocs, and aim to create a more consistent policy and career structure across all institutions for Postdocs

Find out more by emailing [joan.chang@Manchester.ac.uk](mailto:joan.chang@Manchester.ac.uk)

# STAY IN TOUCH

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