**Research Staff Association celebrating success.**

“I joined as Co-Chair of the UoLRSA to work on shaping research culture in a more inclusive way. This role has allowed me to develop several leadership, management and organisational skills, and has also really widen my network, not only within the University, but also at a national level. Being a postdoc can sometimes can feel isolating, but working with other researchers across the University poses an invaluable (and very rewarding) opportunity to learn from other experiences. I’d encourage all researchers with an interest on professional development by experience to join!”

**Dr Blanca Perez Sepulveda**

“Being a Co-Chair of the Research Staff Association is a great way of getting a broader view of the  research culture at the University. It allows me to interact, network and get to know PDRAs from the other Schools and diversify my own work experience. Many of the RSA's projects are new to me and it is very exciting to improve my personal skills in helping out to manage and organise these projects. As a new member, the RSA strikes me as extremely diverse, inclusive and caring regarding issues face by PDRAs across the University community”

**Dr Filipe Braga Nogueira**

“As Deputy Co-Chair of the Research Staff Association (RSA), I have had the opportunity to contribute to improving research culture at The University of Liverpool. As part of the role, I have helped to organise and publicise events and training to support researchers in building their skills and development. This has included organising the annual RSA conference. I have met and worked with some fantastic researchers from across all institutes at UoL, when I would not have ordinarily had the opportunity to do this. I would really encourage others to get involved in the RSA, as it’s been a valuable experience”.

**Dr Frances Sherratt**

“As a liaison committee member of the RSA, my role has been to inform the association about any professional development activities and opportunities available to research staff that I hear about in my department. This role has enabled me to be part of the planning and decision making process. I’ve become more open to and aware of opportunities. I feel empowered by being able to express my views and contribute to a better research culture. I’ve met many researchers and have become less isolated knowing that I wasn’t alone with some of the challenges we face and gained so much from hearing other researchers’ experiences that may have been different from mine. I’ve developed and strengthened essential skills, such as networking, leadership, and communication, and learned about prospects that made me more confident and hopeful about my future”.

 **Dr Katalin Ujhelyi Gomez**

“Being a member of the RSA at the local level and now as its current co-chair has been immensely rewarding and has enabled me to strengthen my communication and leadership skills. Knowing that through the actions of the RSA we can not only advocate for the postdoctoral community but also guide the conversation in changing research culture has been extremely fulfilling. Working with the RSA has also helped me to enhance and develop transferable skills, which will be important in building my career. I recommend all postdocs to get involved ”.

**Dr Krishanthi Subramaniam**

“Being a Deputy Co-Chair after previously being active in various other roles of the RSA is definitely a very rewarding experience for me. Especially because I get to interact with peers from across the university and work as a team to organise various activities such as seminars, conferences, and other events for research staff. It is a great platform to gain valuable transferable skills/experiences and to expand my network while getting a chance to interact with senior management of the university as well. With its positive and inclusive culture, I’d absolutely encourage research staff to get involved with RSA”.

**Dr Malaka De Silva**

“Taking part in RSA events has enabled me to feel part of a community of researchers across the University. I have also enhanced my professional and personal development at its various seminars and workshops and have been able to learn more about the potential future career opportunities after my current post-doctoral fellowship. Taking up the position of co-chair in the summer of 2020 allows me to help shape research culture at the University of Liverpool and be a benefit to colleagues by arranging events and voicing their queries to the University’s senior management”.

**Dr Michael Robinson**

“I joined the RSA in order to connect with the extensive and vibrant research community at UoL, and to utilise the skills and experience I have gained in previous health service roles and from running academic professional courses, to help support fellow researchers.   I have enjoyed attending the varied Lunch and Learn programme, and it has been really interesting to network with people working in such diverse fields across the University. “

**Susan Dobson**