



Hugh



Hi everyone,

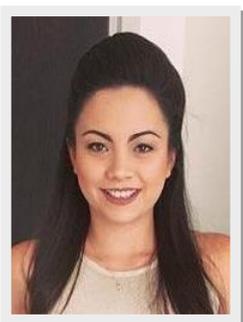
My time as the DMDG apprentice committee member has come to an end and I would like to introduce you to the new DMDG apprentice committee member, Lilly Collins from Sygnature! After reading the second half of this article I'm sure you'll agree Lilly has lots of great ideas to continue to evolve the apprentice role! Below I've picked out a couple of highlights that we have implemented during my time in the role.

I began in the role looking after and organising the student bursaries offered by the DMDG for any students studying in a DMPK related field to attend the meetings, conferences and other events. Catching up with the student attendees at the 2017 open meeting it was clear that staying in touch with the DMDG after the event was difficult and this led to losing touch a little after the event. I'm pleased to say that since then we have simplified the membership of the DMDG so that it is easier to register for a DMDG training course / conference and the DMDG website (<https://www.dmdg.org/>) is now a lot more open with the latest news and event info easy to access without logging in. Furthermore be sure to follow the DMDG on Twitter ([@DMDG_Tweets](https://twitter.com/DMDG_Tweets)), Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/342456192762595/>) and LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4163095>) as our latest updates are also shared on there. I'd like to say a big well done to all of the students who participated at the 2017 (Robinson College) and 2018 (Gothia Towers) open meetings. The poster and flash presentation sessions proved a really valuable addition to the programme!

In March this year, with the help of the DMDG committee, I set up and ran the first DMDG Early Careers Meeting 2019: Hot Topics in the Lab. This one-day meeting was all about providing a platform for early career scientists to come and participate in a scientific meeting. I'm glad to say that the early career members of the DMDG really stepped up and helped put on a great day! Recently I've released a meeting report - [available here](#). I've spoken to Lilly and I know she is keen to take on board the feedback we have received and to continue this meeting next year. One thing that's important to me is that the meeting should be accessible to all members of the DMDG and as such future meetings should move location so as many scientists as possible get the chance to attend.

Thanks again to all the members of the DMDG committee who I've worked with and look forward to catching up with everyone I have met at future DMDG events! Now over to Lilly to tell you about her exciting plans!

Lilly



Hi All,

I am this year's DMDG apprentice intern committee member. I am a senior scientist within the DMPK and Physical Sciences department at Sygnature Discovery with over three years' experience. I originally studied forensic science at the University of Lincoln but soon realised DMPK was much more exciting! Whilst at Sygnature I learned about the DMDG and have attended various courses. It soon became apparent to me that the DMDG was well known within the DMPK community but not so well known to scientists starting in their careers or scientists from other disciplines, which is why it is important to me to promote the DMDG and its opportunities.

I recently attended the DMDG Early Careers Meeting 2019: Hot Topics in the Lab Conference in March where I met a lot of you. Hugh did an amazing job in organising this and it was a fantastic day overall with some great presentations and posters! We received a lot of great feedback from this event which I will implement next time this is run.

Now the role of apprentice has been handed over, I am eager to get started and I have a few ideas to try and attract early career scientists to the DMDG. I am looking to attend various university careers' fairs and engage with young scientists about their career options within DMPK and the DMDG. I am passionate about promoting the DMDG to university students as I understand from talking to quite a few people that the DMDG is not currently widely advertised within universities. Alongside this, I am hoping to possibly introduce frequent workshops/meetings tailored to young scientists similarly to the Early Careers Meeting 2019: Hot Topics in the Lab. This will hopefully move to various locations each time it is run in order to give everyone the chance of attending. If you have any additional ideas then please drop me an email at l.collins@sygnaturediscovery.com.