

From: Royal Society of Biology <membership@rsb.org.uk>
Sent: 10 January 2024 13:00
To: bstpsecretariat@gmail.com
Subject: RSB Member Organisation Newsletter - January 2024

Update contact information



RSB Member Organisation (MO) Newsletter: January 2024

In our first newsletter of 2024 we share new opportunities for both employment and advisory group participation, a range of new events and training courses, and updates from our Member Organisations.

On behalf of RSB I wish you a happy New Year, and look forward to what 2024 brings.

Best wishes

Christopher Longmore MRSB
Membership Engagement Officer (MOs)
christopher.longmore@rsb.org.uk

RSB Policy Review



In 2023 RSB released its **manifesto**, outlining priorities for UK bioscience in the upcoming general election. We called on the next UK Government to invest in biosciences and promote STEM education across various institutions.

Our Education Policy team, with input from committees and Member Organizations, established **priorities** for 2023-28. Initiatives included providing evidence for Parliamentary inquiries, engaging in education reform programmes, and preparing to launch a Teaching Policy Advisory Group.

Despite uncertainty on the UK's association with Horizon Europe, we contributed to sector-wide efforts for an agreement. Our focus on equality, diversity, and inclusion led to the SEAT Trustee training scheme launch, enhancing board-level diversity. RSB's science policy emphasised climate and nature leadership, with the **Net Zero Strategy** unveiled during Biology Week. A successful Animal Sciences Meeting explored the implications of the Genetic Technologies (Precision Breeding) Act 2023.

The Biologist remains highly valued, with ongoing efforts to expand our publications. Our engagement programme involves key stakeholders, addressing the impact of the Open Access transition on Learned Societies.

We would like to express our immense gratitude to Member Organisations for shaping RSB's policies through committees and other channels.

Dr Arianne Matlin MRSB
Associate Director of Policy

RSB News

Chair wanted for teaching policy advisory group

The new RSB Teaching Policy Advisory Group (TPAG) seeks to appoint a chair. TPAG will inform RSB policy positions, and develop a programme of work to address school-level teaching across all four UK nations. Applications close on **Wednesday 10th January**, at 23:59.

RSB co-hosting joint professional body QP symposium

Hosted by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, Royal Society of Biology and Royal Society of Chemistry, the Qualified Person (QP) symposium brings together peers across pharmacy, chemistry and biology. The theme is “Future Proofing the QP Role” and the event is aimed at eligible QPs and trainee QPs. The symposium will take place on **Wednesday 15th May** at BMA House in London.

All Biosphere episodes now available

Last year saw the launch of RSB's biosphere podcast, covering the broad field of life sciences by interviewing bioscience researchers. With the release of the most recent episode on the different applications of venom peptides, all episodes of the current series are now available to listen to on your platform of choice.

RSB opportunities to share

How to communicate science, win friends and influence people

An interactive online lecture communicating science and plant health on **Friday 2nd February**. Professor Jonathan Drori CBE, renowned author, plant enthusiast and media professional will provide the ground rules for effective science communication.

Grow your expertise: free plant health training course

RSB has released an online training course for applicants to the Plant Health Professional register, complimentary for RSB members at all levels. If you are engaged in plant science or plant health, this course promises to enhance your Continuous Professional Development and covers a spectrum of topics.

Early career travel grants

AMRSB and early-career MRSB members of the RSB can now apply for a travel grant of up to £1,000 to support future travel in connection with biological study, teaching or research. The deadline for applications is **Friday 26th January**.

Bioscience Careers Day 2024

Aimed at undergraduates and master's students, RSB's bioscience careers day will take place online from **5th-7th March**. For opportunities for sponsorship and to connect with students, contact events@rsb.org.uk.

Tracking the impact of climate change on UK springtime

RSB is partnering with the Field Studies Council in asking members of the public to record signs of spring across the UK. The survey is now open and everyone can report on 10 indicator species or events in order to track the impact of climate change.

News and opportunities from our partners

Enhance your coding skills with the Biochemical Society

Whether you are a beginner or looking to boost your skills, explore essential R and Python programming with online training from the Biochemical Society. Participants will connect with a supportive community, chat with the lead educator, and get expert guidance throughout the programme.

BES hiring senior policy officer

The British Ecological Society is currently advertising a senior policy officer position on a full-time, permanent basis. The closing date for applications is **Monday 15th January**.

PULSE: Free entrepreneurship training for life scientists

Developed by the BioIndustry Association (BIA) and Francis Crick Institute, PULSE is a free three-day leadership and entrepreneurship training programme for life science entrepreneurs. The programme covers a broad spectrum of topics, from how to build a board, to IP and regulation, to what investors look for, and culminates in a practice pitch to a panel of real investors. Applications are open until **Sunday 21st January**.

IAT Congress 2024 registrations open

Taking place from **12th-15th March**, registrations for the Institute of Animal Technology (IAT) Congress 2024 are now open. Keep an eye on the IAT website for programme updates and further information, plus details on how to book sponsorship and trade exhibition spaces.

From melanogenesis to melanin technologies

From **12th - 14th February** the Royal Society hosts an interdisciplinary meeting on melanogenesis and melanin technologies. Bringing together researchers from all career stages, speakers will present the latest discoveries on melanin chromophores and the factors governing ionic and electronic transport. Attendees can apply to present a poster, flash talk, or both.

Register for NoRCEL BEP2024: Human madness

The Network of Researchers on the Chemical Emergence of Life (NoRCEL) investigate the wisdom of Homo sapiens in this hybrid event on **Saturday 27th January**. NoRCEL's panel of experts discuss overcoming selfishness to build an equitable global society and sustainable environment.

Biochemical Society 2024 scientific meeting programme

The Biochemical Society 2024 scientific meeting programme is now live, showcasing topics like cell migration, DNA replication, and LRRK2. These meetings provide opportunities for career advancement, insights from experts in the field, and the chance to network with colleagues.

Featured Member Organisation



The **Evolution Education Trust (EET)** has recently joined RSB as a Full Member Organisation. As a grant-giving organisation, EET focuses on advancing the public understanding of the theory of evolution and its application towards solving complex problems in the life sciences.

EET builds long-term strategic relationships with multi-year gift recipients. These organisations, project teams and key individuals become part of the EET Partner Network, a network of experts with significant academic and in-field knowledge and influence in their respective sectors.



[Privacy Centre](#) [Website](#) [myLearning](#)

© Royal Society of Biology 2024
1 Naoroji Street, London, WC1X 0GB
Registered Charity No. 277981