



NUFFIELD
DEPARTMENT OF
SURGICAL SCIENCES



NDS Virtual Research Away Day

Thursday 11 March 2021

Programme

14:00 – 14:05	Welcome and introduction – <i>Freddie Hamdy</i> (<i>Chair: Claire Edwards</i>)
14:05 – 14:40	Natural history collections can predict future trends – <i>Sir Michael Dixon</i>
14:40 – 14:50	NDS Staff Awards: announcement of winners – <i>Freddie Hamdy</i>
14:50 – 15:10	Investigating the evolution of prostate cancer with AI – <i>Dr Dan Woodcock</i>
15:10 – 15:25	COVID-19 Heroes: announcement of winners – <i>Ian Mills and Jo Snoeck</i>
15:25 – 15:30	Closing remarks – <i>Freddie Hamdy</i>

Biographies

Sir Michael Dixon has been Principal of Green Templeton College since September 2020.

Michael was previously Director of the Natural History Museum for 16 years. Under his leadership, annual attendance increased from 3 million to 5.4 million visits and the Darwin Centre, its biggest single development since the original building opened in 1881, was delivered to widespread acclaim. In January 2020 the museum announced a new 11-year strategic plan declaring a planetary emergency and aiming to create advocates for the planet. Under Michael's leadership the museum secured £180 million in the 2020 UK Budget to create a state-of-the-art research centre at the Harwell science and innovation campus.



Prior to joining the Natural History Museum, Michael was Director General of the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), with responsibility for the organisation's two zoos, its research facility, the Institute of Zoology, and the field conservation programmes division. He has also worked in the world of scientific, technical and medical publishing for John Wiley & Sons then Thomson Corporation.

Michael trained as a zoologist at Imperial College, London and then completed doctoral studies at the University of York, working on host location mechanisms in larval trematode parasites, most notably *Schistosoma mansoni*, the causative organism of bilharzia.

Dr Dan Woodcock is currently a Senior Postdoctoral Data Scientist in the Big Data Institute, University of Oxford. His work focusses on the development and application of machine learning and statistical methods for the analysis of large biomedical data sets, particularly those from cancer.

Prior to moving to Oxford, Dan worked in the Mathematics Institute and System Biology Centre at the University of Warwick where he developed mathematical models of the NF-kappaB signalling pathway.

Dan will be joining the Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences in April 2021.



NDS Staff Awards – award nominees

	<i>COVID Champions</i>
Citizen of the Year	Academic Researcher
Ian Mills Emily Hotine Jon Austyn Shelley Hammond	Amy Cross Lucia Cerundolo
Employee of the Year	Administrative
Miriam O’Hanlon Lucy Davies Gkentiana Zavalani Adam Lambert Nicky Iyer Stephanie Jones Monica Dolton Louise King	Nicky Iyer Shelley Hammond Sue Patchett Lucy Davies Peter Moles Lucy Paterson Eleanor Wilson Louise King
Early-stage Researcher of the Year	Clinician
Gurdeep Mannu	Matthew Bottomley
Team of the Year	Team
Finance Team HR Events Team Finance and Grants MSc and Immunology Biobank Team	Events Team QUOD Finance Team Virtual Work Experience Team Rutger Ploeg Admin and Research Team Biobank Team
Scientific Achievement of the Year	
Sarah Howles The ONE Study Team	

NDS Virtual Research Away Day 2021

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