

# INDEX

◆ From the president	2
◆ What is SRUK and what are our aims?	4
◆ Our structure	5
◆ Our members	7
◆ Science Policy	8
◆ Institutional Links	9
◆ International Collaborations	10
◆ Online Department	12
◆ Press Department	13
◆ Professional Development	15
◆ SRUK Awards	18
◆ V International Symposium	21
◆ SRUK Wo/men, Equality and Research	23
◆ London Constituency	24
◆ Oxford Constituency	25
◆ Cambridge Constituency	26
◆ The South-West Constituency	27
◆ The Midlands Constituency	28
◆ Yorkshire Constituency	29
◆ The North-West Constituency	30
◆ Scotland Constituency	31
◆ Economic Report	32
◆ Strategic Plan	34
◆ Main supporters and collaborators	35



# FROM

# THE PRESIDENT

Dear members and friends of SRUK,

What a year it's been! I look back to the past few months and I am amazed by the number of initiatives that we have achieved. They could not have been possible without the hard work and enthusiasm of the more than 150 SRUK volunteers, including the 17 members of the directive board. We have all put everything into realising the aims and vision that we planned for this year and the result is, in my opinion, a complete success.

I have extremely enjoyed chairing this Society during this crucial year. We have grown in number of members, events, impact and funding. Our overall aim for this year was to consolidate SRUK in the UK, a challenge that has many times proven rather complicated. However, I am very pleased to say that currently, we are placed at a privilege position, sitting at the interface between European and British institutions. We hold the key of issues that affect our stability in this country. I am of course speaking about Brexit, a process that is bringing quite a lot of uncertainty into our lives and with the potential to have enormous impact in our careers. However, SRUK has taken Brexit as an opportunity to get our voices heard in the UK. Through hard work and professionalism, I believe we are an appreciated community that adds value to the already rich world of British learnt Societies.

This annual report includes the different initiatives and events that SRUK has done over the past 12 months. I would like to nevertheless take this opportunity to highlight our main achievements:

- We have organized **more than 60 events**, promoted scientific fields that are underrepresented in SRUK, such as **engineering and social sciences** and for the first time, our Annual Symposium has been held outside London and more than 100 people attended the event in **Glasgow**.
- We have hosted **more than 20 professional development workshops** and have organized 5 large-scale **outreach events** that have targeted hundreds of people. In addition, we have launched the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of **"Science-me a Story"**, a contest of short scientific story for children.
- Our brand new website has been used to improve networking between our members and corporative partners.
- We have awarded 10 **Travel Grants**, the 3<sup>rd</sup> **Emerging Talent Award**, the **Merit Award** and are working on the 2<sup>nd</sup> **Young Basque Investigator Award**.
- We have launched the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the **"UAM/SRUK Summer Studentships"** in collaboration with Erasmus+ and the Autonomous University of Madrid.
- SRUK participated in different events during the **Spanish State Visit**.



*Estrella Luna Díez*

- We have developed collaborations with The Russell Group, BEIS, Universities UK and UKRO, regarding **Brexit**. We have provided 2 evidence reports to the Science and Technology Committee. The reports build on results obtained in our surveys. Importantly, I proudly represented SRUK during **the Brexit, Science and Innovation Summit**.
- In Spain, we are pushing hard to improve our research system.
- To promote the Women in Science we have created a brand new committee: **Wo/men, Equity and Research**. Also, to commemorate the 11<sup>th</sup> February, we hosted the twitter campaign “#MiCientíficaFavorita” (*My Favorite Female Scientist*) and organized 5 workshops.
- Our mentoring programme, currently running with 40 pairs, has been accredited by the **European Council for Mentoring and Coaching**.
- **A new target network of Engineers has been** launched.
- We have increased our budget and raised over £80K. We welcome a new main supporter, *Fundación Lilly*.

As you can see, amazing things have been going on during this last year and none of them could have been possible without the more than 150 volunteers of SRUK. I have deeply enjoyed working with the 16 Directors that build the board. As a special mention, I am grateful to “my right hand” and vice-president, Javier Escudero, for his continues support, drive and enthusiasm to deliver the set challenges. We have worked together to continue the mission and successes of the previous board chaired by María Jiménez Sánchez and those who committed at different times during the last 6 years to build this Society.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all our sponsors and collaborators, in particular to *Fundación Ramón Areces*, *Fundación Banco Santander*, Spanish Embassy in London, the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology, *Fundación Lilly*, and Bizkaia Talent, for giving us the tools to bring our vision and initiatives to life. We could not have done it without you.

From a personal point of view, I am deeply emotional and happy to have contributed to this beautiful project. I am extremely grateful for this opportunity and immensely proud to have represented this amazing group of people during 2017/18. I am in not doubt certain that I leave SRUK in the best possible hands with a board of directors fully energized and committed to continue the consolidation of SRUK. I will admire with pride the work done and the success that the new board will for sure achieve in the years to come. I will always feel honored to have gone through this adventure that have taught me so much, professionally and personally.

Un abrazo,



Estrella Luna Diez

President of SRUK/CERU 2017/2018

For more information please contact [president@sruk.org.uk](mailto:president@sruk.org.uk)

# WHAT IS SRUK AND WHAT ARE OUR AIMS?

The Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom (SRUK) is a non-profit, independent organization. We do not have any political affiliation.

SRUK was created in July 2011 and was formally established in June 2012. At that time, SRUK was registered in the Company's House of England and Wales.

The Society was created with four main aims:

1

## SOCIAL NETWORK

To create a social network of researchers and students working in the United Kingdom. We aim to facilitate the arrival of the new members, offer advice, and share professional and life experiences.

2

## SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS

To increase public awareness of every aspect of the Research and Innovation (R&I) system. We aim to close the existing gap between researchers and the general public by holding seminars, roundtables, conferences and the Society's annual symposium.

3

## SCIENCE REPRESENTATIVES

To be the representatives of the Spanish researchers in the United Kingdom for British and Spanish organizations, general public and the media. We aim to serve as scientific advisors for both public and private organizations. We believe that our knowledge and experience are relevant and worth sharing.

4

## SCIENCE MEDIATORS

To facilitate collaborations between both private and public British and Spanish R&I institutions. It is our opinion that exploring and establishing collaboration between the UK and Spain will bear fruit in the long run.

## ¿ QUÉ ES CERU Y CUÁLES SON NUESTROS OBJETIVOS?

La Sociedad de Científicos Españoles en Reino Unido (CERU) es una organización independiente sin ánimo de lucro y sin afiliación política. Se creó en julio del 2011 y se constituyó de manera oficial en junio del 2012. La sociedad persigue cuatro objetivos principales:

1. Crear una red social de investigadores que trabajan en el Reino Unido.
2. Acercar la ciencia al público en general.
3. Ser los portavoces de los científicos españoles en Reino Unido ante instituciones británicas y españolas, medios de comunicación y redes sociales.
4. Facilitar colaboraciones entre organizaciones relacionadas con la I+D+i del Reino Unido y de España, tanto públicas como privadas.

## OUR STRUCTURE

SRUK is run by volunteers.

During 2017/2018, more than 150 members have actively participated in departments, committees and working groups, which have made possible the Society as it is today.

As in previous years, we have grown, achieved goals and consolidated ourselves as a key “player” Society within Spain and the UK.

SRUK is managed by the Board of Directors, which is elected during the Annual General Assembly. The Board is formed by 17 members representing SRUK members, pursuing the aims of the Society and defining the strategic plan for the coming years. In addition, SRUK is organized in eight Regional Constituencies across the UK and the directors of these constituencies are also part of the Board. This facilitates the direct communication between members and the Board.

Many volunteers are part of working groups and committees. Each constituency has a **Local Working Group** to shape regional activities and events. SRUK also runs with four departments: International Collaborations, Science Policy, Press and Online. In addition, **SRUK Committees** work to achieve specific goals of the society. Currently, SRUK has six committees: Fellowships; Scientific; International Symposium; Awards; Mentoring; and Wo/men, Equity and Research.

### ESTRUCTURA DE CERU

La Sociedad funciona gracias al trabajo de más de 150 voluntarios y voluntarias que hacen posible el crecimiento y la consolidación de CERU. Cada año la Asamblea General elige la Junta Directiva encargada de representar a los socios, desarrollar los objetivos de la sociedad y delinear el plan estratégico de ésta. CERU se divide en ocho Delegaciones Regionales que facilitan la comunicación entre los miembros y entre éstos y la Junta Directiva, y que cuenta con una Directiva Local y un Grupo de Trabajo. Así mismo, existen departamentos y comités para trabajar en objetivos específicos.

For more information please contact [info@sruk.org.uk](mailto:info@sruk.org.uk)



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Image by Sara Alvira de Celis

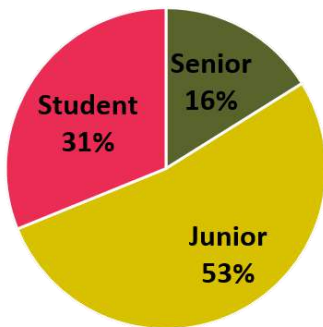
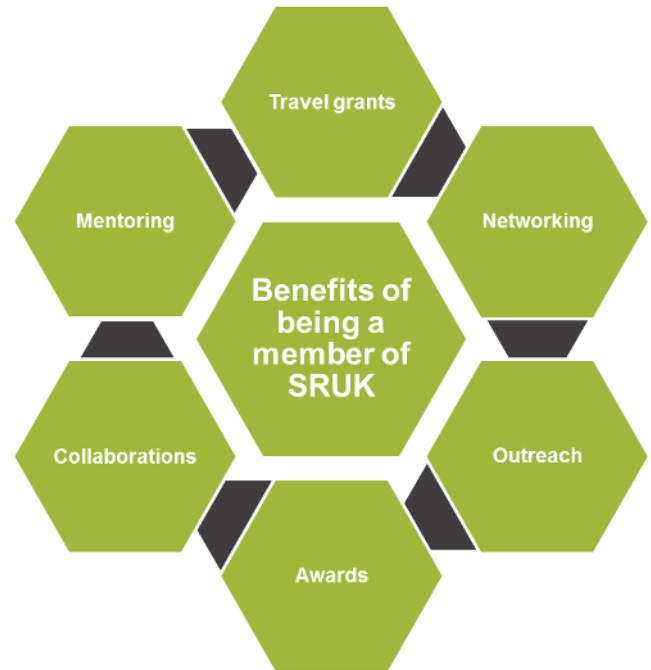
# OUR MEMBERS

In the last few years, the number of members of our society has increased steadily. On the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018, SRUK counted **more than 650 members**. They are grouped in eight established constituencies and two in the process to be developed. Also, we have a remarkable number of friend members in Spain and other countries.



	Type of Membership	Member %
<b>REGULAR</b>	Spanish Researchers working in the UK	55%
<b>ASSOCIATE</b>	Non-researcher or Non-Spanish working in the UK	4%
<b>FRIEND</b>	Working outside the UK	41%

SRUK welcomes everybody and offers three membership options.



SRUK accommodates all research disciplines and career stages. Most of our academics members are in the 'career consolidation stage', between being a PhD student and an independent group leader.

## NUESTROS SOCIOS

El número de socios de CERU ha experimentado un aumento continuado en los últimos años en todas sus delegaciones. A fecha de 1 de junio de 2018, CERU cuenta con más de **650 socios** agrupados en ocho delegaciones oficiales y dos por constituir. CERU cuenta con tres tipos de miembros: **socios regulares** (investigadores españoles que trabajan en Reino Unido), socios **asociados** (no investigadores o no españoles que trabajan en Reino Unido) y **amigos** (aquellos no residen en Reino Unido), dando la bienvenida a todo el mundo interesado en ser parte de CERU.

# SCIENCE POLICY

## The Science Policy Committee

**Emma Martínez** (Director, on leave since Sep. 2017)

**Fidel Alfaro** (Deputy Director from Oct. 2017 to Mar. 2018)

**José Antonio Carrillo**

**Javier Escudero**

**Antonio Fernandez**

**Rocío Gaudioso**

**Mónica Gañán**

**Mario González**

**Fernando Jiménez**

**José Manuel Muñoz**

**Joaquín de Navascués**

**Eduardo Oliver**

The Science Policy Committee (SPC) was established in November 2014 with the mission to support the development and improvement of Research & Innovation (R&I) systems in Spain and in the UK.

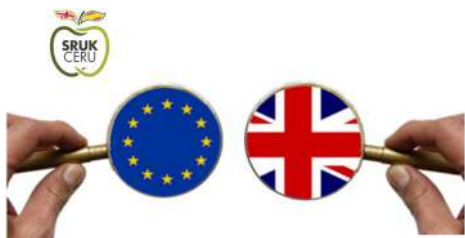
### Initiatives in Spain

The SPC has focused on promoting the R&I recommendations report that SRUK published in September 2015 for the Spanish general elections to all major political parties. We also provided feedback to the draft of the national plan on R&I published in July 2017 by the *Secretaría de Estado de Investigación, Desarrollo e Innovación*. We analysed the manifestos of the main Spanish political parties after the first 100 days of the current Parliament and we published an opinion article 'Volver a casa (solo) por Navidad' in El País, where the lack of attractiveness of the Spanish R&I system to researchers working abroad was reviewed. We have also been active in gathering opinions of researchers in Spain about Brexit. To do so, we ran a survey during CienciaUK17.

### Initiatives in the UK

The SPC has continued monitoring the uncertainties caused by Brexit and communicating some of the key developments in this area to the members of SRUK through the Brexit Watch section of our newsletter. SRUK ran a second edition of the survey of Brexit among our members and SRUK issued the statement 'Time for Science and Innovation to remain at the heart of the Brexit process' on the anniversary of the triggering of Article 50. We also have gathered case-studies.

The Committee has also supported SRUK in keeping close contact with key institutions and learned societies of the British science and technology system.



## EL COMITÉ DE POLÍTICA CIENTÍFICA (CPC)

El CPC de CERU ha seguido trabajando para mantener el interés en España por nuestro 'Informe de recomendaciones sobre la I+D'. Para ello, miembros del CPC se han reunido con representantes en materia de ciencia de los diferentes grupos parlamentarios en el Congreso. Además, el CPC proporcionó comentarios al borrador del plan nacional de I+D presentado en julio 2017. En el Reino Unido, SRUK ha reeditado la encuesta sobre los posibles efectos del Brexit en nuestros miembros. Los resultados de esta encuesta se emplearon para proporcionar evidencia al comité de ciencia y tecnología del parlamento británico. Como resultado, SRUK fue invitado a una cumbre sobre el Brexit organizada por dicha comisión y ha fortalecido contactos con instituciones con el Russell Group y el Departamento del gobierno británico encargado de gestionar la investigación y universidades.



# INSTITUTIONAL LINKS

## Spanish State Visit

During the State Visit of the King and the Queen of Spain in July 2017, SRUK had the opportunity to meet them in a coffee meeting at the Crick Institute. During this event, we communicated our concerns regarding the situation of the Spanish Research System and also about Brexit. We introduced the King and the Queen to the Program MILLA as a project that will favour the collaboration of the UK and Spain.

*Meeting with the King and Queen of Spain during the State Visit at the Crick Institute*  
© Casa de S.M. el Rey



## Science and Technology Committee (Commons) - UK Parliament

SRUK was the only non-British institution invited to a Summit organised by the Science & Technology Committee (S&TC) of the House of Commons of the UK Parliament in London on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2018. This Summit followed the submission of a report where we communicated the results of our survey on Brexit. In the submission, we reported the concerns of SRUK members on Brexit and proposed measures to mitigate those risks. SRUK was one of the few actors of the British R&I system to take part in the Brexit Science and Innovation Summit, which was the round up event of the inquiry previously launched by the S&TC with the aim to identify actions needed now to mitigate risks and make the most of the opportunities for UK science, research and innovation after Brexit. The attendance to this summit enabled further contacts between SRUK and representatives for major British science organisations.

SRUK has also kept in close contact with institutions such as the Russell Group and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, from which the Ministry of State for Universities and Science depends, to foster bilateral collaborations in support of the R&I system in the UK.



*Science and Technology Committee Brexit Summit—London*

# INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

SRUK aims to bridge the collaboration gap between Spain and the UK enhancing the scientific success of both R&I systems.

## The International Collaborations

### Committee

**Nerea Irigoyen** (Director)  
**Silvia Corrochano**  
**Cristina Delgado**  
**María Jiménez**  
**Eduardo Oliver**

### SRUK-ASEICA Sub-committee

**Alba Maiques**  
**Ana Río-Machín**  
**Angélica Santiago**  
**Aida Santaolalla**

### SRUK-Physics Sub-committee

**Julia Campa**  
**Fernando González-Zalba**

### SRUK-Industry Sub-committee

**Cristina Delgado**  
**Patricia Forcén**  
**David Gutiérrez**

To achieve this goal, agreements will focus on two key aspects:

1. To provide a collaboration platform that will enhance visibility of research groups and raise awareness of potential partners (through a shared database and networking events between SRUK and Spanish institutions).
2. To facilitate bi-directional mobility of researchers in order to improve career development and attract talent to Spain.

### Partnerships and Collaborations:

During the last couple of years, SRUK has signed different agreements with several Spanish institutions (**Red de Universidades Valencianas por el fomento de la I+D - RUVID**; **Fundación Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria de Aragón – IIS Aragón**; **Instituto de Investigaciones Biomédicas de Málaga – IBIMA**; **Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas – CSIC**; **Conferencia de Rectores de las Universidades Españolas – CRUE**; **Asociación Española de Investigación sobre el Cáncer – ASEICA**). Since July 2017, new agreements have been reached leading to different activities:

- **Asociación Española de Investigación sobre el Cáncer** (Spanish Association of Cancer Research - ASEICA). Our agreement with ASEICA enhances **visibility of research groups related to cancer investigation** between Spain and the UK. Therefore, different approaches have been developed: i) webinars on cutting-edge topics in cancer research (e.g. 'Defeating cancer using the immune system'); and ii) a reduced registration fee for SRUK members to attend ASEICA conferences.
- **Fundación Damián Rodríguez Olivares (Fundación DRO)**. Our agreement aims to promote scientific entrepreneurship and knowledge transfer between academia and industry with professional development webinars such as 'From the lab to the market'.

## DEPARTAMENTO DE RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES

SRUK/CERU tiene como un objetivo fundacional ser **intermediario de la Ciencia** y para ello ha buscado y busca establecer acuerdos con instituciones científicas españolas. Estos convenios quieren estimular colaboraciones entre España y Reino Unido que promuevan la movilidad entre ambos países. Hasta el momento, SRUK/CERU ha firmado acuerdos entre otros con la **Red de Universidades Valencianas por el fomento de la I+D**, el **Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas**, la **Conferencia de Rectores de las Universidades Españolas**, la **Asociación Española de Investigación sobre el Cáncer**, la **Universidad Autónoma de Madrid**, la **Real Sociedad Española de Física** y la **Fundación DRO**. Durante el próximo año, seguiremos estableciendo convenios con distintas instituciones y continuaremos con nuestros programas de movilidad internacional entre España y Reino Unido.

- **Real Sociedad Española de Física** (Spanish Royal Society of Physics – RSEF). In April 2018, the event ‘A morning of Physics’ where distinguish researchers discussed the current challenges of the research of physical forces. This event was funded and hosted by *Fundación Ramón Areces* in Madrid.
- **Universidad Autónoma de Madrid** (Autonomous University of Madrid – UAM). In collaboration with UAM, we have launched the first ‘UAM/SRUK Summer Studentships’ to support the visit of undergraduate/ masters students from the UAM to research groups in the UK during summer 2018.

Furthermore, we have established and we are establishing further collaborations with different Spanish organizations to develop several activities (Fundación Pública Andaluza para la Investigación Biosanitaria Andalucía Oriental, International Mentoring Foundation for the Advancement of Higher Education, Universidad de La Coruña, etc.) and during this year we hope to launch our programme “SRUK On the Move” providing bi-directional mobility fellowships between the UK and Spanish Universities.



\*You can access the different agreements and databases (for registered members only) at <http://www.sruk.org.uk/content/internationalcollaborations>.

\*\*If you are an institution and want to collaborate with us in this initiative, please contact us at [international@sruk.org.uk](mailto:international@sruk.org.uk).

# ONLINE DEPARTMENT

## The Online Department

María Barreira (Director)

## Community Managers

Judit García  
Eduardo Oliver  
Víctor González  
Olaya Muñoz  
Alejandro Cámara  
Laura Carro  
Cristina Rodríguez

## Regional Community Managers

Diego Alonso Álvarez, Larissa Zárata (London)  
Ana Aviñó (Cambridge)  
Sara Priego (Midlands)  
Isabel Romero, Isabel Peset (NorthWest)  
Laura Martínez Maestro, Pablo Muñoz (Oxford)  
Eduardo Gómez Castañeda, Mario González (Scotland)  
Sara Alvira de Celis, Victoria Bueno González (SouthWest)  
Prado Domercq (Yorkshire)



[www.sruk.org.uk](http://www.sruk.org.uk)



## Making SRUK world-wide known

The SRUK Online department is responsible of **all SRUK online communications**, from our website to our social media. Our goal is to keep our members updated with all the events and initiatives organized by our society. We also work to increase SRUK world-wide visibility through **Internet and social media**.

This department is composed of 21 volunteers, known as community managers, some of whom are regional ones, responsible for advertising events taking place in their constituency. All community managers work in a daily basis to manage the following:

1. **SRUK website:** We are in charge of the management of our new website, launched in July 2017. The new website has enabled our members to be updated with the **latest events**, manage their **membership profile and finances** and register to **new initiatives and programs**. It has also improved our visibility and reputation to both internal and external audiences. Our department has been working to improve the website features to meet SRUK needs, solve any upcoming problems and trained around 40 SRUK volunteers in charge of uploading contents.
2. **SRUK Corporate image:** Since July 2017, we have worked on the establishment of a new SRUK corporate image, more homogenous, professional and stylish, that has helped in the development of the **SRUK brand**.
3. **SRUK Social media:** In the last year, we have increased the number of followers and interactions in our social media. We have reached **5055 followers in Facebook, 2570 in Twitter and 709 in LinkedIn**. We have tackled a wide range of matters and we have participated in social media campaigns, with a special focus on science policy, Women in STEM, and science outreach. We have also reactivated our **YouTube Channel** where our members and the general public can find the latest videos of our events and enjoy interesting webinars organised by SRUK.

If you are interested in joining the Online Department or have any enquiry, please contact us at [online@sruk.org.uk](mailto:online@sruk.org.uk)

## EL DEPARTAMENTO DE COMUNICACIÓN ONLINE Y REDES SOCIALES

El Departamento de comunicación online visibiliza el trabajo de CERU a través de Internet y las redes sociales. Esta labor ha servido para conectar investigadores y promocionar eventos e iniciativas de la sociedad, y también para apoyar participación activa de CERU en campañas relacionadas con política científica, el papel de las mujeres en la Ciencia y divulgación científica, entre otros temas.

Este año hemos estrenado nuestra nueva página web, que continuamos mejorando, y también hemos diseñado e implementado la nueva imagen corporativa de CERU, resultando en una imagen más homogénea y profesional de nuestra sociedad. Hemos seguido trabajando en las redes sociales, donde seguimos experimentando un aumento constante del número de seguidores, y hemos reactivado nuestro canal de YouTube.

For more information please contact [online@sruk.org.uk](mailto:online@sruk.org.uk)

# PRESS

# DEPARTMENT

## News from Researchers to Society

The Press Department works to improve the visibility of SRUK initiatives. Formed by an enthusiastic team of volunteers, it serves as a link between SRUK members, constituencies and departments with the media and the public. We act as main point of contact for journalist at local, national and international level.

From June 2017, the Press Department has issued (alone or in coordination with partner institutions) 12 press releases covering from the V Anniversary Seminar Series and our Annual Symposium to initiatives such as the SRUK Emerging Talent and the Young Basque Investigation Award. This year, SRUK appeared in the media more than 100 times, including general and specialized press, radio, television and digital media.

### The Press Department

Susana de Lucas Arias (Director)

### “En Fase Experimental” Radio Program

#### Season 5:

Teresa Rayón (Director)

Carlos Bricio

Rubén Pérez

Berta Verd

#### Previous members:

Aarón del Campo (Director)

Ruth García de la Calle

Aida Santaolalla Revenga

### BLOG “1,2,3... Explore!” editors in chief

Laura Martínez Maestro

Margarita Segovia Roldán

### Other Press Department members

Alba Abad Fernández, Lourdes Riquelme (Scotland)

Diego Alonso (2017 - Feb. 2018), Sandra Álvarez Carretero (from Apr. 2018), Paula Rodríguez Villamayor (from Apr. 2018) (London)

Beatriz Baño Otálora, Angélica Santiago Gómez (Northwest)

María Jesús Gómez Lamarca (2017), Toni Ferragud (from Apr. 2018) (Cambridge)

Eva Latorre (from Mar. 2018), Iñigo Urrutia (from Apr. 2018) (Southwest)

Laura Martínez Maestro (Oxford)

Margarita Segovia (Yorkshire)

Olaya Muñoz Azcarate



The Press department does not only promote our Society activities but is also in charge of disseminating the research of our more than 650 members. In the last year, our researchers' achievements have been covered by the media more than 40 times. In addition, as part of SRUK outreach program, the Press Department produces the **SRUK blog 1,2,3... Explore!** And the radio program "**En Fase Experimental**". Our fortnightly radio program includes the latest scientific news and interviews to researchers, serving as the perfect platform to reach the general public. We are present in iVoox and iTunes platforms, where our programs have reached more than 1800 listenings. Our loyal audience comes from Spain, UK and even Japan! Likewise, the **SRUK Blog 1,2,3... Explore!** helps to disseminate the research made by SRUK members, also improving their communication and outreach skills in English and Spanish. Since our integration in the new SRUK website we have received more than 6000 visitors. Our posts cover broad topics from dating Palaeolithic art to the use of maths in measuring urban pollution. Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, Biosciences, Social Sciences, History and other topics are welcome!

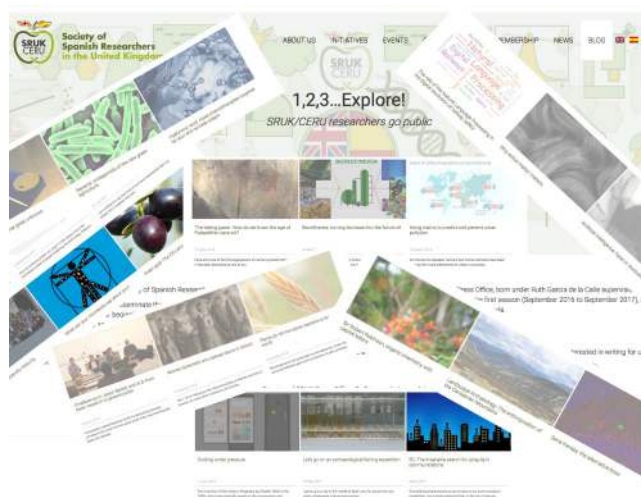
Last but not least, the Press Department organises webinars in Science Communication to broad researchers' skills in these areas (public engagement, science communication and social media).

We still have many goals to reach! The SRUK Press Department aims to potentiate the visibility of SRUK in the British media and to build a solid communication strategy for SRUK in collaboration with the Online and Communication Department.

## EL DEPARTAMENTO DE PRENSA DE CERU

Difundir las actividades de CERU y de sus socios en los medios de comunicación del Reino Unido y España es el principal objetivo del departamento de prensa de CERU, en el que trabajan más de 12 voluntarios de las diferentes delegaciones. El departamento de prensa potencia la visibilidad de las iniciativas de CERU en los medios a través de notas de prensa y la publicación de artículos de opinión. Además, difunde los trabajos de investigación de los socios de CERU tanto en los medios de comunicación como en sus propios canales de divulgación: El blog **1,2,3... Explore!** y el programa de radio "**En Fase Experimental**".

For more information please  
contact [press@sruk.org.uk](mailto:press@sruk.org.uk)



*The "En fase experimental" team during one of the programmes*

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Get the most out of your time in the UK with the SRUK Professional Development scheme.

## SRUK TRAVEL GRANTS 2018

### Members of the SRUK Fellowship Committee:

**Nerea Alonso** (Chair)  
**Nerea Irigoyen**  
**Silvia Corrochano**  
**Marta Vila Pueyo**



*We look forward to launching a new call for Travel Grants in December 2018!*

In April 2018, for the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, SRUK awarded a travel grant to ten members to support the costs of presenting their research at conferences all over the world. To improve the career prospects of our more junior members, we decided to restrict the call to members that do not hold a permanent position. SRUK Scientific Committee received and evaluated 37 applications based in the applicant's CV, a lay abstract describing their work and the expected benefit to the applicant from attending the conference.

### The SRUK Travel Grants 2018 awardees are:

<b>Beatriz Baño Otálora</b>	<b>Javier Igea de Castro</b>
<b>Ignacio Carranza Guisado</b>	<b>Natalia Jiménez Moreno</b>
<b>Juan Carlos de la Concepción Romero</b>	<b>Beatriz Larraz Prieto</b>
<b>Judit García González</b>	<b>Carlos Martínez Pérez</b>
<b>David González Álvarez</b>	<b>Sergio Pérez Pérez</b>

## CIENCIA UK 2017

In 2017, SRUK returned to Madrid in November to provide young researchers and students with a view of the professional opportunities in science that the UK offers. In "CienciaUK 2017", SRUK gathered together more than 100 people in *Fundación Ramón Areces*. Talks from speakers gave insightful examples of the research career paths in the UK, both in academia and in other science-related jobs, covering a wide range of case studies: from working in industry to science policy or from business development to science diplomacy. This event, which has now been celebrated in Madrid for 4 consecutive years, will continue to bring innovative approaches to foster professional development of Spanish young researchers.

 Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom  
**FUNDACIÓN RAMÓN ARECES**  
**17/noviembre/2017**  
 Salón de Actos Fundación Ramón Areces  
 Calle Vitruvio, 5 Madrid fundacionareces.es

**CIENCIA UK 2017**  
 LA CARRERA INVESTIGADORA Y PROFESIONES CIENTÍFICAS EN REINO UNIDO

Inscripción gratuita: <http://bit.ly/CienciaUK17>  
 En colaboración con FECYT

## TARGET NETWORKS

Discussing one's experiences and sharing opportunities with other members in the same situation is very useful for professional development. For this reason, we have launched a new program, Target Networks, to create specific groups that members can join according to their interests.

In October 2017, the Target Network for Engineering began as a forum to facilitate engineers' connections and collaborations, to enhance interaction between engineers in Industry and Academia, and to open a space for discussion. We launched a cycle of conferences entitled "The future of...", which will take place in different constituencies, aiming to increase awareness about Engineering across SRUK members, and invite engineers all over the UK to participate. The talks are carried out in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere on a social location, and explore the trends in different fields of engineering from both academic and industrial perspectives.

The first event of this series took place in March in London, and attracted nearly 40 attendees who had the opportunity to discover and discuss the future of Medical Electronics. Dr Melpomeni Kalofonou, Research Fellow at Imperial College, explained how tiny microchips are being used to detect cancer, unveiling the potential of these technology for the next generation of diagnostic platforms. Then, Dr Miguel Silveira, co-founder of Aidicare, presented recent developments on medical wearables in Industry, providing an overview of the possibilities - and challenges - that our health data has to improve our lifestyle and wellbeing.

If at any moment you are interested in participating in these groups or in helping to set up other networks, write to [roving@sruk.org.uk](mailto:roving@sruk.org.uk).



*Members in one of the Target Network's events*

## The SRUK SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

The SRUK Scientific Committee participates in scientific evaluations of SRUK initiatives and provides advice to the board of directors on scientific matters. The Scientific Committee evaluates the SRUK Travel Grants, the Young Basque Investigator award, and other grants such as the British Spanish Society Scholarships.

### Members of the SRUK Scientific Committee

**Nerea Alonso (Chair)**, University of Edinburgh, **Virginia Arechavala Gomeza**, BioCruces Health Research Institute, **Pedro Ballester**, INSERM, Marseille, France, **Cristina Delgado**, Protein Pharmaceuticals, **Carmen Domene**, University of Bath, **Javier Escudero**, University of Edinburgh, **Javier Feijoo**, Universidad del País Vasco, **Nuria Ferrándiz Díaz**, MRC-Imperial College London, **Francisco Flórez-Revueña**, Universidad de Alicante, **Victor Flors**, Universidad Jaume I Castellón, **Moisés García Arencibia**, Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, **Rocío Gómez**, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, **Maria Hernández Fuentes**, UCB Pharma, **Julia Herrero Albillos**, Centro Universitario de la Defensa de Zaragoza, **Francisco López Cantos**, Universidad Jaume I de Castellón, **Gloria López Castejón**, University of Manchester, **Victoria Pastor**, Universidad Jaume I de Castellón, **Juan Suárez**, Agency of the Forestry Commission Northern Research Station, **Marta Vila Pueyo**, King's College London.

The scientific committee is renewed periodically. Please contact [roving@sruk.org.uk](mailto:roving@sruk.org.uk) if you want to take part.



# MENTORING PROGRAMME

## The Mentoring Committee

Ana R o Mach n (Chair)  
Mar a Jim nez  
Estrella Luna  
Patricia Forc n  
David Guti rrez  
Elena Moreno



SRUK is aware of the issues that most Spanish researchers will face when developing their research career in the UK. Along a career-building path, it is necessary to acquire additional skills and expertise to plan next steps, to learn how to manage and collaborate with students, colleagues and collaborators.

We have designed a mentoring scheme to help and support our members to maximize their opportunities and plan a successful career path. The SRUK Mentoring Programme benefits from the diverse range of members' skills and fields of expertise, as well as from their previous working experience in the British, Spanish and other international systems. Mentors encourage, guide and support less experienced members, the mentees, to maximize their potential, develop their skills and guide them in their careers. The first edition of the mentoring programme started in September 2016 with 22 pairs mentor-mentee, matched according to their research area and expertise, as well as development needs and career ambitions of the mentee. Following the success of the first edition, we opened a new edition that started in November 2017 with 28 new mentee pairs. The SRUK Mentoring Committee have offered free and mandatory training for mentors and mentees in a webinar format. We have also provided mentors and mentees with tips for mentees that can help to make the mentoring meetings more dynamic and productive and will help them to define the support they want to receive. SRUK offers Travel awards covering the mentee or mentor's travelling expenses for face to face meetings. SRUK also wants to recognize the effort and the relevant role of mentors in this Programme. Therefore, at the end of the first year of relationship, mentees were asked to nominate their mentors for a Mentor Recognition Award and six mentors that offered an outstanding performance received the award. Nominations for the second edition of Mentor Recognition Awards will open in September 2018.

The two first editions of the SRUK Mentoring Programme has been a complete success, which has encouraged us to work on the new edition that **will kick off in November 2018**, stay tuned for updates!

## EL PROGRAMA DE MENTORING

CERU es consciente de los problemas que los investigadores espa oles enfrentan al desarrollar su carrera profesional en el Reino Unido y por ello hemos dise ado un programa de mentoring con el objetivo de ayudar a maximizar sus oportunidades y planificar una carrera exitosa. La primera edici n del programa comenz  en agosto de 2016 con 22 parejas mentor-mentee que desarrollaron su relaci n de mentoring a lo largo de un a o, de las cuales 9 decidieron continuar otro a o m s. La segunda edici n del programa comenz  en noviembre de 2017 con 28 nuevas parejas y algunas novedades en el registro y seguimiento para mejorar el funcionamiento del programa y las parejas. Se ha impartido un curso de formaci n gratuito y obligatorio para los nuevos participantes y se ha proporcionado documentaci n para ayudarles a construir relaciones de mentoring m s fluidas y fruct feras. Se han ofertado bolsas de viaje para dar la oportunidad de conocerse a mentor y mentee, as  como un premio de reconocimiento a los mentores m s excepcionales. La nueva edici n del programa comenzar  en noviembre de 2018.

For more information please contact  
[mentoring@sruk.org.uk](mailto:mentoring@sruk.org.uk)

# SRUK AWARDS

## Recognising and fostering Spanish talent in the UK

### Members of the SRUK Awards Committee

**Nerea Alonso** (Chair)  
**Fernando A. Jiménez**  
**Patricia Gómez Suaga**

## SRUK/BIZKAIA: TALENT YOUNG BASQUE INVESTIGATOR AWARD

Supported by:



[www.scienceplus.es](http://www.scienceplus.es)

For more information please contact  
[international@sruk.org.uk](mailto:international@sruk.org.uk)

Currently, SRUK has three awards that acknowledge the outstanding work of researchers at different stages of their career. In 2017, we launched the first edition of the SRUK Young Basque Investigator Award Bizkaia Talent. In 2018, we launched the third edition of the Emerging Talent Award with the support of *Fundación Banco Santander*. We also run the biannual SRUK Merit Award recognising excellent research trajectories of Spanish researchers in the UK.

The **Young Basque Investigator Award**, funded by **Bizkaia Talent** in collaboration with **SRUK**, aims to recognize and support the professional career of young Basque researchers who carry out their research activity in the United Kingdom.

In the first edition, the awardees were **Dr Naiara Rodríguez Flórez**, **Dr José Ignacio Aizpurua Unanue** and **Dr Eneko Axpe Iza**.

**Dr Naiara Rodríguez Flórez** (Imperial College London) won the first award (5000€). She works on the development of new techniques to improve the treatment of newborns with craniofacial anomalies and used the money of this award to present her results at the prestigious biannual conference of the International Society of Craniofacial Surgery (ISCF) in Mexico.

**Dr José Ignacio Aizpurua Unanue** (University of Strathclyde, Glasgow) won the second award (1000€). José Ignacio works on the design of prediction and diagnosis models for electrical component failures and he invested the money of the award in funding a stay in Glasgow of one of his PhD students from the University of Mondragón.

**Dr Eneko Axpe Iza** (University of Cambridge), a researcher in biomaterials and tissue engineering, also won the second award (1000€). With the award, he held the “Developing new materials for tissue engineering” workshop in November 2017 in Bilbao with the attendance of international prestigious researchers.



*Dr Aizpurua Unanue, Dr Rodríguez Flórez and Dr Axpe Iza in the Award ceremony*

## SRUK MERIT AWARD

2018

We are very pleased to introduce Prof Mercedes Maroto-Valer as the 2018 SRUK Merit Awardee. The aim of this award is to recognise the career of a researcher who has had a prominent role in the advancement of research and has promoted scientific collaborations between Spain and the UK.



*Prof Mercedes Maroto-Valer,  
2018 SRUK Merit Awardee*

### **Professor Mercedes Maroto-Valer (FRSE, FIChemE, FRSC, FRSA, CEng)**

Prof Mercedes Maroto-Valer (FRSE, FIChemE, FRSC, FRSA) is Assistant Deputy Principal (Research & Innovation) and Director of the Research Centre for Carbon Solutions (RCCS) at Heriot-Watt University.

She started her studies in Chemical Engineering at the University of Basque Country and obtained her PhD at the University of Strathclyde (Scotland). After working in the United States for 7 years at the Centre for Applied Energy Research (University of Kentucky), and at the Pennsylvania State University, she joined the University of Nottingham as Reader in 2005 and within 3 years she was promoted to Professor in Energy Technologies. During her time at Nottingham she was Head of the Energy and Sustainability Research Division at the Faculty of Engineering.

She joined Heriot-Watt University in 2012 as the first Buchan Chair in Sustainable Energy Engineering and she has been Director of the cross-university Energy Academy and Head of the Institute of Mechanical, Process and Energy Engineering. Currently, she is the Director of the Research Centre for Carbon Solutions (RCCS), a world leading engineering centre focused on delivering innovation for the wider deployment of carbon dioxide capture, storage and utilization technologies. She has been awarded a prestigious European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Award, leading a team that develops novel solutions to meet the worldwide strive for energy, with particular emphasis on clean technologies, including carbon dioxide capture, transport, storage and utilization. She has over 440 publications, and 32% of her publications are in top 10% most cited worldwide. She holds leading positions in professional societies and editorial boards and has received numerous international prizes and awards, including 2013 Hong-Kong University Mong Distinguished Fellowship, 2011 RSC Environment, Sustainability and Energy Division Early Career Award, 2009 Philip Leverhulme Prize, 2005 US Department of Energy Award for Innovative Development.

In her acceptance speech during the VI International Symposium, Prof Maroto-Valer emphasised the importance of investing in science and technology, international collaborations, and recognising the achievements of women in research.



*Prof Mercedes Maroto-Valer holds the  
2018 SRUK Merit Award after her acceptance  
speech with members of the  
Board of Directors of SRUK*

# SRUK EMERGING TALENT

## 2018

Supported by:



### SRUK Emerging Talent Award 2018 Finalists:

**Marc Vendrell**  
**Meritxell Huch Ortega**  
**Pablo Lamata de la Orden**  
**Pau Figueras**

### SRUK Emerging Talent Award Evaluation Panel:

**Laura Lechuga** (Chair)  
Instituto Catalán de Nanociencia y Nanotecnología

**Alicia Hidalgo**  
University of Birmingham

**Blanca Rodríguez**  
University of Oxford

**Carmen Galán**  
University of Bristol

**Francisco Guinea**  
Instituto de Ciencias de Materiales (CSIC)

**Ginés Morata**  
Centro de Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa (UAM-CSIC)

**Javier García Martínez**  
Universidad de Alicante

**José Antonio Carrillo**  
Imperial College London

**Juan Martín Serrano**  
King's College London

**Pilar Gayán**  
Instituto de Carboquímica (CSIC)

**Sonia Antoraz**  
University of Oxford

We are very pleased to have launched the third edition of the SRUK Emerging Talent Award supported by *Fundación Banco Santander* under its “Young Talent” programme. The aim of this award is to recognise and support a promising young Spanish researcher who has developed his/her career in the UK.

The prize consists of £14,000 to be invested in the development of the awardee’s career, such as research-related tasks, dissemination of recent results, specialised training or family arrangements. This award also seeks to increase the visibility of the winner’s research to both British and Spanish societies.

## Dr David Fairen Jiménez wins the 2018 SRUK Emerging Talent Award



*Dr David Fairen Jiménez*

**Dr David Fairén-Jiménez** developed his scientific career in Spain, the UK and the United States, before settling in the United Kingdom in late 2012 as a Royal Society University Research Fellow at the University of Cambridge. He currently directs the

Adsorption and Advanced Materials Laboratory in the Department of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology at the University of Cambridge. He has published more than 70 scientific articles and he has filed five patents. He is also founder and director of Immaterial Labs Ltd and Tarsis Technologies Ltd. In 2016, he received a Consolidator Grant from the European Research Council.

His group is an international reference for the design and development of new materials. His work combines the use of supercomputers to predict, simultaneously, the performance of thousands of materials in each application with the synthesis of the best candidates in the laboratory. In addition, David is a perfect example of how basic research has a beneficial impact on the society, as shown by the combination of lab work with its commercial development. David will use the prize to improve the intellectual property of the spin-out Company Immaterial and to improve work/family balance.

We received 12 high-quality applications that have been assessed by the designated scientific panel. Based on their evaluations, the awardee was ratified by a jury composed by representatives of SRUK, the Emerging Talent Award evaluation panel, the *Fundación Banco Santander*, *Fundación Ramón Areces*, the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT), and the Office of Cultural and Scientific Affairs of the Embassy of Spain in the United Kingdom.

For more information please contact [awards@sruk.org.uk](mailto:awards@sruk.org.uk)

# THE V INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM SRUK

## Members of the Organising Committee

Lorenzo de la Rica (Chair)  
Fidel Alfaro  
Ana Río-Machin  
Elena Moreno  
David Ruano  
David M. Gutiérrez  
Sandra Pérez  
Diego Alonso  
Jose Antonio Gomez  
Alba Maiques  
Maria Barreira  
Patricia Bernal

One more year, we got together to share our work with other members in our Annual International Symposium

The symposium, held in London the 7-9th of July 2017, celebrated the V anniversary of the Society and was attended by more than 170 people.

The Symposium started at the Spanish Embassy in London with a lecture by the first Spanish astronaut, **Pedro Duque**, who explained the current possibilities for the realization of experiments in microgravity. The neuroscientist **Mara Dierssen** (Centre for Genomic Research), an expert on intellectual disabilities such as Down syndrome, remarked the value of basic research in order to "find treatments and improve diseases symptoms in the long term."

The V Symposia of SRUK brought together **Carmen Vela**, the Spanish State Secretary for Research, Development and Innovation; **Carlos Bastarache Sagües**, H.E. The Ambassador of Spain in the UK, and **Raimundo Pérez-Hernández y Torra**, Director of *Fundación Ramón Areces*, who highlighted the relevance of scientific advances and discoveries in today's society and the work of SRUK.



*Pedro Duque and Mara Dierssen during the opening ceremony of the V International Symposium (Credit: Alberto Amortegui)*

The main venue of the Symposium was Queen Mary University of London, where the researchers presented their latest results and discussed the role of science in society in order to solve the Global Challenges that humanity is facing. In this regard, **Jonathan Davis**, from Montfort University and an expert on sustainable cities, has said: "austerity takes time and headspace" and "the permanent dispossession of a majority provokes outbursts of citizen fury". In a debate with **Jenny Nelson**, from Imperial College and Renewable Energy expert, **Natasha Howard**, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and expert on epidemics such as Ebola, and **Marta G. Rivera-Ferre**, doctor of the University of Vic and expert in sustainable agriculture, the researchers highlighted the challenges humanity is facing at the global level and how scientists can meet the challenges of the 21st century and how to find the



*Members attending to a talk at the V International Symposium*

**Pere Estupinya**, expert in scientific outreach and **Katherine Mathieson**, of the British Science Association, discussed how to transmit the scientific knowledge of researchers to get better communication with society in order to influence political and strategic decisions. They, together with **Pablo Barrecheguren**, **Helena Gonzalez-Burón**, **Antonio Calvo Roy** and **Susana de Lucas** discussed about the key role science communication should have on our community and made the audience laugh. The first two belong to **Big Van Scientist on Wheels**, which tries to bring science to lay audiences using humour. They also provided feedback to the 8 selected short talks.

The importance of diversity in Science was discussed by **Eulalia Pérez Sedeño** (CSIC) who explained the possible solutions for tackling the gender bias, and finally, **Claire McNulty** (British Council) talked about the potential challenges and opportunities that British scientific system may face after the result of the EU referendum and explained the future recommendations for UK-EU relationships in Europe.

The symposium also included four professional development workshops: Use of Scientific Monologue as a science outreach tool (by **BigVan**), Creativity in research (by **Seisques**), Scientific Entrepreneurship (by **NIMGenetics**) and training How to shape a competitive proposal (ERC & MSCA) (by **FECYT**).

Also during the Symposium, we held our Society's Annual General Meeting (AGM). Here, the 2016-2017 President María Jiménez, Vice-President Estrella Luna, Secretary Rocío Gaudioso and the Treasurer Francesc Coll, presented an update of all initiatives, events and budget of the past year. To conclude the AGM, the new Board of Directors was elected.



*Attendees to the V International Symposium SRUK*

# SRUK Wo/Men Equity & Research

## Promoting gender equity and diversity in research

In December 2017, this committee was established to work on three key aspects:

### 1. To raise awareness of the role of women in research.

In partnership with 11febrero.org, SRUK celebrated the **International Day of Women and Girls in Science**. Five events took place in different constituencies during February 2018 to give visibility to the work of women in science as well as their leadership and management skills.

### 2. To promote women professional development.

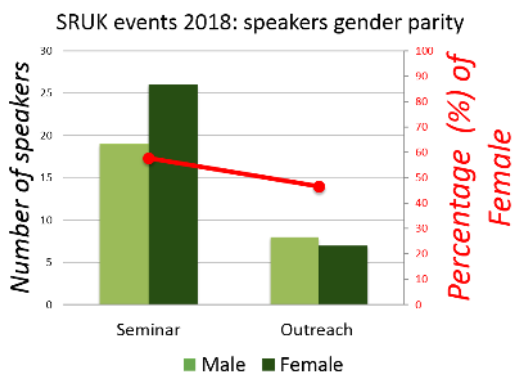
A series of webinars to promote the **professional career development** of women in science were launched to focus on those aspects that are limiting women's progression to senior positions in science. These include **leadership skills, imposter syndrome, unconscious bias** and the impact of **career breaks**, among other topics.

### 3. To support a work-family balance.

SRUK has encouraged the celebration of events that facilitate the development of a research career while having family care responsibilities through the organization of "family-friendly" events.

### Members of the Wo/men Committee

- María Jiménez-Sánchez (Chair)
- Diego Alonso
- Patricia Bernal
- Rosalía Fernández
- Patricia Forcén
- Judit García
- Sara García
- Carla González
- Beatriz Jorrín
- Eva Latorre
- María Martín



SRUK is working to promote gender parity in their events and in evaluation committees

### SRUK Wo/Men Survey 2018

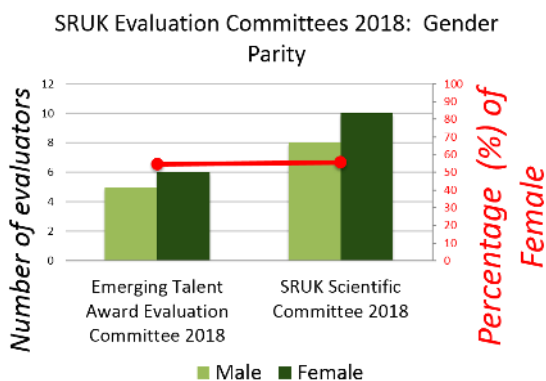
Building up on the 2016 Athena Survey of Science, Engineering and Technology (ASSET) designed by the Equality Challenge Unit (ECU) and distributed to UK higher education institutions, the SRUK Wo/Men committee launched a **survey aiming to collect the perception and experience in gender equality of Spanish female and male researchers** from any country in the world.

This survey was open to any Spanish researcher working at a university or research centre in Spain or any other country worldwide. **The more than 1,500 responses** collected will provide invaluable data that will facilitate recognising areas for future work.

## El Comité de Wo/Men

En diciembre de 2017 se estableció el Comité de Mujer en Investigación y Equidad de CERU con el fin de dar visibilidad al papel de la mujer en ciencia, promover su desarrollo profesional y favorecer la conciliación familiar.

Entre otras actividades, CERU ha celebrado diversos eventos en diferentes delegaciones en febrero de 2018 con motivo del Día Internacional de la Mujer y la Niña en Ciencia. Desde este comité se han lanzado una serie de webinaros para fomentar la progresión de la mujer en su carrera profesional y se ha distribuido una encuesta para recoger la percepción y experiencia de género entre los investigadores españoles tanto dentro como fuera del Reino Unido.



SRUK is working to promote gender parity in their events and in evaluation committees

For more information please contact [women@sruk.org.uk](mailto:women@sruk.org.uk)

# LONDON

## CONSTITUENCY

### The London Regional Board

**Lorenzo de la Rica Lázaro** (Director)  
**David Manuel Gutiérrez Estévez** (Vice-Director)  
**Diego Alonso Álvarez** (Secretary and Online Manager)

### The London Working Group

**Sandra Álvarez-Carretero** (Press Officer),  
**Pilar Acedo Núñez**, **Irene Echeverría Altuna**,  
**Victoria González-Sabater Budilov**, **Marisa Matey Hernandez**, **Luis Moliner Cachazo**,  
**Sergio Pérez**, **Kiko Rul-lan**, **Larissa Zarate**,  
**Maru Fuentes** (until Mar. 2018), **Amalia Martínez Segura** (until Mar. 2018)



*The London Regional Board*

### Plans 2018/2019

During the second half of 2018, we will organise more scientific seminars such as “Science in the Pub”, as well as an event focused on “Science and Mental Health”. We will continue organising other social events such as an outdoor gathering in Spring/Summer, the welcome party, the annual assembly and the Christmas dinner.

London is a world capital that is home to several world leading universities (i.e. Imperial College London, University College London, Kings College, etc.) Its vibrant lifestyle is imprinted in a big and active research community that loves to get involved in science and meeting to discuss about ways to improve science.

### Events 2017/2018

The London constituency was heavily involved in the organisation of the successful SRUK V Anniversary International Symposium, which gathered almost 200 people and attracted world-class speakers (see page 21). The 2017/2018 academic year has been a busy one for our constituency as we have organised a myriad of events devoted to both our members and the general members of the British society with an interest in science. In the social side of things, we organised a well attended **Welcome Party** for “New Londoners” in October 2017. We closed 2017 with the traditional festive “**Christmas dinner**”. Our scientific events season started **linking the arts and science**, where the speakers explained the importance and overlapping of these two disciplines. The year 2018 started really strong with a “**Science in the Pub**”, where three speakers coming from as diverse backgrounds as video-game design, phylogenetics, and fluid physics, explained in lay terms what their research or job was about. We also learnt about “**The History of Science**” in a seminar delivered by one of the SRUK founding members. Interestingly, “**The future of medical electronics**”, organised by SRUK’s Engineering Target Group, was focused on the interface of medical engineering and biology. This year’s “**Alternatives to Academia**” had researchers who left academia and explained what their jobs in big pharma, medical writing or technology transfer, among others, were like. A really successful training course on “**Scientific Computing**” was delivered by members of our constituency, giving the basics of programming to both SRUK and non-SRUK members. We also partnered with other prestigious organisations to co-organise events such as the “**Global Challenges Roundtable on Food Water and Heat sustainability**”, which took place at the London South Bank University. Additionally, we also partnered with the Cervantes Institute of London and the Scientific and Cultural Affairs of the Spanish Embassy to bring Prof Alicia Sintés to London to talk about “**Gravitational Waves: This is how the University Sounds**”.

## LA DELEGACIÓN DE LONDRES

La delegación de Londres es la más numerosa de la CERU. Desde nuestra posición central en la capital del Reino Unido, servimos de puente de unión entre el resto de delegaciones (y Junta Directiva) con numerosos organismos, asociaciones e instituciones cuya sede está en Londres. Contamos con una comunidad científica grande y activa, que colabora en todas las actividades cuyo fin es mejorar la ciencia.

Realizamos actividades destinadas a ampliar las opciones laborales de los científicos, a dar a conocer la ciencia que hacen nuestros miembros al resto del público, así como eventos sociales donde miembros y no miembros pueden interactuar, hacer networking, y ampliar su red de contactos sociales y profesionales.



# OXFORD CONSTITUENCY

## The Oxford Regional Board

**Carmen Sánchez Cañizares** (Director)  
**Rubén González** (Vice-Director)  
**Carlos Portillo** (Secretary until Dec. 2017) and  
**Pablo Muñoz** (Secretary from Dec. 2017)

## The Oxford Working Group

**Laura Martínez** (Online Regional Manager and Press Officer), **Carlos Portillo** (Treasurer), **Fidel Alfaro**, **David López**, **Silvia Corrochano**, **Alex Sel**, **Laura Mosteo**, **Ibón Santiago**, **Sergio Silva**, **Cristina Delgado**, **Antonio García**, **Beatriz Jorrín**



*The Oxford Regional Board*

## Events 2017/2018

The Oxford constituency had the opportunity to be part of the celebrations of the SRUK V Anniversary. We held a Neuroscience Symposium with more than 100 attendees entitled **“The very essence of what we are”** aimed to commemorate Santiago Ramon y Cajal’s discoveries in the 111<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his Nobel Prize award. This event brought researchers from different specialities: Prof Javier de Felipe (Ramón y Cajal Institute), Prof Thomas Bliss (University College London) and Prof Susan Greenfield (University of Oxford) and we had a really interesting, magical and neuroscientific session by Mr Matthew Tompkins.

We also organised a discussion panel entitled **“Women in Science and the Glass Ceiling”** with Dr Stephanie Hayton, Dr Debbie Hayton, Dr María Jiménez and Dr Niranjana Thatte as invited speakers. Covering both the earlier stages of education and the later stages of the scientific career, they gave a short talk, followed by a discussion where the attendees actively participated. As part of the activities of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, we



*Guided tour organised for the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.*

organised a very successful guided tour entitled **“Women that changed the world: pioneers in science and arts”**, where we walked through Oxford city centre, linking iconic places to women who made decisive contributions to science and arts.

We enjoyed Dr Rosario Rueda (University of Granada) seminar that took place during the summer in the **Seminar Series of Spanish Scientists visiting Oxford**. Rosario explained about how childhood poverty could affect the neuro-cognitive development of babies, emphasising the current figures of childhood poverty in Spain. At the beginning of 2018, we also held the 6th edition of our classic scientific **mini-symposia**, where different members of the constituency presented their research in an informal but time-rigorous style. And a month later, Salvador Aznar gave a **pub seminar** on stem cells and the effect that the diet has in metastasis.

## Plans 2018/2019

During the second half of 2018 we will organise a workshop about Statistics and Biology and another one based on the transition from Academia to the Industry. We will continue organising mini-symposia, scientific seminars and social events.

## LA DELEGACIÓN DE OXFORD

La delegación de Oxford, creada hace cuatro años, mantiene un número de socios similar al del año pasado. Entre las actividades que organizamos, cabe destacar el Seminario de Neurociencia para el V Aniversario, y los eventos de Mujer y Ciencia (mesa redonda sobre el techo de cristal y visita guiada sobre científicas en Oxford). Además, de los distintos seminarios científicos también tuvimos la ocasión de participar en la visita de los Reyes a Reino Unido.

For more information please contact [oxford@sruk.org.uk](mailto:oxford@sruk.org.uk)

# CAMBRIDGE CONSTITUENCY

## The Cambridge Regional Board

**Anna Vilalta** (Director until Apr. 2018), **Cecilia Huertas** (Director from Apr. 2018)  
**Fernando González Zalba** (Vice-Director)  
**Carlos González** (Secretary)

## The Cambridge Working Group

**Ana Aviñó** (Online Manager), **María Jesús Gómez** (Press Officer), **Raúl de la Flor** (Online Manager), **Marta Luna**, **Ana López**, **Toni Ferragud** (Regional Press officer from Mar. 2018), **Estela González**



*Art and Science, a SRUK Initiative*

## Plans 2018/2019

For next year, we keep having our informal talks “Pint of knowledge” and social activities such as a wine tasting and our traditional Summer BBQ.

Cambridge has a well known and deserved reputation of being one of the best Universities in the world and is the institution accounting with more affiliates that have received a Nobel Prize. This creates the perfect atmosphere to enable scientific discussion and engagement with talks from different disciplines.

## Events 2017/2018

We have been very active last year and have organized multiple events of different kind. The most popular social event has been as always our **Summer BBQ**. The first seminar from this period was about the “**Impact of Research**” that we organized in collaboration with Hughes Hall College. We learned how to improve our research’s impact thanks to Dr Richard van Noorden (Features editor at Nature), Dr Carlos Gómez (Head of Knowledge Transfer) and Dr Agnieszka Iwasiewicz (Knowledge Transfer Facilitator).

We then started November with a very engaging and interactive “**Pint ok knowledge**” given by Dr Eneko Axpe on “Artificial organs: Fantasy or Reality?”. On the same month the three winner couples from “**Art&Science: a SRUK initiative**” presented their work and their collaborative experience in a roundtable chaired by the Journalist América Valenzuela at the Espacio Fundación Telefónica in Madrid. Their works were exhibited for four days at the Fundación and received a great number of visitors. By the end of the year we also had the opportunity to talk with all the artists and scientists involved in the Art&Science initiative with a last Exhibition in Cambridge at the Barnabas church which allowed us to talk to them while seeing their works.

The new year started with an amazing “Pint of Knowledge” talk on the field of virology: on the “Invisible Enemies” by Dr Nerea Irigoyen. We finished this year with more women as speakers in a seminar organized for the International Day of Women and Girl in Science. This seminar “**Women and Career Development: fighting against gender inequality**” had the presence of six researchers (Dr Maria Alcolea, Dr Milka Sarris, Dr Svetlana Khoronenkova, Dr Thora Karadottir, Dr Lydia Drummright, Dr Paula Banca), a representative from the Athena Swan working group of the University of Cambridge (Dr Miriam Lynn) and was chaired by Dr Sonia Ilie, Hughes Hall fellow. The researchers talked about their careers difficulties and managed to empower all the audience.

## LA DELEGACIÓN DE CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge ha seguido apostando este año por la diversidad de eventos. Empezamos el curso con un evento social para despedir el verano, la Summer BBQ, para después adentrarnos en el impacto en la investigación. Hemos seguido disfrutando de las charlas divulgativas “Pint of Knowledge” con temas tan interesantes como los órganos artificiales y los virus. Seguimos apostando por el arte como vehículo de comunicación científica con la presentación de artistas y científicos ganadores de “Art&Science, a SRUK initiative” en el Espacio Fundación Telefónica de Madrid. La iniciativa también llegó a Cambridge donde tuvimos la oportunidad de hablar de forma distendida con los artistas y científicos implicados. Para celebrar el día internacional de la mujer y la niña en ciencia organizamos un seminario con una mesa redonda con la presencia de seis investigadoras y una representante del grupo de trabajo Athena Swan de la Universidad de Cambridge.

For more information please contact  
[cambridge@sruk.org.uk](mailto:cambridge@sruk.org.uk)

# THE SOUTH-WEST CONSTITUENCY

## The South-West Regional Board

**Sara Alvira de Celis** (Director and Online Manager)  
**Zuriñe Antón** (Vice-Director)  
**Victoria Bueno González** (Secretary)

## The South-West Working Group

**Iñigo Urrutia, Alba López, Alejandro Lorente, Jon Palacios, Paula Rodríguez, Diego Sainz**



*The South-West Regional Board*

The South-West Constituency is composed of several scientific nuclei throughout the South-West area including Bristol, Bath, Cardiff and Exeter among other smaller cities. The coincidence of this constituency with the GW4 Alliance provides a fantastic opportunity to foster scientific collaborations between the most research-intensive and innovative universities of the South-West. We work hard in involving, engaging and bringing together SRUK members and local academics from different research areas of these Universities.

## Events 2017/2018

After the reactivation of the South West constituency in 2017, we have successfully seen a blossom in members, volunteers and a great range of diverse organised activities. Moreover, we have gained an important and invaluable visibility in Bristol city and at the University of Bristol, being involved in **international support programs** and collaborating with several research institutes and outreach teams (STEMming Girls, February). Among the activities organised in 2017/2018, including workshops (**Arduino Workshop**, January), seminars, social and scientific events, we highlight the efforts for establishing local and international connections (**South West Battle** Cardiff and Bath editions, May and September; **Mexican-Spanish I Fraternisation meeting**, August). Our scientific flag event during 2017, the one-day Symposium "**Energy access for displaced people**" (October), brought outstanding British and Spanish experts in Engineering and Social Sciences for addressing global challenges. Overcoming the success of 2017, on May 2018, we celebrated the outreach event "**Science in the Kitchen**" in Bristol with the participation of the President of the Spanish Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Prof Félix Goñi, and the Royal Society Fellow, Prof Richard Evershed. The workshop following the talks was a complete success.



*SRUK members and friends in the event 'Science in the Kitchen'*

## Plans

Thanks to the expansion of the working group we have designed a vibrant event's calendar for 2018/2019. We are organising an important event for Autumn 2018 - "The magic of neuroscience" - for addressing human perception. We would like to celebrate the first "GW4 meeting" (Spring 2019) for exploring and giving advice to our SRUK members and the general public about the job opportunities in and outside academia at the South West area. We will continue celebrating regular social meetings to welcome to our growing new members (Freshers welcome and Xmas dinner) and exciting outreach events.

## LA DELEGACIÓN DE SOUTH-WEST

La delegación South West se encuentra situada en uno de los núcleos científicos más importantes de Gran Bretaña. La reciente alianza de las universidades de Bristol, Cardiff, Bath y Exeter - GW4 Alliance - supone el reclutamiento y acopio de un gran número de investigadores nacionales e internacionales en esta región. Esta afortunada particularidad hace que la delegación South West sea altamente fructífera en transferencia de conocimiento y oportunidades laborales. Gracias al extenso trabajo que ha realizado el grupo de trabajo, la delegación South West ha ganado una visibilidad muy importante en la Universidad de Bristol colaborando en programas internacionales, con departamentos de divulgación científica y con distintos institutos de investigación.

For more information please contact [southwest@sruk.org.uk](mailto:southwest@sruk.org.uk)

# THE MIDLANDS CONSTITUENCY

## The Midlands Regional Board

**José Luis Brioso** (Director from Apr. 2018), **Daniel Escalera** (Director until Apr. 2018)

**Manuel Daza** (Vicedirector and treasurer until Apr. 2018)

**María Cuenca** (Secretary until Apr. 2018)

**Claudia Román** (Secretary from Apr. 2018)

## The Midlands Working Group

**Sara Priego**

**Miguel Ángel Molina**

**Elena Moreno Martínez**



SRUK members and friends with Robin Hood

The Midlands constituency was re-established after the III International Symposium SRUK, and re-structured soon afterwards. Currently, The Midlands constituency encompasses eleven cities and involves more than 25 members. Its dynamic working group is working hard to organise several social and scientific events throughout the year.

## Events 2017/2018

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2017, The Midlands constituency held a socio-scientific meeting in Nottingham, the first event to take place outside the headquarters in Birmingham. We met at 12pm at Suede bar for a couple of scientific talks by University of Nottingham scientists Dr. Priscila Ramos & Dr. Marta López, that talked about "**Custom human organs, one step closer thanks to the pig embryo**"; and Dr. Núria Casanova which talk focused on "**Animal models in the study of arthritis**" in a down-to-earth approach for the science newbies. Over 20 people with and without scientific backgrounds joined us there and enjoyed this session full of science, pizza and good vibes. Later on we embarked on a trip around the oldest, most emblematic parts of the city of Nottingham, walking through Victorian red-brick buildings, medieval churches, and of course the Castle and the famous sculpture of the legendary Robin Hood. We finished our tour at "Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem", some say "the oldest pub in UK", carved into the sandstone rock right under the castle. Nothing like a pint of local ale to round off a day full of history, science and socialising. It is a yearly tradition to celebrate a Christmas dinner with the constituency members & friends.

## Plans 2018/2019

One of our goals is to network with other Spanish Speaking societies hosting events together that help communicating the research of Spanish speaking scientists, because of that we will host a Spanish Speaking Scientists meeting conducted by the SRUK-Midlands constituency and the UOB Mexican Society. This event seeks to expand the impact of SRUK's actions in the academic field and to fraternize with other associations of Spanish-speakers settled in the UOB.

## LA DELEGACIÓN DE LAS MIDLANDS

La delegación de Midlands se formó en abril de 2015 y engloba a 11 ciudades con más de 25 miembros activos. Durante el año pasado organizamos un *Science in the Pub* en Nottingham, donde las Doctoras Priscila Ramos, Marta López, y Núria Casanova de la universidad de Nottingham presentaron sus investigaciones científicas en una ambiente distendido y amigable. Tras el evento pudimos disfrutar de una visita guiada por el centro de Nottingham y a uno de los pubs más antiguos del país *Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem* donde pudimos fraternizar entre pintas. Como viene siendo tradición celebramos una cena de navidad.

For more information please contact  
[midlands@sruk.org.uk](mailto:midlands@sruk.org.uk)

# YORKSHIRE CONSTITUENCY

## The Yorkshire Regional Board

**Jacobo Elies-Gomez** (Director)  
**Margarita Segovia Roldan** (Vide-Director and Press Officer)  
**Antonio de la Vega de Leon** (Secretary)

## The Yorkshire Working Group

**Laura Llorente Rodriguez** (Treasurer until Jan. 2018), **Prado Domercq** (Online manager), **Miguel Figueres Esteban** (Treasurer from Feb. 2018), **Irene Castellano Pellicena**, **Alberto Diego Taboada**, **Belen Rebollo**



The Yorkshire Regional Board

## LA DELEGACIÓN DE YORKSHIRE

Este año hemos realizado una amplia variedad de eventos de ámbito social como nuestros Welcome to Yorkshire y divulgativo como los Cinesciences y Science of Multilingualism. Además, nuestro tradicional seminario científico de Navidad se celebró este año en Manchester en colaboración con la delegación de Northwest, y se centró en técnicas de comunicación científica frente a la cámara con Luis Quevedo. Durante este año nuestra delegación ha consolidado su colaboración con el Instituto Cervantes y con la British Science Association que junto con los sponsors de la sociedad contribuyeron al gran éxito de los eventos.

For more information please contact [yorkshire@sruk.org.uk](mailto:yorkshire@sruk.org.uk)

Established in October 2015, the Yorkshire Constituency is currently formed by members working in a wide range of disciplines at the Universities of Bradford, Huddersfield, Hull, Leeds, Sheffield and York.

## Events 2017/2018

This year in Yorkshire we hold a wide range of activities from social (“Welcome to Yorkshire” in Bradford and York), to public engagement events, CineScience and seminars. Importantly, our constituency strengthened its collaboration with *Instituto Cervantes* and the British Science Association making these exciting events possible and successful. On the 28<sup>th</sup> October 2017, the 3<sup>rd</sup> CineScience, focused on motor neuron diseases (“Jason Becker: Not Dead Yet”), took place at the University of Sheffield. Dr Allen Scott introduced the documentary and chaired a panel formed by researchers (Dr Laura Ferraiuolo), clinicians (Dr Esther Hobson) and patient carers (Nick Tyson). Joining efforts with Northwest constituency, we held our 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the traditional **Christmas Seminar** on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017. In this event, focused on Science Communication for audiovisual media, Luis Quevedo delivered a fantastic interactive workshop for researchers to communicate research in a brief and effective way. The last CineScience of 2017 closed the Christmas Seminar with the screening of “In search of a lost Future” (Luis Quevedo, 2009), followed by a round table chaired by Dr Margarita Segovia that included Luis Quevedo, Dr Laura Llorente, Dr David González and Thomas O’Mahoney, experts in archaeology. The event was possible thanks to generous



IV Christmas Seminar delivered by Luis Quevedo at Instituto Cervantes in Manchester

contributions from Fundación Ramón Areces, FECYT, AECID and Luis Quevedo, who donated the cost of the workshop to SRUK. On the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018, we organized a CineScience focused on Social Sciences in the Instituto Cervantes of Leeds, with the screening of “Even the rain”, (Iciar Bollain, 2009). Dr Julia Martin-Ortega, expert in environmental economy (University of Leeds) led a passionate and engaging debate about the importance of social sciences in the search of solutions to environmental problems. On 14<sup>th</sup> April 2018, we organized the **Science of Multilingualism** to emphasise the benefits of multilingualism. Dozens of families came to Weston Park Museum (Sheffield) to take part in multilingual activities and learning foreign languages such as Spanish, Bulgarian, Polish and Chinese.

## Plans 2018/2019

We are organising a workshop on “Sport, healthy diet and wellbeing” later this year to be held at the University of Bradford. We are planning to carry on with our traditional Cinescience and increase the number of social events across Yorkshire cities.

# THE NORTH-WEST CONSTITUENCY

## The North-West Regional Board

**Alba Maiques** (Director)

**Angélica Santiago** (Vice Director until Feb. 2018, Press Officer) **Laura Castañar**

(Vice Director from Mar. 2018) **Isabel Peset**

(Vice Director from Mar. 2018, Community

Manager)

**Itziar Peñafiel** (Secretary until Feb. 2018)

**Alberto Valero** (Secretary from Mar. 2018)

## The North-West Working Group

**Isabel Romero** (Community Manager)

**Beatriz Baño** (Press Officer)

**Carmen Arpa** (Treasurer until Feb. 2018)

**David Ruiz** (Treasurer and Community Manager )

**María Pin**

**Julio Ríos de la Rosa**

**Eva García**

**Javier Jaramillo**



The North-West Regional Board

## Plans 2018/2019

A visit to a local beer factory in Manchester will be our social event before summer. We will foster our collaboration with the Instituto Cervantes Manchester in co-organising scientific events. Also more bi-monthly Pint of Knowledge talks will follow; and furthermore we are planning to organise an event at Liverpool Albert Docks to meet Liverpool-based SRUK members and increase our visibility in other cities of the Constituency.

With the heart in Manchester, the North West Constituency covers all the area through Liverpool to Bangor. It currently has over 30 members. The Constituency is now led by a vibrant group of people from diverse scientific backgrounds with different ideas and curiosities as reflected in our activities.

## Events 2017/2018

We are really excited with the initiatives we have launched this year so far! Firstly, we promoted the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of “**Science-me a story**”, a writing contest of short scientific stories for children. We believe tales are a fantastic way to encourage children’s curiosity and imagination. Awards include an economical prize and the publication of the stories on specialized outreach journals such as Principia (in the Spanish category).

Secondly, to continue with our public engagement activities we hold a **Pint of Knowledge** every other month. So far, we have learned about the importance of cell division with Dr Isabel Peset; how circadian rhythms govern our lives with Dr Beatriz Baño; and why amphibians are an important tool to improve regenerative medicine with Dr Javier Iglesias-González. Moreover, in order to learn better how to communicate our science, we organised jointly with the Yorkshire Constituency the **IV Christmas Seminar** last November. We were lucky to count with Luis Quevedo (journalist, documentarist and scientific communicator) who gave a workshop sharing tips on how to communicate efficiently through audio-visual media. As part of the event, there was also a screening of his latest documentary “In search of the lost future”, followed by a round table where experts in the area of Archaeology and Anthropology joined Quevedo to discuss about Human Evolution.

Finally, as part of the **SRUK Global Challenges Seminar Series** we organised an all-day event about **Climate Change and Sustainability**. We had a very participative event with Dr Ana Payo, Dr Rachel Freeman, Dr Sherilyn MacGregor, and Joe Blakey as invited speakers. We envisioned that, considering the diversity of people’s attitudes towards climate change and its importance, science communication to the public about it is extremely important. We finished our event with a round table led by Marc Hudson discussing the actions we can carry out as citizens to fight climate change and promote sustainable development *for our planet*.

And last, but not the least, we also organized several social events such as a **lunch for Women in STEM** on February 11<sup>th</sup>, our Christmas lunch with its traditional visit to the famous Christmas Market and several Friday Beer Meetups near the University.

## LA DELEGACIÓN DE NORTH-WEST

Este año se ha lanzado la primera edición de **Ciencia-me un cuento**, un concurso de escritura de cuentos científicos para los más pequeños. Los cuentos son una vía fantástica de avivar su curiosidad y esperamos estimular la creación de nuevos cuentos infantiles relacionados con el mundo de la ciencia. También hemos organizado un seminario sobre **Cambio Climático y Sostenibilidad**, enmarcado dentro de la Semana de la Tierra realizada junto con el Instituto Cervantes Manchester. Además, celebramos las charlas divulgativas “**Pint of Knowledge**” cada dos meses. Por último, junto a la Delegación de Yorkshire se co-organizó el **IV Seminario de Navidad** centrado en comunicación científica audio-visual.

# SCOTLAND CONSTITUENCY

## The Scotland Regional Board

**Mario González** (Director)

**Alba Abad** (Vice-director and Press Officer)

**Ana Isabel Rodríguez** (Secretary)

## The Scotland Working Group

**Eduardo Gómez** (Online Manager), **Ignacio Jiménez**, **Beatriz Larraz**, **Natalia Mallo**, **Jesús Monge**, **Juan Suarez**, **Natalia Torrea**



*The Scotland Working Group*

The SRUK Scottish constituency has more than 50 members working in different universities and companies in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Paisley.

## Events 2017/2018

The constituency's activities in the 2017/2018 academic year were very diverse. From professional development such as the symposium "**Building Bridges between Academia and Industry**", in which we explored the possibilities that scientists can have outside Academia, to the celebration of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science with a **workshop on the concepts of equality and gender** focusing on women's issues in the scientific career. At these two events we offered childcare to facilitate the attendance of members with family.

The members of our constituency have carried out public engagement activities in **schools** in Edinburgh and London, at science festivals around Scotland and with associations of Spanish-speaking families. Of particular note is the activity "**The DNA Journey: From chaos to super-organisation**" (developed in collaboration with the Wellcome Centre for Cell Biology), in which children of various ages learn about DNA, its packing in the cell nucleus and why this organisation is essential for cell viability. In addition, as part of the Edinburgh International Science Festival and in collaboration with AS-CUS Art & Science (and funded by the University of Edinburgh IAD), we developed the workshop "**Our nano-world**" in which the physicist Olof Johansson explained his research to an audience who, with the help of the artist Jaxton Su Jingxiang, created a piece of art inspired by Olof's research.



*Workshop for the Women and Girls in Science Day*

This year, we have also **brought science to the pub**, including a debate in January on the role of scientific organisations abroad with Lorenzo Melchor, International Scientific Coordinator at the Embassy of Spain in London. In April, Manuel Salmerón talked about his work in bioengineering and how his team has been able to regenerate for the first time bones using stem cells.

In the social section, this year we celebrated our traditional Christmas dinner and in the summer we enjoyed the wonders of the Scottish climate during a barbecue in one of Edinburgh's most emblematic parks: the Meadows.

## Plans 2018/2019

Next year we will continue to develop and deliver our outreach activities in schools, festivals and associations. Moreover, we want to start collaborating with CinemaAttic (a Spanish film production company based in Edinburgh) to organise a series of scientific movies followed by discussions with invited researchers.

## LA DELEGACIÓN DE ESCOCIA

La delegación escocesa de SRUK/CERU, la segunda más grande de CERU, cuenta con más de 50 miembros distribuidos por toda la región. Este año hemos organizado un simposio sobre la relación entre industria y academia, un taller con motivo del Día Internacional de la Mujer y la Niña en la Ciencia y varias actividades de divulgación científica, una de ellas, "Nuestro Nanomundo", enmarcada en el Festival Internacional de Ciencia de Edimburgo, uno de los más importantes de Europa. Además, la delegación celebró varias actividades sociales.

For more information please contact  
[scotland@sruk.org.uk](mailto:scotland@sruk.org.uk)

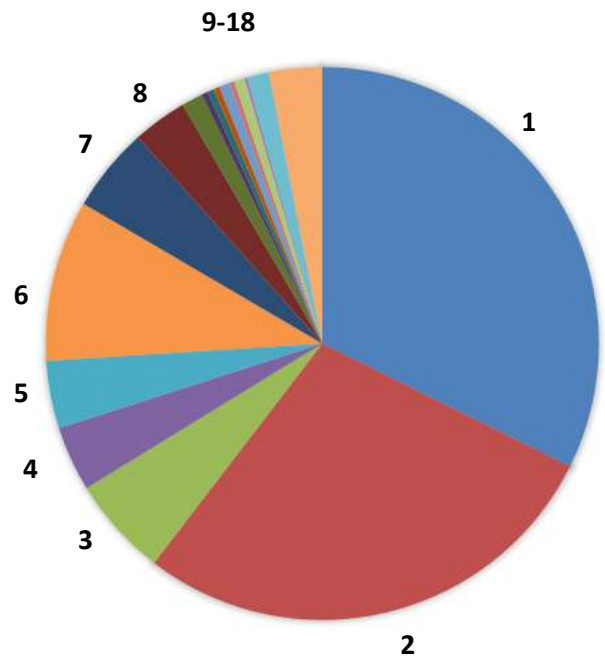
# ECONOMIC REPORT

SRUK is a private company limited-by-guarantee operating as a non-for-profit organisation. Our annual membership fees provide autonomy and ensure basic operations of the society. In addition, the Board has presented proposals and applied to specific calls to public and private institutions. It is thanks to our supporters that SRUK has developed an ambitious range of activities. **Our main supporter is the Fundación Ramón Areces that contributed to 33% of our income.**

## Income

Total £81.5K

1. Fundación Ramón Areces	26,056	32.82%
2. Fundación Banco Santander	22,623	28.49%
3. OCSA	4,700	5.92%
4. FECYT	3,063	3.86%
5. SRUK Membership Fees 2018 (up to July	3,190	4.02%
6. SRUK Membership Fees 2017	7,600	9.57%
7. Surplus Budget 2017	4,000	5.04%
8. Fundación Lilly	2,569	3.24%
9. Glasgow Convention Bureau	2,000	2.52%
10. British Science Association	300	0.38%
11. Medical Research Council	300	0.38%
12. Biochemical Society	300	0.38%
13. Institute of Academic Development -	500	0.63%
14. Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology	225	0.28%
15. Cabot Institute - University of Bristol	500	0.63%
16. School of Biochemistry - University of	140	0.18%
17. London South Bank University	1,019.8	1.28%
18. Luis Quevedo	2,500	3.15%



Our income has slightly increased by 2.6% with respect to last year. Nevertheless, we continue operating with **an efficient economic policy**, that is, we try to make the most out of the income received.

For more information please contact [treasurer@sruk.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@sruk.org.uk)

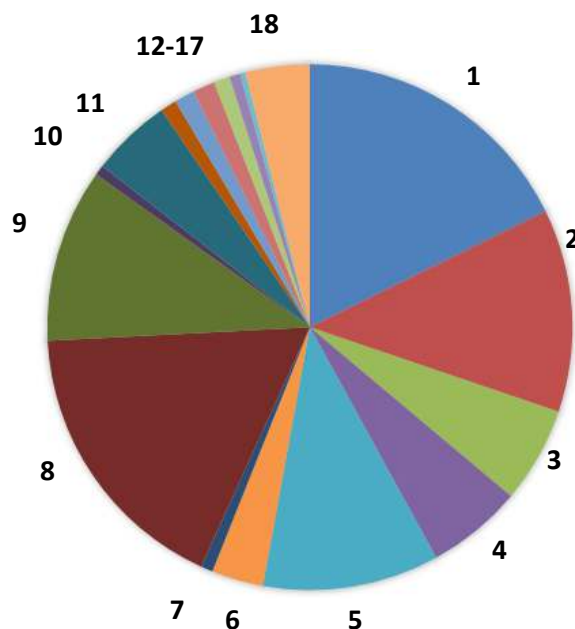


# ECONOMIC REPORT

## Expenditure

Total £81.5K

1. Seminars, Workshops & Outreach Events 2018	14,279	17.98%
2. VI Annual Symposium	11,063	12.67%
3. Seminar - RSEF "Una Mañana de Física"	4,756	5.99%
4. Brexit Event	4,756	5.99%
5. CienciaUK 2018	8,750	11.02%
6. Program DIVULGA (Science-me a story & Science Zone)	2,569	3.24%
7. Oxford Neuroscience Symposium 2017	600	0.76%
8. Emerging Talent Award Price	14,000	17.63%
9. Emerging Talent Award Ceremony	8,622.67	10.86%
10. Marketing	500	0.63%
11. Travel Grants 2018	4,000	5.04%
12. Mentoring	800	1.01%
13. Microgrants	1,000	1.26%
14. Travel Boards of Directors	1,100	1.39%
15. Wo/men, Equity and Research Committee	800	1.01%
16. Web maintenance	540	0.68%
17. Others	260	0.33%
18. Surplus 2018 (Fees 2018)	3,190	4.02%



# STRATEGIC PLAN

SRUK is achieving its objectives and broadening our horizons. However, the current situations in Spain and the UK pose new challenges and opportunities to our Society and our members. In this environment, we will seek to build on our successes and devise new strategies to **consolidate SRUK** and ensure our **long-term sustainability** that will allow us to keep delivering benefits to our members .

## OBJECTIVE 1: Scientific and Social Network

### On-going and immediate plans

Grow in number of members: focus on senior researchers, members outside academia, and social sciences and humanities

Establish the constituency of The North-East

Improve the communication with, and data management, of our members following new data protection policies

Keep launching annual calls of our key initiatives for professional development (e.g., Mentoring and Travel Grants)

Study the impact and implementation of the Target Networks

### Long-term plans

Support and administrative staff for SRUK

Open channels to promote key information for non-members

Enhance the usability of the website as a tool to promote interactions among our members

Establish the constituency of Northern Ireland

## OBJECTIVE 2: Science Outreach

### On-going and immediate plans

Increase impact of outreach promoting initiatives such as “Science in the Pub”, “CineScience” and participation in major Science festivals

Consolidate major initiatives such as the SRUK Emerging Talent Award and the Young Basque Investigator Award

### Long-term plans

Expand collaborations with British outreach institutions

Consolidate outreach activities in schools

Increase and consolidate our presence in the British media

## OBJECTIVE 3: Science Representatives

### On-going and immediate plans

Update report with recommendations on Spanish science policy

Continue collaborating with major British scientific institutions such as the Russell Group and BEIS regarding Brexit

Continue our advocacy work with Spanish political parties

Collaborate with initiatives such as *Ciencia en el Parlamento*

Organise a major informative event on the implications of Brexit for research

### Long-term plans

Consolidate a plan for further contacts with British scientific institutions on wider policy issues

Serve as science policy advisors in Spain and in the UK

Contribute to the successful launch and consolidation of a network of Societies of Spanish researchers abroad

Strengthen collaborations with the *Consejo de Residentes en el Exterior* as the representative council of Spaniards in UK

## OBJECTIVE 4: Science Mediators between Spain and the UK

### On-going and immediate plans

Seek to promote the interaction with companies in our most important events

Review the 1<sup>st</sup> round and consolidate the Undergraduate Summer Internships programme

Deepen the collaboration with Spanish societies (e.g., ASEICA)

Seek funding to enable collaborations and mobility with Spain via short visits and longer projects

### Long-term plans

Academia-Industry exchange scheme

International Mobility Fellowships: *SRUK On the Move*

Increase the number of sponsors and partners, particularly Spanish R&D companies to support new collaborations

Facilitate interdisciplinary collaborations between Spain and UK

For more information please contact [president@sruk.org.uk](mailto:president@sruk.org.uk)

# OUR MAIN SUPPORTERS

The Society of Spanish Researchers in the United Kingdom wishes to thank our main supporters for their kind contribution.

## FUNDACIÓN RAMÓN ARECES

### Fundación Ramón Areces

The Ramón Areces Foundation is our principal and unconditional supporter. Thanks to them that we are able to promote a whole range of activities and benefits year after year.

From its creation in 1976, the Ramon Areces Foundation aims to support scientific development through the promotion of research activities, knowledge exchange and the contribution to the generation of personal capital. This institution also supports novel training opportunities for young researchers and promotes the exchange of ideas in Science, Education and Culture. This Foundation has strongly supported SRUK since our very beginning. This year, they have sponsored our annual programme of activities (with scientific seminars, outreach activities and professional development workshops all over the country), the roundtable event about Brexit and our Annual International Symposium. Moreover, this Foundation sponsors every year, including in 2018, the event 'CienciaUK', a career advice workshop hosted in their headquarters in Madrid. This year, in addition, they have sponsored a scientific event in Madrid, entitled "A morning of physics", in collaboration with the Spanish Royal Society of Physics. For the fourth consecutive year, the Foundation is supporting an annual meeting between the different societies of Spanish Researcher abroad and will host the official presentation of our newly established network.



### Fundación Banco Santander

#### Fundación Banco Santander, the sponsor of the SRUK Emerging Talent Award

This Foundation is committed to supporting cultural, humanistic, social projects and scientific initiatives. Their support to Science focuses on the promotion of three aims: the development of projects in the most innovative research fields, the organisation of Science outreach activities and to help with the career development of young talents via the concession of grants and funding programmes. SRUK is delighted to have received the support of Fundación Banco Santander for three consecutive years. In 2018, together we have launched the third edition of the SRUK Emerging Talent Award. With this award, we want to recognise the work of a young Spanish researcher who has developed her/his career in the UK.



### Spanish Embassy in UK

#### Collaboration with the Office for Culture and Scientific Affairs (OCSA)

The Spanish Embassy in the UK was the first Embassy to perform Science Diplomacy by including this competence in its Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs (OCSA). This Office aims to promote stronger links between Spanish and British scientific institutions. SRUK counts with the collaboration of OCSA from its very beginning. This year, SRUK has received again help from the Embassy that would allow SRUK to develop activities and strategies in order to make this society a reference in foreign scientific associations in the UK. This institutional collaboration has also been crucial to reach both Spanish and British institutions and to promote SRUK activities. Concerning Brexit, the collaboration of the Spanish Embassy has been paramount to maintain SRUK members informed of any new development on this subject and to make the information roundtable event named "What does Brexit mean?" possible.



## Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology

Created in 2001, the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT) is a public foundation dependent of the Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities. Among the activities to promote science, technology and innovation, FECYT collaborates with the different Societies of Spanish Researchers abroad, including SRUK. As part of this collaboration, FECYT and SRUK have organised together outreach activities and events since our official establishment in 2012. FECYT has been closely involved with the SRUK Annual Symposium for the last three years and all the activities for the celebration of our 5th anniversary last year. Lastly, FECYT and SRUK have signed a framework agreement in 2016 for the following years. In Summer 2018, FECYT has organised the annual meeting between the different societies of Spanish Researchers abroad that will serve to officially introduce our newly established network.

## Fundación Lilly

Since 2001, the Lilly Foundation main aim has been to contribute to excellence in Science and Medicine in Spain. They achieve this through activities focused in the promotion of Science, Medicine and Humanistic Medicine. In their framework of commitment to outreach and communicate Science, the Lilly Foundation has supported the program “DIVULGA” of SRUK. This is an outreach initiative that focuses in the promotion of scientific vocations in children and young people. For this, the program DIVULGA decontextualizes the knowledge acquisition and involves adults in the activities in order to potentiate impact. The program builds on two activities, the Science Zone of the VI International Symposium SRUK, and Science-me a Story, a contest for the best children stories based on Science.

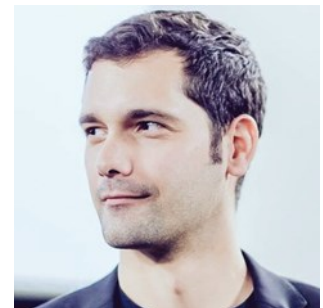


## Bizkaia Talent

Bizkaia:talent sponsors the “SRUK/Bizkaia:talent Young Basque Investigator Award” that aims to recognize the professional career of a young Spanish researcher linked to the Basque Autonomous Community who carries out his/her research activity in the United Kingdom. This award is framed within Bizkaia:talent’s line of action that recognizes the professional career of highly-qualified young Basques and gives young scientists the opportunity to do research in the most innovative areas of the sector through fellowships and special programmes.

# OTHER SUPPORTERS

We thank all our supporters for their kind contribution.



*SRUK is delighted to collaborate with other institutions to organise activities and promote common benefits to our members*



British Spanish Society



*Specially, we would like to thank the network of Associations of Spanish Researchers abroad (RAICEx)*