

# IMPERIAL

# **BLACK GRADUATE CAREERS CONFERENCE 2024**

Sir Alexander Fleming Building, Imperial College London  
Friday 28th June

## Programme

**09.15 - 09.45:** Registration

**09.45 - 10.00:** Welcome - Professor Mary Ryan, Vice Provost Research and Enterprise (**G 16**)

**10.00 - 11.15:** Rising Stars - Hosted by Dr Wayne Mitchell, Associate Provost Imperial EDI (**G 16**)

**11.30 - 12.30:** Workshops:

- Black in Engineering (**G 34**)
- Afro-Caribbean Commercial Science Network (**Rm 121**)
- Preparing for a technical interview - hosted by GoogleDeepmind (**G 16**)
- Careers in Teaching and outreach (**Rm 119**)
- Careers as a Technician (**Rm 120**)

**12.30 - 14.00:** Lunch and Exhibition (Catering - Flygerians and Patois)

**14.00 - 15.00:** MSc Student Panel - Increasing career options and employability through post-graduate studies - Hosted by Sara Rankin with Dr Donald Palmer (**G 16**)

**15.15 - 16.15:** Workshops:

- Career paths in Pharma and Biotech - hosted by BBSTEM (**G 34**)
- Career paths in medicine (**Rm 119**)
- Careers in AI (**Rm 120**)
- Black in Business - hosted by Imperial's Black Alumni Network (**G 16**)
- Navigating your Career Path as a Black Lawyer (**Rm 121**)

**16.30 - 17.15:** Keynote - Muyiwa Oki, RIBA President (**G 16**)

**17.15:** Final comments from Professor Washington Ochieng, Head of Department, Civil Engineering, Imperial College London

**17.30 - 19.00:** Networking and refreshments

## Exhibitors



### 10,000 Interns Foundation

We are The 10,000 Interns Foundation, and we believe talent is everywhere but opportunity is not. We champion

underrepresented talent at scale and promote equity of opportunity through programmes that offer students and grads paid internship opportunities across a range of UK industries. Our flagship programme 10,000 Black Interns offer 2,000 paid internships a year in over 30 sectors and workstreams.



| LONDON

### 42 London

Student Registration Created in 2013 by French Entrepreneur Xavier Niel, 42 is now the largest network of free and open to all coding schools on the planet. 42 London was launched by Lilian Pontes through her NFP Charity

EFT London. At EFT London, we envision a world where greatness knows no boundaries.

We are committed to breaking down barriers and providing access to transformative education opportunities. We aim to unlock inherent potential within each person, fostering an inclusive and diverse society of change makers.



### Afro Caribbean Commercial Science Network

ACCSN was formed to support the development of aspiring and current professionals in the industry making the commercial and broader life science route more attractive for black and ethnic minorities. We aim to increase representation and provide a space where these communities can thrive

together. We describe Commercial Science as the point at which Science meets the customer. Commercial Science allows you to contribute to science from another angle. Areas include life pharma, biotechnology, diagnostics, molecular biology, chemistry and medical devices.



### Amwins Global Risks

As the international arm of a global specialty insurance broker, Amwins Global Risks — formerly THB — delivers insurance and reinsurance coverage to clients around the world.



### Association for Black & Minority Ethnic Engineers (AFBE)

The Association for Black & Minority Ethnic Engineers (AFBE) provides support and promotes higher achievements in education and engineering particularly among students and professionals from ethnic minority backgrounds.



### BBSTEM – Black British Professionals in STEM

BBSTEM (Black British Professionals in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) is a non-profit organisation campaigning for a balanced representation of Black individuals in

STEM from education right through to industry.

## BioTalent

### BioTalent

We are BioTalent, the life sciences recruitment specialists with the means to nurture change-makers. Our expert consultants focus on Medical Communications, Healthcare Advertising and public Relations, Market Access, Research and development, Data Science & AI, Clinical, Regulatory, Engineering & COV, Manufacturing & Operation, Quality, Medical and Drug Safety, and Commercial.



### Black Medical Scientific Network

Black Medical Scientific Network CIC, founded by Laura Eghobamien, helps to promote and support the visibility of black scientists.



### British International Investment

We are the UK's development finance institution and impact investor with a mission to help solve the biggest global development challenges by investing patient, flexible capital to support private sector growth and innovation. The financial returns we make from our investments are recycled to support more businesses to achieve impact. We invest to create more productive, sustainable and inclusive economies in Africa, Asia, Indo-Pacific and the Caribbean, enabling people in those countries build better lives for themselves and their communities.

## Deloitte.

### Deloitte LLP

Deloitte is a leading professional services firm – one of the largest in the UK and part of a global network spanning 150 countries. We're made up of 27k professionals, with a wide range of specialist skills, who our clients rely on to help them with projects that are critical to their success.

Whether it's digital transformation expertise, sustainability know-how, cyber skills or financial advice, we help clients in the public, private and third sectors meet challenges big and small.



### Google DeepMind

We live in an exciting time when AI research and technology are delivering extraordinary advances. In the coming years, AI - and ultimately artificial general intelligence (AGI) - has the potential to drive one of the greatest transformations in history.

We're a team of scientists, engineers, ethicists and more, working to build the next generation of AI systems safely and responsibly. By solving some of the hardest scientific and engineering challenges of our time, we're working to create breakthrough technologies that could advance science, transform work, serve diverse communities - and improve billions of people's lives.



## Health Data Research UK

Health Data Research UK (HDR UK) are the UK's national institute for health data science. We are uniting the UK's health data to enable discoveries that improve people's lives.

Our vision is that every health and care interaction and research endeavour will be enhanced by access to large scale data and advanced analytics. We provide training and learning opportunities to develop health data scientists with the cutting-edge skills for careers at the forefront of a rapidly evolving sector.



## House of Medics

The House of Medics is a community of professionals and students who have a passion for healthcare, helping one another and impacting the community. From connecting you to the mentorship you need to be admitted to your chosen course, to providing you with the scrubs for your first shift at the hospital, to holding the event where you meet your closest friend – we do it all here at the House of Medics!

## LLOYD'S

### Lloyd's

Lloyd's is the world's leading insurance and reinsurance marketplace. Through the collective intelligence and risk-sharing expertise of the market's underwriters and brokers, Lloyd's helps to create a braver world. The Lloyd's market provides the leadership and insight to anticipate and understand risk, and the knowledge to develop relevant, new and innovative forms of insurance for customers globally. And it promises a trusted, enduring partnership built on the confidence that Lloyd's protects what matters most: helping people, businesses and communities to recover in times of need.



### Parexel

Parexel is among the world's largest clinical research organizations (CROs), providing the full range of Phase I to IV clinical development services to help lifesaving treatments reach patients faster.



### Reach Society

At Reach Society we believe that Black boys and young Black men are born with unlimited potential. And that they, like all young people, need to be encouraged, motivated and inspired to discover their potential by taking the actions early that will lead to the formation of habits that are essential for the development of robust characters. Our vision is to ensure that every Black boy and young Black man becomes aware of the Reach Society, and is able to make a positive connection with one or more of its role models of Black professional men.



## Syngenta

Syngenta is a leading science-based agtech company. We help millions of farmers around the world to grow safe and nutritious food, while taking care of the planet. Jealott's Hill International

Research Centre near Bracknell is the company's largest site for chemical and biological crop protection R&D, with over 1000 people and more than 45 nationalities. It is dedicated to supporting end to end scientific innovation from early discovery through to development and product support, and is a key hub for global R&D collaborations.



## Springer Nature

Springer Nature opens the doors to discovery for researchers, educators, clinicians and other professionals. Every day, around the globe, our imprints, books, journals, platforms and technology solutions reach millions of people. For over 175 years our brands and imprints have been a trusted source of knowledge to these communities and today, more than ever, we see it as our responsibility to ensure that fundamental knowledge can be found, verified, understood and used by our communities – enabling them to improve outcomes, make progress, and benefit the generations that follow. At Springer Nature we value the diversity of our teams. We recognize the many benefits of a diverse workforce with equitable opportunities for everyone. We strive for an inclusive workplace that empowers all our colleagues to thrive. Our search for the best talent fully encompasses and embraces these values and principles.



## UBS

UBS is the world's largest and only truly global wealth manager. We operate through four business divisions: Global Wealth Management, Personal & Corporate Banking, Asset Management

and the Investment Bank. Our global reach and the breadth of our expertise set us apart from our competitors.



## Young Global Impact (YGA)

YGA (Young Global impact) is a UK charity advancing STEM education for all with a sustainability focus. Our goal is to empower youth with essential skills for a better future through a

double-winged approach, combining strong competence in STEM skills with conscience and a strong sense of social responsibility. We aim to support the development of conscientious and competent individuals who can apply their STEM knowledge for the betterment of the planet and their communities.

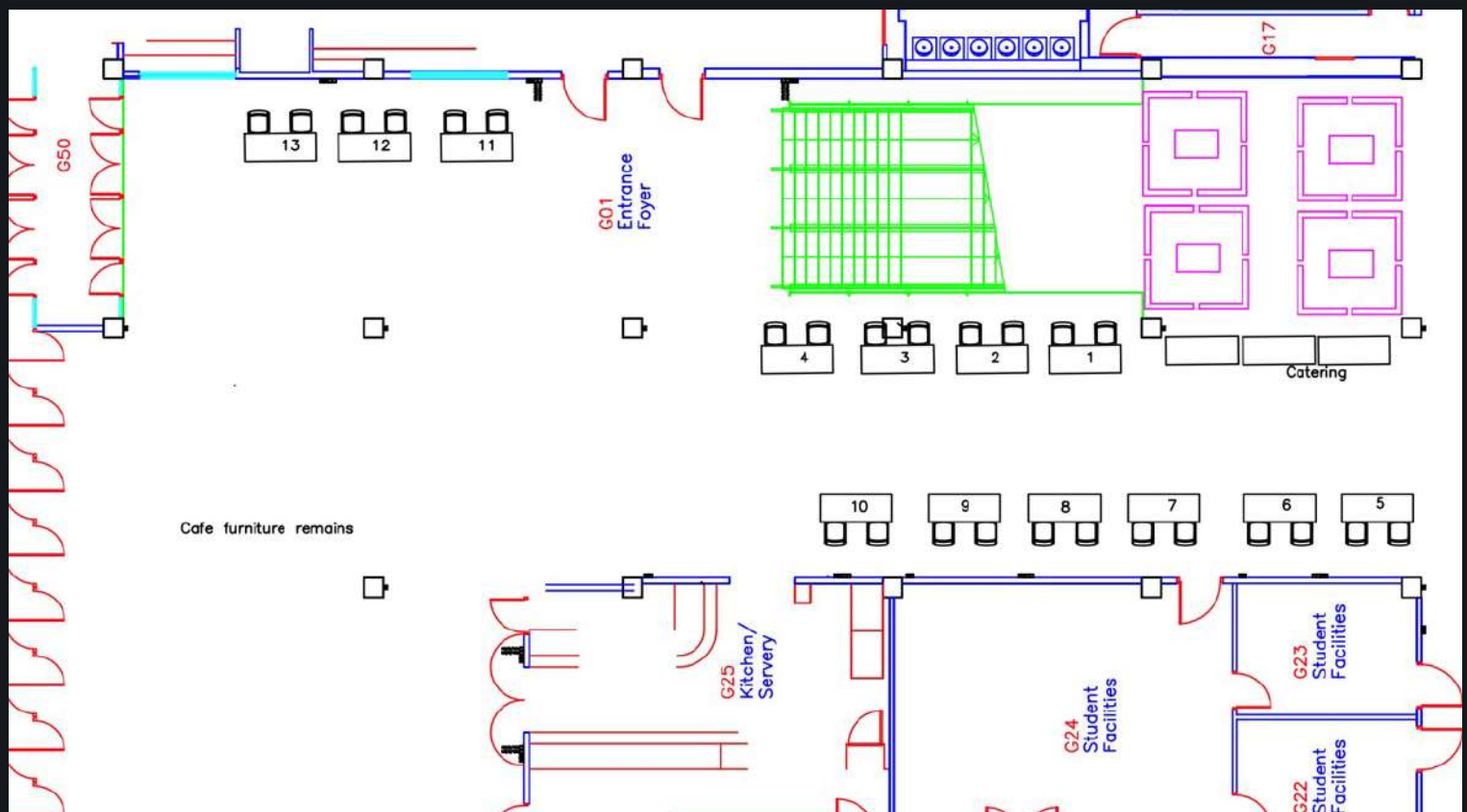
**With thanks to our Exhibitors**

## Map

### Careers Exhibition - Ground Floor Foyer

#### Table Number Company

1	Deloitte
2	Syngenta
3	Imperial - Laura Lane
4	Imperial - Sara Rankin
5	BBSTEM - Black British Professionals in Science
6	BioTalent
7	ACCSN - Afro-Caribbean Commercial Science Network
8	Parexel International
9	Springer Nature
10	Mace
11	Google DeepMind
12	British International Investment plc
13	<b>Registration Desk</b>

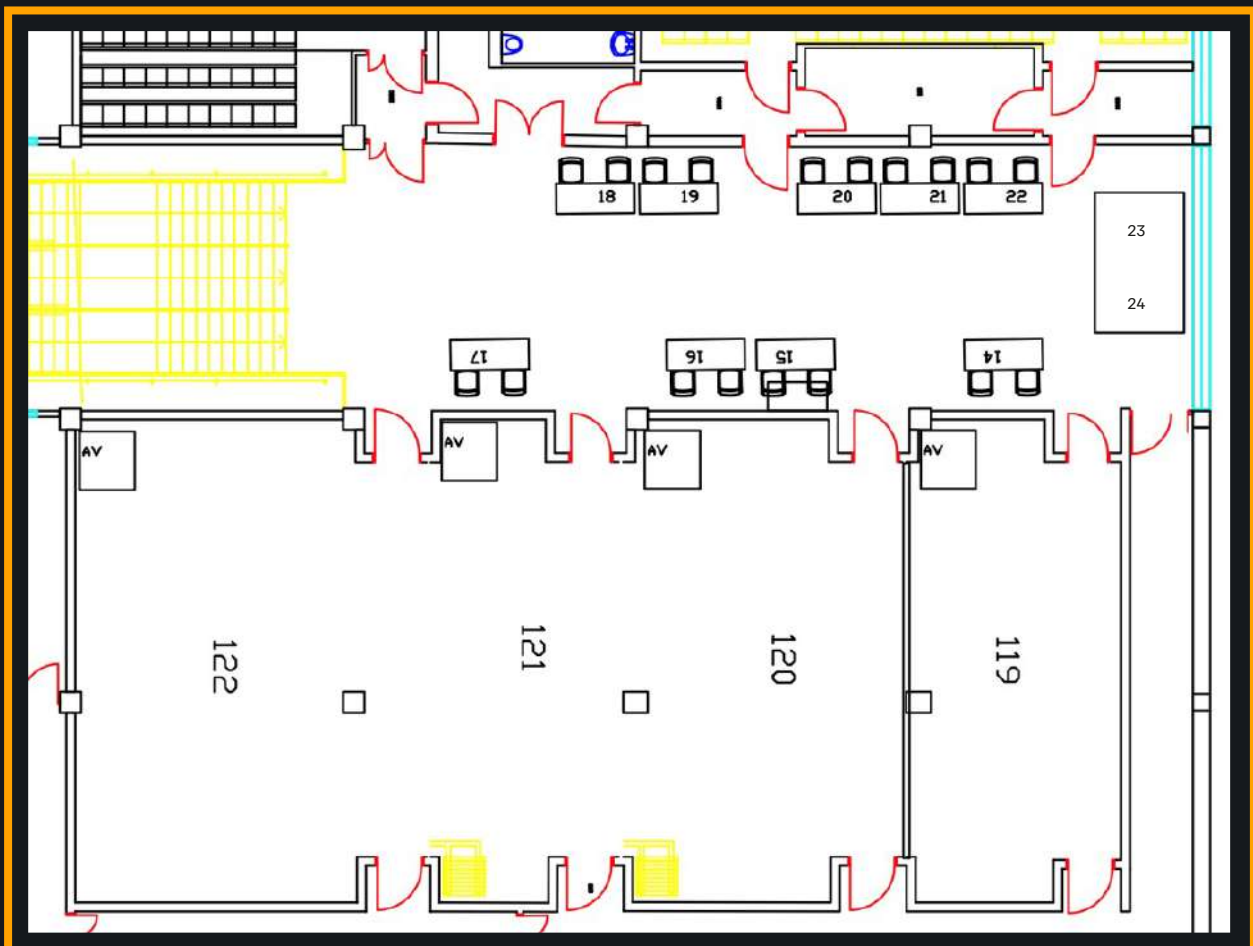


## Map

### Careers Exhibition - Mezzanine

**Table Number**    **Company**

14	Black Medical and Scientific Network
15	House of Medics
16	Health Data Research UK
17	10,000 Interns
18	42 London
19	Amwins
20	Reach Society
21	Lloyd's of London
22	Association for BME Engineers
23	UBS
24	Young Global Impact (YGA)



## Welcome



### **Professor Mary Ryan, Vice-provost research and enterprise, Imperial**

Mary's research focused on understanding nanoscale materials and their interface with environments. She has a particular interest in the development of operando approaches and has pioneered nanoscale methods in synchrotron science.

## Student Hosts



### **Mawunyo Ametewee - Student, MSc Epidemiology, Imperial**

Mawunyo Christina Ametewee, a former civil servant and project manager, is currently a postgraduate student in Epidemiology at Imperial College London, where she was honoured with the Presidential Scholarship for Students of Black Heritage. Her academic journey includes a First-Class degree in Biological Sciences (Microbiology) from the University of Leicester, where she earned the prestigious Peter Sneath Prize. Mawunyo's professional background spans significant roles in project and benefits management within various UK government departments, enhancing strategic initiatives and operational efficiencies. Her research focuses on uncovering risk factors for pancreatic cancer using statistical models.



### **Caspar Assam, MEng & Computing, Imperial**

Caspar Asaam is a second-year Computing student at Imperial College London and a systems software engineer intern at Nvidia. As an Amos Bursary Scholar, he has demonstrated exceptional promise in the field of technology. He attended the prestigious Toronto Collision Conference and recently attended JP Morgan's Spring Week into Technology, further expanding his network and knowledge of the tech industry. As an active member of the university community, Caspar has participated in the ACS' cultural showcase, ACS Hackathon, is part of the Dodgeball team, and holds a committee role in a faith-based society. Outside of university, Caspar engages in mentoring and volunteering, giving back to his local community.

## Rising Stars



### **Host: Dr Wayne A Mitchell PhD, MEd, QTS, FHEA, Associate Provost EDI, Imperial**

Practical Laboratory Skills Coordinator for MSc Immunology, MSc Molecular Medicine, MSc Applied Genomics and MSc Molecular Biology and Pathology of Viruses.

Mastering Laboratory Skills Course Coordinator.

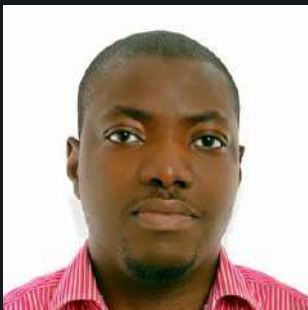


## **Dr Alicia Gayle, Chiesi Group**

Dr. Gayle, an Imperial alumni, has 9 years experience working in the pharmaceutical industry and currently holds the role of Lead Pharmacoepidemiologist at Chiesi Pharmaceuticals where she leads the strategy and execution of non-interventional research to support development of new medicines for a host of respiratory conditions. She also currently participates in the CIOMs Working group XV, developing a WHO and UNESCO endorsed international report on the use of pharmacoepidemiology for public health.

## **Dr Vincent, QMUL**

Lecturer in Biochemistry/Biomedical Science



## **Dr Fadil Bidmos, Imperial**

My research, funded by UK Medical Research Council fellowships (Career Development Award: 2019 – 2024; and Senior Fellowship: 2024 - 2029) and US National Institute of Health grants, focuses on next-generation vaccines against major bacterial pathogens. Using the chief causes of bacterial meningitis as exemplar, my lab is currently employing innovative use of Reverse Vaccinology 2.0, and bacterial and synthetic cell glycoengineering to the development of a next-generation, combined meningococcal-pneumococcal glycoconjugate vaccine.



## **Jonathan Fashanu, Founder and CEO Dash House Group**

Regenerative Practitioner | Civil & Structural Engineer | Passive House Designer | AFBE-UK Industry Engagement Lead | Technical Tutor | Founding Director



## **Leanne Armitage, Co-founder of the Armitage Foundation**

Leanne's ultimate mission in life is to inspire people to be their best. In addition to this, she has a passion for diversity and healthcare. Currently she works as a medical doctor and is also the co-founder of The Armitage Foundation – a charity committed to increasing diversity across UK medical schools. In 2018 she was awarded the UK Queen's Young Leaders award by Her Majesty the Queen, in recognition of her foundation. Leanne's featured in multiple news outlets and in 2020 she was named a LinkedIn

Top Voice for Healthcare. In 2022, she was recognised by the Black Cultural Archives as one of 40 black leaders from across the UK who are positively impacting the future of British society. In her spare time Leanne loves exercising, dancing and socialising with friends.



**Ritchie Neil, Salesforce**

I am an Account Director at Salesforce, which I joined in July 2018. My sector is the Business & Professional Services Market. After earning my Masters (M.Sc.) in Strategic Marketing & Consulting from The University of Birmingham, I went straight into the technology & business sector.

My prior experience includes working for Microsoft's largest global delivery partner for 6 years, supporting clients along their 'cloud journey' and successfully transitioning their business to the cloud. Prior to that, I started my career at Logicalis, which is a Global Infrastructure and Services provider.

## Workshop: Black In Engineering



**Workshop Chair: Dr Sunday Popo Ola, Imperial**

Dr Sunday Popo Ola is a multi-disciplinary expert in Structures, Systems and Mechanics. Sunday manages large-scale international engineering projects such as FutureHome. He brings together people and interdisciplinary networks for united efforts in engineering, business, and innovation. He is the founder of an initiative called 'Creative Futures – Achieving your Potential' and plays an active role on 'Imperial as One'.



**Engr. Admire Mandaza, Network Rail**

Consultant- Senior Project Engineer at Network Rail  
I am a Chartered Civil Engineer with 19yrs post graduate experience (8 in water industry & 10 in the rail industry) currently working as a Senior Project Engineer for the LNER IP Kings Cross Station to York primarily working as a Civil engineering assurance engineer.



**Elizabeth Adeniyi, Mace**

Elizabeth Adeniyi holds a Meng in Mechanical Engineering and is currently an assistant MEP Manager at Mace Group. As the founder of She Can Engineering, she is passionate about inspiring and educating people about the diverse opportunities within engineering and the various pathways that studying a STEM subject can offer. Elizabeth is dedicated to fostering a greater understanding and appreciation for engineering among women, encouraging them to pursue their ambitions in this dynamic field.



**Dr Kunle Onabolu, Africa Child Trust** Dr Onabolu has forty-four years of experience in infrastructure development in roads, railway and engineering project management. His experience spans building materials R&D, manufacturing, project design, construction management and organisational development. In 20 years as CEO of KAO Projects Solutions he was responsible for major infrastructure projects in the UK and Africa. He advised the Nigerian Government on railway modernisation, was consultant for rehabilitation of the narrow-gauge project and carried out the reform

and restructuring of Nigeria Railway Corporation (2010 12).



**Engr. Tai Fadipe-Davids, GE**

Tai is currently a Director of Lean Six Sigma-Global at GE where he supports Procurement, Engineering, HR & HSE. He is an Executive Director of a UK Charity Band Performing Alternative Jazz led by a Two-Time Grammy Awards winner. He is deeply committed to mentorship and a member of the International Mobility Committee, NSE – Nigeria Society of Engineers. Tai is an Ambassador of the Nigeria Police Force crime prevention initiative and a father to two teenage daughters

Sharon and Mia.

## Workshop: Afro Caribbean Commercial Science Network



**Workshop Chair: Daniel Similaki, ACCSN Founder**

Daniel Similaki is a German born Afro European. He has a background in chemistry with a BSc honours degree in Chemistry. As part of his placement year, he was able to gain laboratory experience in two different institutions, one as a research technician at the University of Huddersfield and as a dye technician at ones of UK's leading textile manufacturers. He has a wealth of experience in the commercial science industry both in the biotech and pharmaceutical industry since

completing his university education.

He is the founder of the ACCSN. The vision and goal were born because of years of frustration about the lack of initiatives promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the commercial and broader life science industry. In the light of his own experience, it was challenging envisaging career progression due to the lack of black and ethnic role models in commercial and broader life science industry.



**Camille Linsley, ACCSN Mentor & Member**

Camille Linsley is a Technical Sales Specialist at a Biotechnology Research company and is a UK-born individual of mixed heritage, with Jamaican and Swedish-Malaysian roots. She has a passion for music and plays multiple instruments, particularly excelling in cello and double bass. Scuba diving has been a significant part of her life since the age of 15. Camille pursued her undergraduate education in Marine Biology and Zoology at Bangor University, where she discovered her profound

interest in animal behaviour. This interest led her to pursue a master's degree in animal Behaviour at Anglia Ruskin University. Camille's diverse background and academic achievements make her a knowledgeable and well-rounded individual in the field of marine biology and animal behaviour.



**Sim Superville, ACCSN Mentor & Member**

Sim Superville is a Founder & CEO of Silbello, a product discovery tool that helps teams build the right thing. Formerly an Advanced Product Manager at Benevolent AI, where he used a background in Biomedical Sciences and Biotechnology to help unite AI with cutting-edge science - discovering and developing new medicines for complex diseases. Sim is a mentor and member of ACCSN, drawing on previous experience scaling start-ups, both as Head of Product Development at Katalyst

Laboratories and Co-Founder of Nanoshield, to increase representation of ethnic minorities in biotech.

Sim is passionate about improving diversity in the workplace, using experience as a Mental Health First Aider to mentor students and entry-stage professionals looking to discover new opportunities at the intersection of science and tech.

## Workshop: Preparing for Technical Interview



**Workshop Chair: Amita Nnamah, Google DeepMind**

Amita is a Sourcing Specialist at Google DeepMind, where she uses her 8 years of recruitment experience to find exceptional talent. Driven by a passion for equal opportunity and meaningful relationships, Amita helps individuals unlock their full potential. She thrives on connecting with people and fostering a sense of belonging in the workplace. Amita's warm and approachable demeanour, coupled with her deep understanding of the tech & AI industry, makes her a trusted advisor to

both candidates and hiring managers.

## Workshop: Careers in Teaching and Outreach



**Workshop Chair: Dr Wayne A Mitchell PhD, MEd, QTS, FHEA, Associate Provost EDI**

Practical Laboratory Skills Coordinator for MSc Immunology, MSc Molecular Medicine, MSc Applied Genomics and MSc Molecular Biology and Pathology of Viruses.

Mastering Laboratory Skills Course Coordinator.



**Fay Blake**

School Partnerships Administrator, Outreach.

Fay Blake is a School Partnerships Administrator for Imperial College London, and a graduate of the Imperial IMPACT programme. The long-standing IMPACT programme (Imperial Positive About Cultural Talent) is designed to help staff develop new and existing skills and attempts to address some of the challenges faced by some minority ethnic staff.



## **Dr Henock Taddese**

Henock is a Principal Teaching Fellow and Co-Director of the Master of Public Health Course at the School of Public Health, Imperial College London. He leads modules related to research methods and health policy. Henock obtained his PhD in Public Health from the University of Sheffield. Henock is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, and has recently completed his master's in education.



## **Jenny Husbands**

- Teaching Fellow/Senior Teaching Fellow Imperial College nee University
- Course Leader BSc in Health & Social Policy LMU
- Cohort Leader/Admissions Tutor LSBU
- Course Leader Access to Health Studies CNWL
- Primary Care Health Promotion Specialist Health First LSLHA



## **Dr Sungano Chigogora**

My role at Imperial College London includes being Course Organiser for the MSc in Epidemiology and Co-Lead for the Research Methods module (compulsory for Master of Public Health (MPH) and MSc Epidemiology students). It also includes conduct and supervision of public health research. I am a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA), and through recent completion of the Master of Education in University Learning and Teaching, now also conduct pedagogical research.



## **Dr Mark Richards**

Dr Mark Richards FCGI has a BSc in Chemistry (Manchester) and a PhD in Physics from Imperial College London. His research centred on the spectroscopic study of nitric acid vapour for atmospheric remote sensing retrievals. After working in finance for a while, Mark returned to Imperial in 2002 as a Post Doctoral Researcher within the High Energy Physics Group to manage a Technology Transfer program. He has since co-founded Duvas Technologies, an Imperial spin-out - specialising in wireless air sensing networks for real-time pollution mapping. Currently, Mark is Deputy Admissions Tutor, and Principle Investigator for the Strengthening Learning Communities Project.

## **Workshop: Careers as a Technician**



## **Workshop Chair: Simone Walker**

Simone A Walker, a Senior Research Technician with 19+ years of experience, currently runs a specialist technical facility, supporting cutting edge research into lung diseases. In addition to her technical activities Simone also champions Equality, Diversity and Exclusion by Co-Chairing the National Heart & Lung institute's EDI Committee along with sitting on Imperial College London's Race Equality Charter Self-Assessment Team. Her role as a Research Technician has allowed her to utilise her skills and strengths to pursue her passions and build the dream career.



## **Hime Gashaw**

Having arrived from Ethiopia at the age of 16, I pursued a degree in Biomedical Sciences at Greenwich University. With over 20 years of extensive laboratory experience, including 14 years at Imperial College London and 7 years at Abbott Laboratories, I specialize in Technical Product Development, Quality Assurance, and managing high-level research labs. Currently, I manage a laboratory overseeing more than 80 staff, supporting world-leading scientists. My expertise includes inspecting and testing

in-vitro diagnostic kits, ensuring GMP/GLP compliance, and leading safety inspections. As a proficient lab manager, I excel in team leadership, training, and upholding stringent scientific and safety standards.



## **Paul Brown**

Paul is the Mechanical Instrumentation Workshop manager in the Department of Physics, where he and his team design and manufacture scientific apparatus for research and teaching experiments.

Paul started his career over 30 years ago as an apprentice in mechanical craft engineering, working briefly in industry before joining Imperial as a junior technician. In 2016, he was awarded the Imperial College Medal for Research Support. In 2017 he was made an MBE in the Queen's Birthday

honors for service to Higher Education. More recently, he was made an Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Physics in 2021 for outstanding services to physics and the exemplary running of the instrumentation Workshop.

## **Increasing career options and employability through postgraduate studies**



## **Host: Sara Rankin**

Sara has a BSc and PhD in Pharmacology from Kings College London. She is currently Professor of Leukocyte and Stem Cell Biology in the Faculty of Medicine at Imperial. Her research focuses on the role of the bone marrow in inflammation and tissue regeneration. Sara is passionate about Diversity in STEM. She led her Departments Athena silver award in 2021 and is Director of the Black Inclusivity catalyst at Imperial. Sara is dyslexic and dyspraxic and an advocate for ND in STEM. She has set up

cacti.org.UK, supported by the RSC, RSB and BPS, to promote neuroinclusion in STEM Education and Careers.



**Co-Host: Dr Donald Palmer BSc (Hons), MSc, PhD, PGCAP, FHEA, FRSB, Imperial**

Donald is an Associate Professor of Immunology at the RVC, University of London and Honorary Senior Lecturer in Immunology at Imperial College London, Visiting Lecturer at Cambridge University and University of East London. His main research interest is focused on understanding the effect of age on the immune system. He is on the Editorial Board of various scientific journals and is currently Education & Careers Secretary of the British Society for Immunology. Donald is Co-Founder/Co-Director of Reach Society, an award-winning social enterprise which aims to inspire young people to fulfill their potential. He is an Amos Bursary Professional Mentor and is Chair of Governors at a school in Northwest London.



**Esther Bankole**

Esther Bankole is a PhD candidate at Imperial College London's National Heart and Lung Institute (NHLI). Her research focuses on investigating the mechanisms underlying lung tissue repair and regeneration. Before embarking on her PhD, Esther did her undergraduate Degree in Biomedical Science at Royal Holloway, MSc in Molecular Biology & Pathology of Viruses at Imperial and an MRes in Biomedical Research at Imperial.



**Mawunyo Christina Ametewee**

Mawunyo Christina Ametewee, a former civil servant and project manager, is currently a postgraduate student in Epidemiology at Imperial College London, where she was honoured with the Presidential Scholarship for Students of Black Heritage. (See Hosts for full bio)



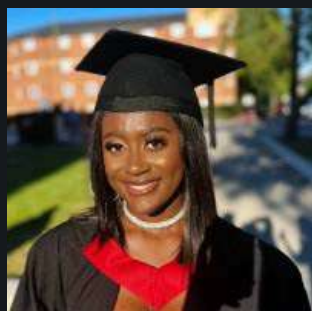
**Dr Norris Igbineweka**

Norris Igbineweka is a haematology registrar by background at King's College Hospital, London UK. He is presently doing his PhD in molecular biology at Imperial College London in collaboration with Oxford University using gene-editing laboratory work to investigate certain red blood diseases with no genetic diagnosis yet. He is very passionate about encouraging the development of research skills among young students at school, medical students, junior doctors, allied health professionals, nurses, and those from underrepresented backgrounds in medical science. He also recently founded a non-profit called The Physician Scientist which aims to develop and nurture research skills in those from various backgrounds of young people in science, medical students, junior doctors, allied health professionals, industry professionals.



## **Sandra Ogholaja-Ogboru**

Sandra Ogholaja-Ogboru is a current student of IMSE Molecular Engineering MRes within the Chemical Engineering department. Sandra comes from a chemistry background, graduating with a BSc in Chemistry in 2022. Currently, Sandra is a research and development intern at period care start-up, Fluus.



## **Savannah Gordon**

Student at Imperial College London | Laboratory Assistant  
Driven and dynamic biochemistry graduate with strong research, communication and organisational skills. My degree has equipped me with expertise spanning across multiple areas of biochemistry including lab work, functional biochemistry and Immunology and Endocrinology.



## **Dr Tafara Makuni**

Dr Tafara Makuni is a research postgraduate based in the Structural Integrity and Health Monitoring group at Imperial College London. In 2012, she graduated with a Distinction in MEng Aerospace and Aeronautical Engineering at the Cambridge University Engineering Department (CUED). Still at CUED, in 2017, she completed a PhD in Jet Engine Intakes which was funded by Rolls-Royce plc and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC). Following this, Tafara was a Postdoctoral Fellow

at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) before entering industry. In industry, Tafara worked as an Installations Aero Technologist for Rolls-Royce plc and a Senior Engineer at MBDA UK Limited. She also studied a PGCE in Secondary Education (Physics with Mathematics) at Brunel University London. Outside of work, her main hobbies include playing various sports and participating in church related activities.

## **Workshop: BBSTEM - Careers in Pharma and BioTech**



## **Workshop Chair: Dr Kayisha Payne**

studied Chemical Engineering at Aston University and continued her education at Imperial College London, where she received a Masters' in Advanced Chemical Engineering. In 2018, Kayisha was recognised by the Financial Times as one of The Top 100 Most Influential BAME leaders in Diversity and Technology. In 2019 she was awarded the STEM Rising Star Award at The Black British Business Awards. In 2020 she was awarded one of the Top 50 Women in Engineering. Kayisha is currently a Healthcare &

Life Sciences Consultant at Alvarez & Marsal and was previously a Biopharmaceutical Process Development Scientist at AstraZeneca.



**Dr James Bolaji**

I'm an Imperial-trained PhD now working in the pharma industry. I love to travel (for both work and play) and I'm always looking for the next great scuba diving spot!



**Jason Mellad**

Jason is a scientist and entrepreneur, passionate about translating innovative technologies into better patient outcomes. As CEO and Co-Founder of Start Codon, a UK-based accelerator, he aims to discover the most disruptive life science, BioTech and healthcare founders and help them translate their innovations into successful ventures. This is achieved through a combination of seed funding and a bespoke venture-building programme, which taps into the exceptional resources of the Cambridge cluster as well as the global network and knowledge of Jason and the Start Codon team.

Previously, he was CEO of Cambridge Epigenetix (now Biomodal) and Business Development

Manager for Horizon Discovery's diagnostics division. He also served as an associate for Cambridge Enterprise, the technology transfer office of the University of Cambridge.



**Christine Owoh**

Christine is a BSc Biomedical Science (Hons) graduate, currently working towards HCPC registration at the UKHSA, as a Biomedical Scientist. She is a research and surveillance scientist of enteric viruses and has recently moved to the NMRS-S (National Mycobacterium Reference Service - South), the National reference laboratory for M. Tuberculosis and non-Tuberculosis mycobacterium. She is also a United Nations woman's delegate, aspiring public speaker and recently gave regional presentation/

Q&A session at Marie Curie Hospice on 'Decolonising the Curriculum'. She was a former member of Coventry University's Student Union (CUSU) Executive, CUSU Council and CUSU Education Committee. Additionally, she was Coventry University's Health and Life Sciences Faculty representative and African Caribbean Society's Vice President.



**Adamah Saccoh**

PhD researcher. Focused on building a career as a cardiovascular scientist. I am also passionate about career development and enriching the next generation of scientist and life science graduates on making informed choices in STEM careers.



## **Rabecca Musiega**

Rabecca is currently a Global Business Graduate at Novo Nordisk. Since joining Novo Nordisk in 2022, she has worked across Denmark and the UK in digital health commercial strategy, customer Engagement & commercial Excellence in UK and Development Strategy & Operations. Originally from Kenya, she has an academic background within Economics and International Relations from Tufts University, Boston, US. She also holds double Masters degrees in Economic History and Global Studies from London School of Economics (LSE) and Ghent University in Belgium.

## **Workshop: Careers paths in Medicine**



## **Workshop Chair: Dr Toyosi Adeniji**

Dr Toyosi Adeniji is the RCGP First 5 Chair for the United Kingdom. She is a GP Partner in Northampton and PCN lead on Healthcare inequalities amongst other roles. She has won several awards and has recently been made a fellow with the Faculty of Medical leadership and management (FFMLM).

She is also the Equality, diversity and Inclusion lead with RCGP Thames Valley Faculty. In 2021, she was one of the recipients of the national award as GP Trainee of the year and also the recipient of the prestigious RCGP Bill Style's award, all linked to original and innovative projects. She continues being a voice for excellence, professionalism and inclusion in the health system.



## **Dr Charles Agbuduwe**

Charles Agbuduwe is an academic haematologist with research interest in developing novel treatments for blood cancers. He obtained his medical qualification from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, followed by an MPhil in Translational Medicine and Therapeutics from the University of Cambridge and a PhD in Cancer Immunology from UCL. Having recently completed haematology training via the integrated academic training pathway, he now works as a clinical trials research fellow at UCLH and as a Locum

Haematology Consultant at NHS hospitals.



## **Dr Emma Amofo-Mensah**

Dr Emma Amofo-Mensah is a senior dermatology registrar and alumnus of Imperial College London, where she graduated with distinctions and a first class intercalated degree in Management. She is the founder of the House of Medics, a not-for-profit organisation that provides a platform for healthcare professionals to network, volunteer and learn. Through the House of Medics, Dr Emma leads a mentorship scheme for students, particularly from under-represented backgrounds and runs community outreach projects to

promote health and wellness.

## **Kwaku Duah**

Imperial Alumni and Street Doctor.



## **Laura Eghobamien**

Laura has worked in several notable companies including Medimmune, AstraZeneca, Crescendo Biologics, Mestag Therapeutics with increased leadership roles mainly in early stage drug discovery

She is also the founder of the Black Medical Scientific Network CIC, that helps to promote and support the visibility of black scientist. She was interviewed by Cambridge radio 105 for her ground breaking work featuring portraits of black Female scientist.

She is a Non Executive Board member of CATS global school (top performing international school) and a Scientific Advisory Board member for the Technology Network journal (an established online scientific journal with over 14 million yearly visitors) and a conference director for ELRIG drug discovery (largest European serving the life science community)

## **Workshop: Careers in AI**



## **Workshop Chair: Bilal Hilton-Leigh**

Bilal Hilton-Leigh is an Executive Director in Technology at UBS, with over 20 years' experience in banking technology and management consulting. He is passionate about unlocking the value of data and has built successful, world-class data engineering and data science projects in organisations. Bilal leads data and analytics platforms in the Investment Bank within UBS.

Bilal is a diversity champion, advising firms on how to attract and retain diverse talent. He has been both founder and chair of employee ethnicity networks and is a longstanding supporter and judge of The Precious Awards – which celebrates outstanding achievements of women of colour.



## **Dr Samuel Sinayoko**

Machine Learning Engineer (VP)  
J. P. Morgan Chase



## **Michael Olagunju - CEO of Exam solutions**

I provide an AI learning platform that is accessible to all STEM students, and teachers. We are currently in the process of building the world's most intuitive STEM learning platform in Web 3.0, an education platform that allows us to make students' experiences more personalised using AI, Gamification and Blockchain technology.



**Shamsuddeen Hassan Muhammad**

Advanced Google DeepMind Fellow, Department of Computing - Imperial



**Dr Sephora Madjiheurem**

I hold a PhD in Engineering from UCL, where I studied data-efficiency in reinforcement learning. I now work as a Research Scientist at Google DeepMind, where I continue to research efficient and sustainable approaches to machine learning. My other interests include sports (mainly basketball and snowboarding), travelling and cooking/eating. I also spend time thinking, discussing and organising around social justice issues.

## Workshop: Black in Business



**Workshop Chair: Ansumana Bai-Marrow**

Student Imperial Global online MBA  
Managing Director, TPG Angelo Gordon  
Ansumana is Co-chair Imperial Black Alumni Network.



**Dhosjan Greenaway-Dalini**

As a senior finance leader supporting fast-growing tech start-ups, Dhosjan has worked as a VP Finance and Revenue Operations, Start-up Advisor and Fractional CFO.

She has over two decades of international experience across various business stages and sizes. Her expertise in strategic financial planning and business strategy spans various sectors, including tech, AI and marketing. She is also an early-stage founder.

Her dedication to delivering products and services that empower early-stage founders is reflected in her volunteering efforts.



## Ten Esan

Ten Esan is an MBA, and a qualified Lawyer who currently serves as a Business Manager for Europe in HSBC's Global Payment Solutions business where he leads on Commercial Insights. He is also a co-founder of the Imperial Black Alumni network which brings together a global community of black professionals across all disciplines who have Imperial College in common.



## Uche Ogbonna

Uche Ogbonna is a seasoned professional with over 20 years of experience in sustainability, social impact strategy, corporate communications, and banking. As the Sustainability Director at GSMA, he leads initiatives that drive business value and accelerate collective action on material issues. Prior to this, Uche led Social Impact Strategy for Coca-Cola, Africa where he managed over \$50m worth of social investments for The Coca-Cola Foundation. He holds a master's degree in public and international affairs and is a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations, UK and the Association of Sustainability Practitioners of Nigeria. He loves to write in his past-time and is the author of Method to My Madness and No Easy Way Out.



## Morgan Fong

Following on from her first class degree in Physical Sciences from Brunel University, Morgan moved on into a successful career in management. She is currently the early years programme manager at British International Investment.



## Cyrus Mwangi

Cyrus sits in the Deloitte Major Programmes practice, he brings with him a breadth of industry and consulting experience and is known for delivering at pace and efficiency. He's a results driven leader with experience across multiple sectors, including Cyber, Consumer Products, Energy (Oil & Gas), Automotive, Aerospace, Engineering, and Technology.

## Workshop: Navigating your Career Path as a Black Lawyer



### Workshop Chair: **Stephen Akinsanya**

I have been in private practice for 29 years, and spent a three-year period as Senior attorney at a law firm in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

I am a criminal barrister specializing in all levels of complex and serious criminal cases including financial crime and murder in both jurisdictions. I have acted in a number of high-profile criminal cases both here and in the Turks and Caicos. My practice also includes acting in regulatory proceedings for clients appearing before professional bodies and athletes before their disciplinary tribunals.



### **Bongai Mutema**

Bongai Mutema is a qualified solicitor currently specializing in adult social care within the local government sector.

Bongai studied for her Bachelor of Laws degree in South Africa and moved to the UK in 2010. She pursued a Graduate Diploma in Law and Legal Practice Course, followed by a Master of Laws at BPP University in Bristol. Her hands-on experience in adult social care uniquely positions her to navigate the intersection of social care and the law, advocating effectively for the rights and well-being of adults.



### **Lee Xavier**

Lee is an Senior Solicitor at Taylor Law, excelling in the fields of commercial litigation and employment disputes over the past 25 years. In addition to his litigation prowess, Lee holds the distinction of being a certified mediator through the esteemed ADR Group, underscoring his commitment to achieving constructive resolutions even in the most complex conflicts. Lee's journey has seen him flourish as a Partner within select litigation practices situated in the heart of London's financial district. This rich experience resonates throughout his cases, which predominantly are heard in the High Court, a testament to the magnitude and complexity of the cases he deftly handles. His legal acumen has been instrumental in cases that have garnered significant attention and subsequently made their way into legal reports.



## **Terence Channer**

The son of Jamaican migrants Terence Channer is a consultant solicitor at Scott Moncrieff & Associates LLP who specialises in police misconduct, injury and healthcare law. He has a passion for holding state bodies such as the police and other detaining bodies to account. He is a passionate anti-racism advocate. Terence is a regular contributor to the Voice Newspaper. He is a keen user of technology in legal practice. His hobbies include swimming and jazz guitar.

## **Keynote**



## **Muyiwa Oki**

Muyiwa Oki is President of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) from 2023-25 and a senior Architect at Mace. Muyiwa was elected following a campaign which included pledges to promote more flexible routes into the profession, increase transparency, dial up efforts to improve diversity, and embrace digital culture.

As an Architect at Mace, Muyiwa is focused on technology, innovation, modern methods of construction. Throughout his career, Muyiwa has worked on large-scale infrastructure projects - including Qiddiya, HS2 Euston and the North London Heat and Power Project – and projects with public estate clients that have a strategic mission to revitalise cities.

Muyiwa is an ambassador, speaker and mentor for aspiring architects via programmes such as Mayor of London Design Challenge, Scale Rule, and POC in Architecture which exists to encourage greater social mobility within the profession.

## **Closing Comments**



## **Professor Washington Ochieng**

Professor Washington Yotto Ochieng, CBE, EBS, FREng, is the current Head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Chair Professor in Positioning and Navigation Systems. He is also the Interim Director of the Institute for Security Science and Technology (ISST) at Imperial College London. Formerly, he was Head of the Centre for Transport Studies, and Senior Security Science Fellow and Co-Director of the ISST at Imperial.

## Find out more on the success of the Black Graduate Careers Conference 2024 and discover what our student attendees thought about their experiences and take aways from the day.

Number of student attendees - **139**

### Study level of attendees:

- Undergraduate - **31%**
- Postgraduate - **68%**
- Other - **1%**

### No. of Imperial Students:

- Imperial - **21%**
- Non-Imperial - **79%**

### Universities of study:

- Russell group - **48%**
- Non Russell group - **48%**
- Other - **4%**

### Students based in London:

- Inside London - **62%**
- Outside London - **38%**

### Subject area of interest:

- Biomedicine / Medicine - **28%**
- Engineering and Computing - **27%**
- Natural Sciences - **13%**
- Business/Economics - **24%**
- Other - **8%**

### Student attendee ratings (based on student survey responses):

Overall rating - **56%** of students scored the event as 10/10 with an average overall rating of **9/10**.

Would recommend - **75%** of students said they would recommend the event to a friend, while **23%** of student attendees said they had already recommended the event.

Future study - 66% of students said they would consider studying an MSc or PhD at Imperial College London.

Overall networking opportunities - 8.5/10