**Aim**
Foster interdisciplinary research, networking and collaboration among UC Davis Postdocs

**New Additions to 2016 symposium**
- Information tables for postdoctoral societies
- Discussion Panel A: Patents, Copyright and Spin-offs
  - Dr Alexander Lippman (Innovating Communication)
  - Dr Zane Starkewolfe (Associate Director Office of Research)
  - Dr Steven Frese (Scientific Manager at Evolve Biosystems)
- Discussion Panel B: Social Media in Research
  - Ms Sallie Poggi (Digital Communications Specialist)
  - Dr Sarah McCullough (Strategic Initiatives Coordinator)
  - Dr Kaisa Kajala (Plant Biology Postdoctoral Fellow)

**2016 Stats**
- Raised $18000
- 217 Attendees
- 11 Different UCD schools and colleges
- 102 Abstracts submitted
- 51 Talks
- 36 Posters
- 14 First prizes
- 14 Runner-up prizes

**2016 Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Registration Desk</th>
<th>Meeting Room A</th>
<th>Ball Room A</th>
<th>Ball Room B</th>
<th>Ball Room C</th>
<th>Outside Area</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 – 9:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Session IA A (overview)</td>
<td>Session IA B (UI/UX)</td>
<td>Session IA C (New Technologies)</td>
<td>Session IA D (Networking and Social)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td></td>
<td>Poster session A (Open)</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 – 12:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Panel session A (Patents, Copyright and Spin-offs)</td>
<td>Panel session B (Social Media and Research)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 – 1:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td></td>
<td>Poster session B (Open)</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 – 3:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Session IA A (Aging)</td>
<td>Session IB A (Agricultural Environments)</td>
<td>Session IB B (Scientific Writing)</td>
<td>Session IB C (Biological Molecules)</td>
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<td>3:00 – 4:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td></td>
<td>Poster session B (Open)</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 – 5:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Panel session A (Medical Innovations)</td>
<td>Session IA C (Connections and Interactions)</td>
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<td>5:30 – 6:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>Refreshments and Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 – 7:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>Awards</td>
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**On The Day**

- Coffee at the same time as posters
- Awards and atmosphere
- Opportunity for networking!
- Very well organized and everyone was so positive.
- Amazing talks!

**Where to improve in 2017:**
- Maybe recording some sessions or live streaming
- Name tags should contain department and field of study.
- Stress to participants the importance of conveying a clear message to a general audience.
- More chocolate! :-(

**Feedback, Comments and Suggestions**

- The best thing about 2016:
  - Coffee at the same time as posters
  - Awards and atmosphere
  - Opportunity for networking!
  - Very well organized and everyone was so positive.
  - Amazing talks!

- Where to improve in 2017:
  - Maybe recording some sessions or live streaming
  - Name tags should contain department and field of study.
  - Stress to participants the importance of conveying a clear message to a general audience.
  - More chocolate! :-(

**Thanks to my awesome 2016 Organising Committee**

Anna Kalashnikova
Sibongile Mafu
Sharon Gray
Yigal Achmon
Bipin Kumar
Juan Guajardo
Irina Calic
Jacob Davidson
Kaisa Kajala
Lloyd Nackley
Marta Lima
Quentin Stoeffler
Sara Freeman
Simone Hasenbein
Tamar Kanel-Shalit
Tun Nyunt
Victoria Cussen
Prasant Jena

**Word cloud representing all the most common words in the submitted abstracts**
Professors for the Future, 2015 - 2016

PFTF Fellow: Nicky Creux
Program: Plant Biology
Principal Investigator: Stacey Harmer
Project Mentor: Dr. Kaisa Kajala

Project Title: "Supporting Interdisciplinary Research at UC Davis - The 2nd UC Davis Postdoctoral Research Symposium."

Project Summary:

The inaugural interdisciplinary postdoctoral research symposium was hosted by Dr. Kajala as her PFTF project in 2014/2015. With approximately 800 postdoctoral scholars performing and publishing original research at UC Davis, Dr. Kajala’s main goal was to highlight and celebrate the excellent postdoctoral research carried out by this significant sector of the UC Davis research community. The daylong event was a great success bringing over 100 UC Davis postdoctoral scholars from diverse disciplines together to present their research and share ideas. As an active participant of the first symposium and by reviewing all the positive feedback received, both from other postdoctoral scholars and faculty members, it was clear that this symposium was a valuable showcase of postdoctoral research and facilitated interdisciplinary networking.

For my PFTF project I chose to work towards establishing this as an annual event and I hosted the 2nd UC Davis Postdoctoral Research Symposium on 18th May 2016 at the UC Davis Conference Center. This event was well attended with over 200 attendees, the majority of which were postdocs, and the atmosphere was very conducive to networking. Several participants commented that networking with fellow postdocs across disciplines was the best part of the day. In addition to the fantastic talks and poster sessions we included two career development panel discussions. The first was on Patents, Copyright and Spin-offs, which included prominent speakers from the university and surrounding spin-off companies. The second panel was focused on Social media in research and this panel housed a lively discussion with communication specialists and strategic initiative coordinators. The feedback from the panel attendees was mostly positive and participants felt there was a great deal of interesting and useful information presented.

This year we also included information tables for societies that support postdocs including PFTF, FUTURE, Postdoctoral Scholars Association (PSA) and the Postdoc Union. As the next step to securing this event as an annual fixture I included members of the PSA on my organizing committee and Dr Molly Foote, a 2016/2017 PFTF fellow and PSA chair, will lead the 2017 organizing committee. Strengthening the ties between the PSA and Postdoctoral Research Symposium will help maintain continuity for future events and hopefully the symposium will continue to go from strength to strength in the years to come.

University of California, Davis