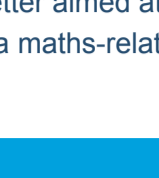




Share:

PSI Student Newsletter



Welcome

Welcome to our second student newsletter aimed at providing you with useful information and links to resources while you study a maths-related degree at University and start to think about future career options.

Did you know?

World Maths Day

It takes place on 23rd March this year and is a celebrated event that even holds a world record. The record was for the largest online maths competition in 2010, when 1,204,766 participants took part.

Ref: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Maths_Day

PSI student membership

Reminder: **PSI student membership is free** to join and has many benefits during your journey to becoming a statistician in the pharmaceutical industry.

[Join PSI](#)

Covid clinical trials

When the covid pandemic hit and the race for vaccines and treatments started, PSI created a working group to help people working on covid clinical trials. This just shows how PSI takes a real interest in key topics to support its community. The group put together this PSI webinar which you can watch on-demand: [PSI Vaccine & COVID-19 SIGs Joint Webinar: Statistics, Vaccine Development, and the COVID-19 Crisis](#)

Statistical Topics on COVID-19

[PSI Vaccines & COVID-19 SIGs Joint Webinar](#)
3pm - 5pm GMT, December 2, 2021

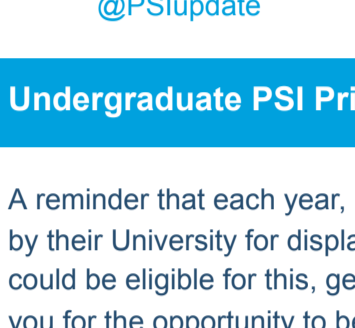
Keep your contact details up to date

If you are finishing your studies at the end of this academic year, please remember to change your email address to a personal one on your PSI account, so you don't miss important updates and continue to receive our regular emails.

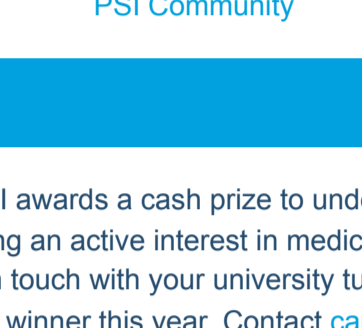
To edit your contact details, you can log into Glue Up and go to "My profile": <https://app.glueup.com/my/profile/>. Please also let us know on psi@mci-group.com so we can ensure the change has taken effect.

Follow us on social media

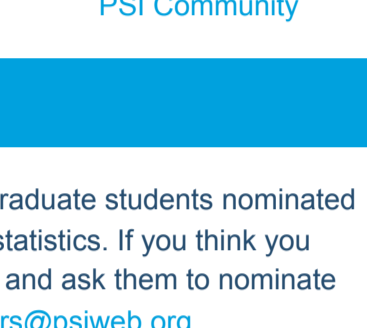
Stay up to date on all that we have got going on through our social media channels! We regularly post about the newest updates, upcoming events and conferences. If you haven't already, make sure to give us a follow!



Twitter
[@PSIupdate](#)



LinkedIn Profile
[PSI Community](#)



Facebook page
[PSI Community](#)

Undergraduate PSI Prize

A reminder that each year, PSI awards a cash prize to undergraduate students nominated by their University for displaying an active interest in medical statistics. If you think you could be eligible for this, get in touch with your university tutor and ask them to nominate you for the opportunity to be a winner this year. Contact careers@psiweb.org.

Placement students

Each year, PSI invites placement students to share their experiences and highlights these on the PSI website and in SPIN. Last year's students provided profiles and featured in two The Effective Statistician podcasts – see [here](#) for further details. This is a great opportunity to raise both your own profile and your company's profile so please keep an eye out for a call via PSI eNews in April and May (we will also be directly reaching out to individual companies).

If you're an undergraduate student thinking of doing a year in industry, please check out the above link to find out some of the great benefits of doing so!

Interview Skills

It's that time of year again when university students are looking for either placements or graduate roles. Check out our [interview skills](#) section on the PSI website for some tips on how to approach interviews for roles in the pharmaceutical industry. If you have any further questions, don't hesitate to contact the CALC team at careers@psiweb.org.

PSI Events

PSI offers a range of opportunities to learn about statistical techniques used in the Pharmaceutical industry, as well as valuable personable skills. Sessions range from a couple of hours to all-day events. More details and how to register can be found on our website, but here is a taster of a few coming up:

PSI RWD SIG Webinar: Real-World Evidence Submission - a Case Study in Lung Transplantation
Tuesday 22nd March 2022
13:30 - 15:00 GMT

Focused on Real World Data (RWD), this webinar looks at a case study where a drug was approved solely on Real-World Evidence (RWE).

Target audience: final year BSc, MSc, PhD with an interest in RWE.

[Register](#)

PSI Webinar: Statistical Challenges in Gene Therapy Trials
Wednesday 23rd March 2022
14:00 - 16:30 GMT

Research and clinical trials for gene therapies pose many specific challenges. If you are interested in this line of statistical application, the talks in this webinar will cover challenges related to study design, including estimands, and use of real-world data and evidence to supplement clinical trial data. Case studies of such challenges will be presented.

Target audience: final year BSc, MSc, PhD with an interest in gene therapy.

[Register](#)

PSI VisSIG Wonderful Wednesday Webinar Series
Every second Wednesday of the month
16:00 - 17:00 GMT

These monthly webinars explore examples of innovative data visualisations relevant to day to day work. Each month a new dataset is provided from a clinical trial or other relevant example, and participants are invited to submit a graphic that communicates interesting and relevant characteristics of the data.

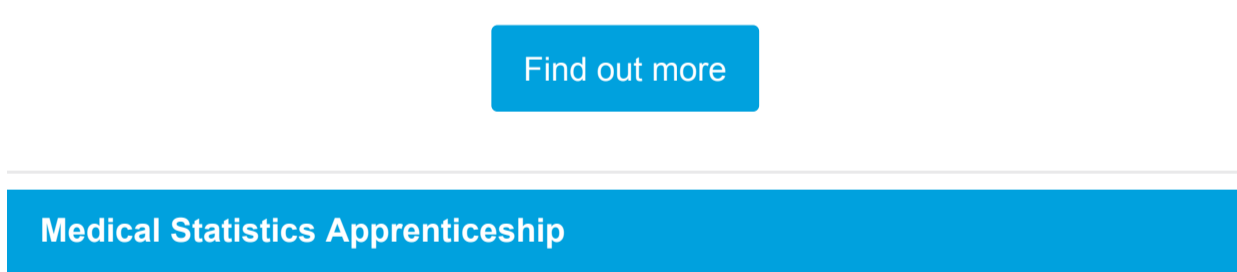
Target audience: BSc, MSc, PhD with an interest in data visualisation.

[Register](#)

Look out for these great events coming up in the near future too:

- Composite endpoints
- Decentralised clinical trials
- "Lunch and learn" webinars focussed on soft skills and career development topics

PSI 2022 Conference



- The PSI Conference 2022 will be in-person in Gothenburg, Sweden between **12-15 June**.
- This is regarded as the principal annual event for statisticians in the pharmaceutical industry.
- The conference will include plenary sessions, parallel sessions and a poster display. Material will be also be available on demand plus there will be an exhibitor area.
- A **Student Day Pass**** is available on **Monday 13th June** for 450.00 SEK (about £35/€45), including a Career Young Statistician session and other student sessions.
- If you can't make it to Gothenburg this year then do still consider becoming a PSI student member as many of the sessions will be recorded and available online after the conference.
- PSI usually alternates its conference between a UK city and mainland Europe each year - so keep an eye out in future years if the conference is near you.

**you will need to register as a PSI student member first

[Find out more](#)

Medical Statistics Apprenticeship

- The new Medical Statistics Level-7 Apprenticeship has been approved!
- This new apprenticeship will be an important new option available to educate and train the next generation of medical statisticians within the UK.
- This is aimed at students who have completed an undergraduate degree in a numerate subject
 - You would study for a MSc to be completed part-time over 2-3 years, alongside gaining on-the-job experience by working (and earning a salary) at a company.
- The University of Strathclyde is the first university to be registered as a training provider and would provide the academic portion of the apprenticeship.
- Keep a look out for companies that may be advertising apprentice positions (as you would apply to the company rather than the university) – try the PSI website [Jobs Board](#) or [Medical Stats Apprenticeship page](#).

Useful links



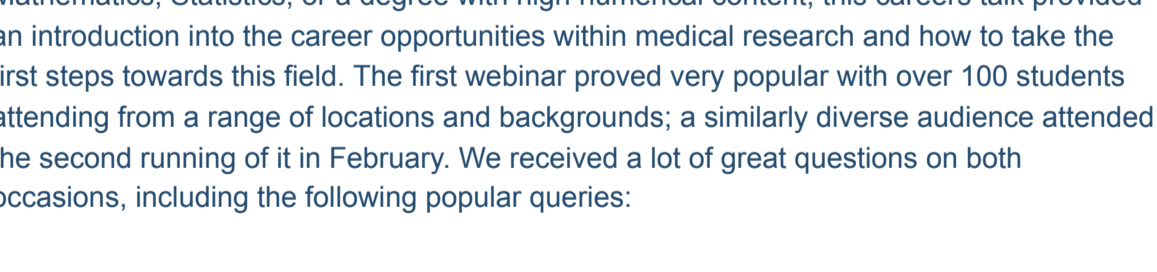
[UK Medical Statistician Level 7 Apprenticeship Scheme](#)

[PSI Careers website](#)



[Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education](#)

PSI MEDMathS webinar



PSI ran their brand new MEDMathS (Medicine Empowered by Data, Mathematics and Statistics) webinar in November 2021 and February 2022. Aimed at students studying Mathematics, Statistics, or a degree with high numerical content, this careers talk provided an introduction into the career opportunities within medical research and how to take the first steps towards this field. The first webinar proved very popular with over 100 students attending from a range of locations and backgrounds; a similarly diverse audience attended the second running of it in February. We received a lot of great questions on both occasions, including the following popular queries:

1. **What degree level and subject is usually required for a job in medical statistics?** For a job in medical statistics, an MSc or PhD in statistics, mathematics, data science or other relevant numerical-related degree is recommended. For programmers, a BSc is often sufficient.
2. **Do you recommend learning R, SAS or other statistical software?** Knowledge of statistical software is advantageous as it may set you apart from other candidates when applying for a job. However, it is not mandatory since many companies offer on-the-job training for R, SAS and other software. Within medical research and the pharmaceutical industry, R and SAS are the most common statistical programming languages used.
3. **Are there placements in medical statistics and where can they be found?** There are plenty of opportunities to undertake work placements within medical research. You can find information on companies offering industrial placement in medical statistics, and testimonials from students who previously completed such placements, on the PSI website at www.psiweb.org/careers/student-placements.
4. **Would a PhD be recommended?** Generally, a PhD is not required. Some jobs within university departments may require a PhD for career progression, but the same is rarely true at pharmaceutical companies and contract research organisations. Some companies have a 'statistical methods' group and here having a PhD would be advantageous (if not necessary) as the work is often self-taught and research-based.
5. **Does PSI have online resources for continuing professional development?** PSI offers a large suite of resources for its members via training courses, conferences, webinars, journal club, special interest groups. Most are recorded and can be accessed through the 'Video on Demand' library. Some courses are free, others are a reduced rate for members; PSI has events for students through to senior management.

We plan to run MEDMathS again later this year and in early 2023 so please keep an eye out for it being advertised in future newsletters!

Job Vacancies

Many companies employing statisticians advertise their job vacancies on the [PSI website](#). Career Opportunities are updated on a regular basis, and is always worth a look to see what options are available.



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