

# Editorial

I am pleased to have been asked to write the editorial for the third issue of FRONTIER.

FRONTIER is an excellent initiative in journalism at the University of Leicester. Led entirely by postgraduate research students, it highlights the interesting and innovative research of our students across the University and provides a voice for the postgraduate research community. With its third issue, it is quickly establishing itself as a staple of this community and I look forward to reading many issues to come. I hope that, as postgraduate researchers read this issue, they become inspired to discuss their research with FRONTIER's readership and to contribute articles to future issues. This is a great way for students to develop their skill in communicating to non-specialist audiences – something that will continue to benefit them throughout their careers. If you want to get involved either as an author or an editor, please get in touch with the FRONTIER team by emailing [frontier@le.ac.uk](mailto:frontier@le.ac.uk). What you see before you is a finished piece, but there is a lot of work that went on behind the scenes to make this issue possible. The efforts of the editors, Felicity Easton, Jonathan Smith and Francisco Valente Gonçalves deserve particular praise for their organisation and extensive work in compiling, editing and designing this issue. These editors, along with the help of the sub editors you see below, have volunteered a lot of their spare time to bring you this magazine. I would like to thank Dr Sarah Bugby and Dr Jason Wickham for their help in ensuring that the magazine continues to be a platform for communicating postgraduate

research. Of course the magazine relies on the articles contributed by postgraduate researchers who have taken the time to share their research, for which we are all grateful. I hope you enjoy reading this issue and please contact the FRONTIER team with your feedback and articles for the next issue.



Professor Helen Atkinson  
Graduate Dean

# Acknowledgements

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Bugby, Dr Jason Wickham and Dr Sergio Gonzalez Sanchez, who were always available to help and guide us. We would also like to extend our thanks to staff across the University for supporting FRONTIER and helping us to spread the word, to Merv Stevenson for his immense efforts in composing the magazine layout, and to all the postgraduate students who have contacted us with feedback, articles and offers to get involved.

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# Editorial Team



Felicity Easton

Editors-In-Chief



Jonathan Smith

Working in Respiratory Medicine Felicity is researching how ion channels regulate airway smooth muscle contraction. Programming and database architecture is an interest that she incorporates into her research at any opportunity. When not in the laboratory Felicity can be found buried in a book, or baking, both usually accompanied with a strong cup of tea.

Jonathan is a PhD student researching neurobiology and behaviour in desert locusts. His project explores how solitary grasshoppers group into swarms of locusts. When he is not chasing escaped insects around the laboratory, he is writing, playing music, reading science fiction/fantasy books or playing around with his computer.

## Sub Editors

**Francisco Valente Gonçalves**  
Francisco is a Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher (INTREPID Forensics Programme, Department of Criminology), investigating experts' motivations and decision-making in forensic fields such as fingerprint comparisons. He enjoys music, art and cooking with red wine by the side!

**Charlotte Jelleyman**  
From the Diabetes Research Centre, Charlotte studies the application of high-intensity interval training in the prevention and management of type 2 diabetes. Charlotte's interest in the area stems from her own love of physical activity; something she is keen to share with others.

**Adam Smith**  
Working in the Department of Chemistry, Adam's research focuses on Molecularly Imprinted Polymer Nano-particles for the targeted drug delivery to cancer cells. Adam is also a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) for 1st and 2nd year students.

**Rachael Sycamore**  
Studying Roman archaeology, Rachael's research focuses on hoarding and spatial analysis. Rachael previously studied at Durham University where she developed research interests in Roman archaeology, GIS and landscape.

**Lakmini Liyanage**  
Laki is part of the Cardiovascular Sciences department and works primarily on abdominal aortic aneurysms, investigating the fundamental differences in structure and biological activity that cause a predisposition for aortic aneurysmal disease at different sites.