

CSE PDRA Forum	
<p>The College of Science and Engineering Postdoctoral Research Associate (PDRA) Forum convenes representatives from the PDRA communities across the Schools within the College to discuss issues impacting PDRAs and to share examples of best practices. Representation at the Forum comprises the PDRA Champions from each School, alongside representatives from research staff societies. The Forum provides an opportunity to bring to light common challenges faced by postdoctoral researchers and discuss them with the Dean of Research Culture and colleagues from the Institute for Academic Development (IAD). Furthermore, the Forum serves as a platform to provide updates on actions already implemented to address common issues encountered by PDRAs, as well as to influence future initiatives in enhancing research cultures.</p>	
College (where initiative takes place):	College of Science and Engineering
School (where initiative takes place):	College Office
Stakeholders involved in the planning, organisation and execution of the initiative:	College Research Cultures Team, PDRA Champions, IAD
Webpages:	A new Research Culture Hub featuring the PDRA Forum is due to be launched in the latter part of 2025.
Submitted by:	Lisa Gunther on behalf of Jane Hillston
Concordat principles:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment & Culture • Professional & Career Development
Area the Concordat Initiative Supported:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment & Culture: Wellbeing • Environment & Culture: Research Culture • Professional & Career Development: Researcher Visibility • Professional & Career Development: Career Support
Stakeholders:	Postdoctoral Researchers, Postdoctoral Research Champions, Research Staff Societies
Comments:	<p>The quarterly PDRA Fora have been well attended and have generated a number of actionable outcomes for the College. The meetings allow for sharing of best practice between research staff societies and Postdoc Champions, and learning from each other's experiences. Members of the Forum provide a sounding board for the College research culture team and allow future initiatives to be co-created rather than imposed.</p>
Outputs:	<p>Working with the PDRA Forum, the College coordinated the inaugural CSE Postdoc and Research Staff Symposium in May 2025. Additional actionable outcomes include a guidance document on career support for PDRAs through their annual appraisals, an induction pack for PDRA Champions, and PDRA induction guidelines.</p>