Student Events and Activities
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Below is a brief description of various things organised by and for PhD students at the LMCB

Student Evenings
These evenings are designed to develop student’s communication skills and to discuss the wider issues of becoming a professional scientist. A wide variety of topics are covered including bioethics, career options, the relationship between basic research and industrial application, the interface between basic and clinical science and skills for completing a thesis. These are usually evening sessions, with beer and snacks, and usually take the form of debates, discussions or talks. These evenings are organised by second year PhD students.

Student Committee and Chair
There is a student committee that has representatives from each year from both the MRC LMCB programme and non-programme students. This committee meets to discuss and make decisions relating to student life at the LMCB and reports their views on particular issues to the Postgraduate Committee. This committee is run by the student chair, who is a second year PhD student. The student chair also represents students at Group leader meetings.

Lunches with seminar speakers
The LMCB has a seminar series of external speakers on Mondays. As part of this three students are given the opportunity to have lunch with the speaker, this is an excellent opportunity to discuss your work with an excellent scientist.

Student invited Speaker
Each year the students are given the opportunity to invite a high profile speaker to give a seminar at the LMCB. This also includes the opportunity for students to discuss their work individually with the speaker if they wish. Previous speakers have included Thomas Sudhof and Bruce Alberts.

Skills Exchange
The LMCB runs a series of ‘skills exchanges’. These focus on a different experimental technique each session and are run by people in the department and external speakers. These are organised by a committee of students and post-docs.
**Athena Swan**
The LMCB currently holds the Athena Swan Silver award recognising ‘advancement of gender equality: representation, progression and success for all’. Students can get involved with this initiative at the LMCB.

**School Visit**
The students arrange one school visit each year for around 40 16-18 year old school students to visit the LMCB and learn about the work we do here through hands on sessions in the lab.

**Student Conference**
Roughly every other year a student conference is organised with a different partner institute each time. All students are involved either presenting a talk or a poster. Past locations have included Barcelona, Sorrento and Paris.

**Demonstrating for Undergraduate classes**
PhD students can choose to act as demonstrators in undergraduate science laboratory based classes. Students are paid for this demonstrating and organise this around their own schedule, after their group leader has approved this.

**Public Engagement and Volunteering**
As well as the LMCB School visit the LMCB and UCL offers many opportunities for PhD students to get involved in volunteering and public engagement activities.

**Cocktail evenings**
The LMCB has a series of cocktails evenings one Friday a month which are organised by labs in the building.

**Christmas Party**
The first year PhD students organise the LMCB Christmas party each year for the whole department.