The Royal Society
Policy Placement – Emerging Technologies

The Royal Society's mission is to recognise, promote, and support excellence in science and to encourage the development and use of science for the benefit of humanity. Science is vital to many areas of government policy making and the Society seeks to ensure the government and the public have access to impartial and independent expert advice to inform debate and guide good decision making. The Society’s policy work is led by the science policy team, working closely with the Media Relations, Public Affairs, Public Engagement, International Affairs and Diversity & Industry Programme teams. Activities are undertaken by a team of Senior Policy Advisers and Policy Advisers who work across a range of themes and policy issues, according to priorities and their own expertise.

The role
The Royal Society is looking for an early career researcher to complete a placement of up to six month who will work on and support policy projects within our emerging technologies team. The successful candidate will work on a number of varied projects including our two larger programmes exploring neural interfaces and novel materials respectively. The role will also involve scoping for new projects across the spectrum of science and technology for the emerging technologies team to consider. No specific academic background is required but an interest in, and knowledge of, emerging technologies and their technical, scientific and societal challenges would be beneficial. There will be opportunity to lead on and complete discreet pieces of work and build networks with leading academics, government, and industry.

Skills required
- Good organisational skills and attention to detail
- Ability to pick up new topics easily
- Some knowledge of the policy context of new and emerging technologies would be beneficial

Duration
The placement will last for up to 6 months starting in March. The role will be full time, 35 hours per week.

Location
The placement will be based at the Royal Society offices in Carlton House Terrace

Funding
UCL has funding available through the HEIF Knowledge Exchange Fund to support research staff and students who would be interested in undertaking a placement, subject to eligibility and certain conditions.

Eligibility
Policy placements are open to registered UCL staff and PhD students. Students who are successfully awarded a placement would generally be expected to interrupt their studentship for the duration of the post and will be funded by the placement award during this time. Candidates must be in a position to return to UCL for a period of six months following the placement to be eligible to apply.

To apply please email Olivia Stevenson, with a cover letter explaining your suitability for the placement (max 1 page) and short CV.