

Dr Jonathon Alexis Coates

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Values-driven leader and advocate with over 10 years' experience in leadership positions inside and outside of academia and 6+ years' experience in communication including podcasting, writing for scientific, lay and professional audiences and interacting with international journalists. Significant experience in advocacy, network building and relationship cultivation across multiple stakeholders.

Core relevant skills

- Leadership
- Stakeholder engagement
- Project management
- Strategic planning
- Team management
- Advocacy

Relevant experience

Associate Director (2023-Present)

ASAPBio

- Developed and implemented strategic initiatives, including devising the 2025-27 direction of ASAPbio & all community initiatives, resulting in >\$300,000 secured in funding for 2026. Acted as Executive Director for 4 months, leading to ASAPbio's most successful year since at least 2020 for engagement, growth and output.
- Recruit, manage and train the yearly ASAPbio Fellows cohorts across the globe. Individually trained over 200 people, to highly positive feedback.
- Independently oversee the ASAPbio community and budget, developing community programs. In 2025, consolidated multiple programs into a residency program and special interest groups, ensuring that community remained at the heart of ASAPbio
- Design and deliver outreach materials and communications based around preprints. This included creating new YouTube content that became ASAPbio's most successful video-output
- Provided leadership to the wider preprint/open science community

BHF Postdoctoral Research Scientist (2020 - 2023)

Queen Mary, University of London

- Project management and leadership of a research project which involved; designing and performing experiments, data analysis, data presentation and paper writing.
- Communicating information to be relayed to various professional and lay audiences through invited talks, writings ([opinion pieces](#) in scientific news outlets) and interactions with the general media ([BBC](#), [The Economist](#), [Popular Science](#), [German](#) and [Austrian](#) National radio).
- Published two corresponding author papers as the project lead for an independent, international research collaboration focused on preprint usage and quality ([Fraser et al.](#), & [Brierly et al.](#)) which received significant [media attention](#).
- Presented at invited talks across the UK to disseminate the outcomes of research to scientific audiences and on panels discussing the importance of open science.
- Managed the supervision of 4 undergraduates, 2 masters and 1 PhD student, including editing dissertations, providing feedback and training in lab and academic skills.

Founder, host & executive producer (2021 - Present)

Preprints in Motion [Podcast](#)

- Founded, produce and host a podcast focused on preprints and open science. The podcast promotes the benefits of preprints and provides a voice to under-represented scientists.
- Led the team into the top 20 charts in 11 countries and secured >£1700 in funding.

- Remote team (5 reports) and project management, budgeting, grant writing and community building with listeners in addition to stakeholder management with guests and funders.

Founder & community manager (2020 - 2023)

UK & EU postdoc [slack](#)

- Founded and manage a slack & X community to provide a space for UK and European postdoctoral researchers. Currently >450 members from across Europe and chosen by the UK's national research funder as a valuable community building initiative.
- Organized shared career materials and workshops featuring major UK funding bodies to support the development of early career researchers.

Postdoctoral Research Scientist (2019-2020)

Babraham Institute, University of Cambridge

- Wrote weekly progress reports and presented work at international conferences.
- Established and developed techniques new to the lab and wrote all lab-associated SOPs.
- Post-doc Associate at Hughes Hall College (stipend) & member of post-doc committee.

PhD researcher (2015-2019)

University of Sheffield

- [Uncovered](#) the existence of macrophage subtypes in *Drosophila* and demonstrated functional differences between the populations.
- Collaborated with other group members on additional projects and [publications](#).
- Chaired the department PhD student committee, which included organising a seminar series, 2-day scientific retreat (for ~100 people) and team management with conflict resolution.
- Project and team lead for the 2016-17 Sheffield iGEM entry; Co-developed the project and designed the experimental plan with a £50,000 budget. Independently led the project for its duration, training and managing a team of 17 (10 undergraduates, 5 PhD students and 2 postdocs). Awarded a gold medal and nominated for best diagnostic project.
- Received the first Ian Peake award for positive contributions to the department reputation.

Communication & Public Engagement

Talks: 17 invited [talks](#) focusing on preprints, open science and science communication.

Writing: 10 [scientific articles](#) (7 as lead/senior author), 15 articles on preprints including: [The Conversation](#), [The Scientist](#), BSCB magazine and Physiology magazine. [preLights](#) contributor (2019-).

Podcasts: [Preprints in Motion](#) (2021-), In the Pls seat (exec producer; 2023).

Public engagement: I'm a Scientist (2022), Researchers night (2016-2018), Our Immune Army (2017), Festival of Life (2016-2017), International radio appearances ([BBC](#), [Austrian national broadcaster](#), [German national radio](#)), 3 podcast appearances, various contributions to news pieces (incl. [Nature](#), [The Economist](#), [Popular Science](#)), Video [primer](#) on preprints for UK reproducibility Network (2022).

Teaching: Open Science Training (2023-), Research student supervision (2018, 2021-2023), [Preprints in Life Sciences Syllabus](#) (2021), Lab demonstrating (2018), A-level Biology (2012, 2014-2015).

Scientific Advisory Board: EMBL-EBI Europe PMC (2022-), eRxiv (2024-), AREN (2024-)

Education

Ph.D.	2015-2019	Immunology & Molecular biology , University of Sheffield.
MRes	2014-2015	Immunobiology , Newcastle University.
B.Sc.	2010-2013	Biomedical Science , University of Northumbria. Awarded Dean's list for outstanding academic achievement.