

Dear prospective internship host,

The [South West Biosciences Doctoral Training Partnership](#) (SWBio DTP) trains doctoral (PhD) students. This is a partnership between the Universities of Bath, Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter along with Rothamsted Research and is funded by the [Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council](#) (BBSRC).

This partnership trains students on a 4 year programme, taking in about 30 students each year. In addition to developing the students' scientific research skills, one of our key aims is to give the students a broader training beyond an academic environment, to help their employability once they finish with us. A key way we aim to do this is by asking all students to undertake an internship during their PhD studies. We want the students to take internships in a professional, non-research, working environment. This gives students a keen insight into how different employment sectors function, and the attributes an ambitious employee needs to develop, to thrive in such an environment.

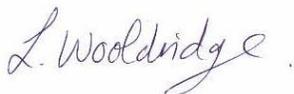
Students who have already undertaken such internships report back that they have found this a tremendously useful and positive experience. Equally host organisations have found these students to be of great assets to their organisations – some have hosted repeated internships, while others have gone on to use our students as consultants, or even employ them.

We would like to invite you to host a student for an internship. All students on the programme have first-class or very good upper second-class B.Sc. degrees from highly respected institutions. The competition to join the SWBio DTP is tough, so our students really are of a high standard – they are academically able, intelligent, motivated and fun.

We ask our students to do three month long internships, at a time that is mutually convenient for both parties. The students receive a stipend from the SWBio DTP so they do not incur a salary cost to your organisation. Although, if you were able to contribute any add-on costs, such as those associated with additional travel or accommodation, that would be very much appreciated.

For further information about this scheme, please refer to the '[Key Points for Organising an Internship](#)' document or visit our [website](#).

Thank you in advance for your help.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'L. Wooldridge'.

Professor Linda Wooldridge  
SWBio DTP Deputy Director