

Jonathon Alexis Coates

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Scientist with over 10 years' experience in immunology and metascience and 4+ years' experience in science communication including podcasting and writing for scientific, lay and professional audiences. Significant experience in network building and relationship cultivation with stakeholders across academia, publishing and industry. Track record of international project management and collaboration. 6 years' experience advocating for preprint usage and open science adoption through talks, writing, research, discussions, podcasting and community leading.

Education

Ph.D.	2015-2019	Immunology & Molecular biology , University of Sheffield. Thesis: Macrophage heterogeneity in <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> . Supervisors: Iwan Evans & Martin Zeidler
MRes	2014-2015	Immunobiology , Newcastle University. Thesis: IL-1 α in arthrofibrosis pathogenesis. Supervisor: Lee Borthwick & Prof Andrew Fisher
B.Sc.	2010-2013	Biomedical Science , University of Northumbria. Awarded Dean's list for outstanding academic achievement.

Professional experience

Associate Director, ASAPBio (2023-Present)

- Manage and train the yearly ASAPbio Fellows cohorts of 45 individuals across the globe
- Design and deliver outreach and training based around preprints & communication
- Co-develop and implement strategic decisions and directions including interacting with board members
- Conceive and deliver initiatives around preprints and open science, liaising with multiple stakeholders, ranging from students to federal agencies, across the world

BHF funded Postdoctoral Research Assistant (2020 - 2023)

- Investigated the role of neutrophil-T-cell interactions in IRI utilizing confocal and intravital microscopy, flow cytometry, sequencing, and cardiac function assays.
- Member of the PhD-Postdoc committee and research affiliate at Hughes Hall College, University of Cambridge.
- Independently led an international team resulting in two publications which received significant media attention.

Postdoctoral Research Scientist (2019-2020)

- Investigated the role of hypoxia in controlling the transcriptional landscape and DNA accessibility in cytotoxic T lymphocytes.
- Developed skills in RNAseq, primary T cell culture, proteomics, flow cytometry and mammalian models (mice). Established protocols new to the lab such as qPCR and RNAseq.
- Post-doctoral Research Associate at Hughes Hall College (£1000 stipend) & member of post-doc committee.

PhD researcher (2015-2019)

- Uncovered the existence of macrophage subtypes in *Drosophila* and demonstrated functional differences between the populations. Determined that populations can be manipulated by altering cellular metabolism or apoptotic burden.
- Developed skills in confocal microscopy, immunostaining, standard molecular biology techniques, *Drosophila* husbandry and genetics. Also utilized various *in vivo* macrophage functional assays, such as wounding, infection and migration assays.
- Established a range of assays new to the lab including larval macrophage assays, lightsheet microscopy and qPCR.
- Acted as a PI for the 2016-2017 Sheffield iGEM team; 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 best presentation in the BMS departmental symposium (2016, 2018) and best poster in the faculty of science poster day (2017). Received the Ian Peake award for contributions to the department and its wider reputation.

MRes researcher (2014-2015)

- 6-month project investigating the role of IL-1 α in arthrofibrosis pathogenesis (position extended into summer).
- Primarily utilized qPCR, ELISA and MSD multiplex assays on primary human fibroblast cell cultures. Additional experience in isolating and culturing primary human lung macrophages.

Teaching experience

- Supervised 1 PhD student, 2 masters students and 3 undergraduate students; QMUL, 2021-2023
- Developed the Preprints and Publishing in the Life Sciences [syllabus](#) and course materials; ASAP Bio, 2021
- Designed a 6-week project and supervised a medical placement student; University of Sheffield, 2018
- Supervised a multidisciplinary team of 10 undergraduate students and 7 postgraduate advisors as part of iGEM; University of Sheffield, 2016-2017.
- Demonstrated on a *Drosophila* embryonic development module, supervising undergraduate students in immunostaining of embryos and marking exam scripts; University of Sheffield, 2018.
- Taught A-level biology classes twice weekly which involved designing and implementing lesson plans for classes of up to 25 students; City of Sunderland College, 2012, 2014-2015.
- Privately tutored 4 students; City of Sunderland College, 2012-2016.

Publications

Google Scholar Profile: <https://bit.ly/3mNWx9D>

David, A. B., Elkheir, L. Y. M., Dine, R. D., Adamolekun, E. & Coates, J* (2024). The status and challenges of preprint adoption in Africa. Preprint at <https://doi.org/10.31730/osf.io/y7nqx> (2024).

*As corresponding author

Besançon L, Carmali S, Castelloe AA, Dine RD, Manna D, Nandi S, et al (2023). Identification and categorization of iterative preprints in the life sciences [Internet]. OSF. Preprint at: <https://osf.io/sqeg4>

*As corresponding author

Jouliá R., Guerrero-Fonseca I.M., Girbl T., **Coates J.A.**, Stein M., Vázquez-Martínez L., et al. (2022). Neutrophil breaching of the blood vessel pericyte layer during diapedesis requires mast cell-derived IL-17A. *Nat Commun*. Nov 17;13(1):7029.

Brierley L., Nanni F., Polka J.K., Dey G., Pálfy M., Fraser N., **Coates J.A.***. (2022) Tracking changes between preprint posting and journal publication. *PLOS Biology* 20: e3001285 doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.3001285

*As corresponding author

Fraser N., Brierley L., Dey G., Polka J.K., Pálfy M., Nanni F., **Coates J.A.***. (2021). The evolving role of preprints in the dissemination of COVID-19 research and their impact on the science communication landscape. *PLOS Biology* 19: e3000959. doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.3000959

*As corresponding author

Coates J.A., Brooks E., Brittle A.L., Armitage E.L., Zeidler M.P., Evans I.R. (2021). Identification of functionally distinct macrophage subpopulations in *Drosophila*. *eLife*. 2021;10: e58686. doi:10.7554/eLife.58686

Roddie H.G., Armitage E.L., **Coates J.A.**, Johnston S.A., & Evans I.R. (2019). Simu-dependent clearance of dying cells regulates macrophage function and inflammation resolution. *PLOS Biology* 17, e2006741.

Dixon D., **Coates J.**, del Carpio Pons A., Horabin J., Walker A., Abdul N., Kalson N.S., Brewster N.T., Weir D.J., Deehan D.J., et al. (2015). A potential mode of action for Anakinra in patients with arthrofibrosis following total knee arthroplasty. *Scientific Reports* 5, 16466.

Other publications

- Preprints in Cell Biology, British Society for Cell biology Magazine, 2022.
- Preprints: how draft academic papers have become essential in the fight against COVID, [The Conversation](#), 28th April 2021.
- Opinion: The Rise of Preprints Is No Cause for Alarm, [The Scientist](#), 14th April 2021.

Awards & funding secured

- Doctoral Academy Award. Competitive award provided part-funding for consumables as part of IGEN; University of Sheffield, 2016. (**£3,000 of £50,000 total**)
- Honor Fell BSCB travel award; BSCB, 2022 (**£608**)
- Contributions to neutrophil biology research; Neutrophil 2022 (**\$10,000**)
- Postgraduate Researcher Experience Programme. Competitive award used for personal

- development to acquire a home office license; University of Sheffield, 2018. (**£725**)
- Equality, diversity and inclusion grant; BSI, 2022 (**£500**)
- Community engagement grant; ASAPbio, 2022. (**£445**)
- BSCB Travel grant; British Society of Cell Biology, 2016. (**£400**)
- Community engagement grant; ASAPbio, 2021. (**£370**)
- Faculty of Sciences Researcher led activity. Competitive funding used for implementing a seminar series; University of Sheffield, 2017. (**£250**)
- Sponsorship. Award used to part-fund PhD student retreat; Elsevier, 2017. (**£200**)
- Student sponsorship. Competitive scheme for qPCR-based research; PrimerDesign, 2017. (silver award)
- COVID-19 relief fund. Funds used to host covidpreprints.com; DigitalOcean, 2020. (**\$250**)

International conferences & workshops attended

- Preprint Peer Review Metadata workshop, 2023
- The Neutrophil, 2022; presented, **poster**; poster prize
- British Society of Immunology Congress, 2019; presented, **poster**; poster prize
- Gene regulation in health and disease, 2019; presented, **talk**
- European Drosophila Research Conference, 2017; presented, **poster**
- World Congress on Inflammation, 2017
- BSCB/BSDB Joint spring meeting, 2016
- iGEM Giant Jamboree, 2016; Awarded gold medal and nominated for best diagnostic project

Invited talks

- **Heterodox Academy, 2024** – “COVID-19 and the preprint response”
- **Peer Community In, 2024** – “Preprints as the central pillar of the PRC model”
- **Unjournal workshop, 2024** - “Preprints as the central pillar of the PRC model”
- **Yaba College of Technology, 2024** – “Engaging with preprints”
- **OASPA, 2023** – “Shaping the future of scholarly publishing”
- **University of Florida, 2023** – “Preprints and Open Access”
- **Euroanaesthesia, 2023** – “Preprinting a pandemic”
- **Ronin Institute, 2023** – “Preprints and COVID19”
- **Celebrating success; science response to the COVID19 pandemic, 2023** – “Preprinting a pandemic”
- **ASAPbio Fellows, 2023** – “Science communication”
- **Europe PMC, 2023** – “Science communication and pandemics”
- **Unconference on Open Scholarship Practices, 2023** – “Open Science and scholarship”
- **eLife Ambassadors, 2022** – “Science communication”
- **ASAPbio Fellows, 2021** – “Preprints and the pandemic”
- **Science Writers, 2021** – “Preprinting a pandemic”
- **Society for Scholarly Publishing 43rd meeting, 2021** – “Preprints and the pandemic”
- **Medical School Research Meeting, University of Sheffield, 2021** – “Preprinting a pandemic: trends, dissemination and regulation of COVID-19 preprints”
- **CID webinar series, Cambridge University, 2020** – “Preprinting a pandemic; the role of preprints in the COVID-19 pandemic”

Outreach & public engagement

- **Preprints in Motion Podcast, 2021-Present** – Created, host and produce a [podcast](#) focused on ECRs and preprints. The podcast has charted in the top 20 of 9 countries on Apple podcasts.
- **I'm a Scientist, 2022** – Engaged with school-age children about working in academia and the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **International Radio appearances** - [BBC](#), [Austrian national broadcaster](#), [German national radio](#)
- **Contribution to news pieces** - [Nature](#), [The Economist](#), [Popular Science](#), [Nature](#),
- **Researchers Night, 2016-2018** – Explained the use of *Drosophila* in medical research to schoolchildren and parents.
- **Our immune army, 2017** – Explained the immune system to the general public.
- **Festival of Life, 2016** – Explained phagocytosis and the use of model organisms to the general public.

Service to scientific community

- **Scientific Advisory Board, 2022-Present** – EMBL-EBI Europe PMC
- **Peer-review, 2020-Present** – PLOS Biology, Nature Human Behaviour, F1000, BMJ Open, SJS, Biology Open, Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology
- **UK & EU postdoc community, 2020-Present** – Founder. This [community](#) currently has over 430 postdocs from across the EU and was chosen by UKRI as a valuable community building effort.
- **Contributor to preLights, 2019-Present** – (a community driven preprint-highlighting service by the CoB); articles available from: <https://prelights.biologists.com/profiles/coatesj/>
- **ASAPbio Fellow, 2020-2021** – advocate for open-access science
- **Covidpreprints.com, 2020** – Interactive timeline charting landmark COVID-19 preprints

Other relevant experience

- Developed a seminar series for PhD students about different careers options, invited and hosted 7 academics (2018).
- Organised the departmental PhD student retreat as chair of the BMS PhD society (2018).
- Selected to attend a leadership course by Rotary International; leading the overnight survival challenge and successfully managing a team of 23 (2010).

Referees

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