

Welcome to *Postdoc in the News*, our monthly news service covering emerging postdoc issues and career links for you.

Issues in Research

World of ideas. Specialisation and precedent are norms in research but risk [crowding out creative thinking](#).

Line in the sand. Whatever the potential benefits, the biggest US grant funder will no longer consider [applications 'substantially developed' with AI support](#).

See no evil. A new study warns that LLMs [fail to recognise or ignore expressions of concern and retractions of papers](#).

Citation hunting. Analysis of 37,000 articles with open peer review shows [reviewers are way more likely to approve publication if their own work is cited](#).

Beyond metrics. Personal motivation and clear purpose help to [ensure that impact is integral to our research](#).

Real science. An old story of quiet triumph to [remember at times of academic set-back and rejection](#).

Skills & Strategies

Let's dance. How review participants can best act to [keep the peer review process civil and productive](#).

Bookish bent. The potential benefits of [taking on a book project early in an academic career](#).

Get seen. Reminders of the importance of visibility and [some not-so-daunting ways to build a network](#).

Driving with the brakes on. What to do if your [job search and applications aren't converting to offers](#).

Authenticity at risk. Headline-level assessment of [the pros and cons of writing funding applications using AI](#).

Big-picture support. A chatbot can be a [quick-response companion](#) when exploring research project ideas.

Love 'em or hate 'em... A reliable approach to [minimum-risk, maximum-value use of spreadsheets](#).

Coming unstuck. If you start feeling trapped in your role there are some ready [ways to reclaim control](#).

Career Paths

One-legged stool. Whilst they are central to university life, it's wise to recognise that [adjunct appointees are too often exploited](#).

Change for better. For insights into what makes a sustainably successful research career, check out [the Changing Academic Life podcast](#).

Alumni notes. A group of former postdocs sketch their progress and [tips on making satisfying career decisions](#).

The shoe fits. An own-business consultant explains exactly [why PhD-qualified applicants are so good for an entrepreneurial employer](#).

Look before you leap. Using low-risk career experiments [to explore the options](#).

Non-linear approach. A career coach in the uncertain US academic arena offers [strategies for planning in complex times](#).

Serious Research

Geeking out. A classic lesson in how to get people to remember science stuff - and [set fire to gummy bears...](#)!