

OVERVIEW OF

WAMMS

Women in Applied Mathematics Mentoring Scheme

RWAM, ICMS, JANUARY 2025

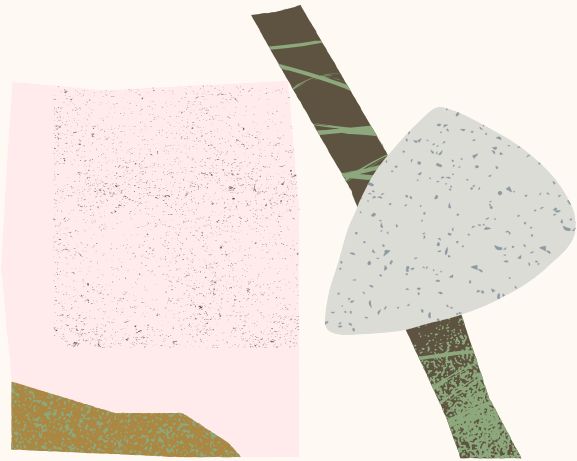
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A Brief History of the Scheme

- Idea initially suggested at **RWAM 2023**
- Organisation of scheme taken on by scheme coordinators - Dr Hannah-May D'Ambrosio and Dr. Laura Currie - in Aug 2023
- 5 pairings from RWAM 2023 - first meetings occurred between Oct and Dec 2023
- **17 pairings** after advertising the scheme at RWAM 2024, current split
 - 7 x PhD students
 - 9 x Postdocs/ECRs
 - 6 x Lecturer/Senior Lecturer
 - 1 x Reader
 - 3 x Professors
 - 1 x KT Manager
- Collected feedback from participants in Aug 2024 - more later
- Round of mentor recruitment in Nov 2024 to known contacts at 12 universities - **15 new mentors**



Scheme overview

OUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Enhance the sense of community amongst female applied mathematicians in the UK
- Foster relationships between academics at all career stages
- Encourage a platform for sharing information on all aspects of academic life
- Provide support and mentorship to early career researchers

*FLEXIBLE TO MEET THE NEEDS
OF THE MENTEE*

*PAIRINGS MEET APPROX. ONCE
PER TERM*

*NEW SCHEME, IDEAS/FEEDBACK
ALWAYS WELCOME*

Who's involved?

POTENTIAL MENTORS

Prof. Ruth Baker
Dr Lois Baker
Dr Ruth Bowness
Dr Barbara Bravi
Dr Ioana Colfescu
Dr Purba Das
Dr Mariia Dvoriashyna
Dr Louise Dyson
Dr Rosalba Garcia Millan
Dr Susana Gomes
Dr Vicky Kouni
Dr Daphné Lemasquerier
Dr Ana-Maria Raclariu
Dr Aretha Teckentrup
Dr Alexandra Tzella

We have mentors and mentees from institutions across the UK

Some potential mentors

INSTITUTIONS

- Birmingham City University
- Durham University
- Imperial College London
- Innovate UK
- Isaac Newton Institute
- King's College London
- Newcastle University
- University College London
- University of Bath
- University of Birmingham
- University of Dundee
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Glasgow
- University of Manchester
- University of Oxford
- University of St Andrews
- University of Strathclyde
- University of Warwick

Don't see your institution? [Sign up](#) and add it to the list!

Expectations



MENTORS

- Provide guidance, advice and support for your mentee
- Be your mentee's ally as they progress through their career
- One online meeting per term (approx. 2 hours per year)



MENTEES

- Actively engage in your own professional growth and development
- Be open to feedback
- One online meeting per term (approx. 2 hours per year)



THE SCHEME COORDINATORS

- Foster open lines of communication
- Pair mentees with suitable mentors at the next career stage
- Guide mentors and mentees on how to best use the scheme
- Provide possible topics for discussion and hints/tips

Benefits



MENTORS

- Gain new perspectives
- Increase the sense of community and belonging
- Enhance your leadership skills
- Learn through reflection of your own experiences



MENTEES

- Expand your network and create the possibility of new opportunities
- Personal growth and confidence building
- Personalised feedback
- Enhanced self-awareness

Feedback

WHAT DO SCHEME PARTICIPANTS SAY?

Overall rating:

8.5/10

How they describe their mentor-mentee relationship:



What they discussed during their meetings:

- CAREER DEVELOPMENT/PROGRESSION
- CV/INTERVIEWS
- FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
- MATERNITY
- WORK-LIFE BALANCE AND GENERAL MOTIVATION

What they like most about the scheme:

“SAFETY OF THE ENVIRONMENT THAT ENCOURAGES HONESTY WITH HARD TOPICS”

“FLEXIBILITY” (REGARDING MEETINGS AND DISCUSSIONS)

“SHARING EXPERIENCES”

“MEETING YOUNGER COLLEAGUES”

“IT'S NICE TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK”

Room for improvement?

WEBSITE

TERMLY MEETING REMINDERS

MENTOR/MENTEE COMMUNITY TO SHARE BEST PRACTICES - VIRTUAL FORUM?

Interested in getting involved?

RWAM is an excellent place to find a mentor

- Lots of potential mentors – use the large amount of time provided at this conference to network
- Finding the right one – typically allocated a mentor at the 'next' career stage

You can sign up as a mentor, a mentee, or both!

- Look out for emails on how to sign up
- If you have any questions, or simply want to find out more before signing up, please don't hesitate to ask one of the scheme coordinators

Going Forward

- Create **new pairings** from RWAM 2025 sign-ups and those who signed up outside the retreat
- Continue to **evolve** in response to preferences of the community
 - Creating a *website/forum*
 - Gather more feedback
- Consider the best way to extend the scheme beyond the retreat - *ideas?*
- Apply for funds to support the scheme
 - Have our own website/email domain
 - Possible future networking events

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THANK YOU FOR
LISTENING!

QUESTIONS/
SUGGESTIONS?

