Dear EASTBIO students and supervisors,

you have registered to attend the EASTBIO DTP Induction Day, to be held on 8 October 2019, 10:00-16:00 (followed by a drinks reception till approximately 17:00) at the West Park Conference Centre in Dundee (https://www.westpark.co.uk/). Induction, attended by yourselves and representatives from the academic and the administrative EASTBIO teams, will be followed by a Training Day on ‘Statistics and Experimental Design’, delivered by Dr Margo Chase-Topping (University of Edinburgh) on 9 October, 9:00-13:00, to be attended only by students who will stay in Dundee on the night of the 8th. The Induction programme and the masterclass timetable are attached here. Students are asked to bring their own laptop for the masterclass.

Please read carefully the information below and email EASTBIO should you have any further questions.

Transport

Students based at the University of St Andrews and Aberdeen are asked to make their own travel arrangements, aiming to arrive in Dundee in good time to register at 10:00 (registration open till 10:30, when the programme will kick off). Travel expenses are to be claimed again the student RTSG; contact local EASTBIO administrator if you have any queries in this respect (contact details on the Welcome email circulated earlier on by EASTBIO).

If you plan to drive, there will be free parking spaces at the venue - as well as the Invercarse Hotel - for the day.

Students and supervisors who are based at the University of Edinburgh are welcome to take the coach hired by EASTBIO for the return trip on 8 October (you will have registered online); please note the two different pick up/drop off locations as follows:

8 October:

* Easter Bush, Roslin Institute: 07:25 am

* King’s Buildings: approx. 07:50 (outside Roger Land Building, Alexander Crum Brown Road; access via Gate 1 on West Mains Road)

Estimated time of departure from the West Park Conference Centre in Dundee: 16:40 (supervisors). Students, who will be staying on in Dundee to attend the Training Day will have to make their own travel arrangements on the 9th of October, after the completion of the training and lunch (between 13:00-13:30).

To avoid unnecessary delays, please notify EASTBIO ASAP if, after you have registered, you no longer intend to take the coach – especially delegates travelling from Easter Bush. The coach driver is instructed not to wait for more than 5 minutes at either pick up point.

Induction programme

The programme for the Induction is attached and can also be found at the EASTBIO website (hard copies will be available at registration), including general information and updates:

http://www.eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk/eastbio-induction-day
On the day, you will also be given a copy of the **EASTBIO Student Handbook 2019-2020** (a pdf version of it is attached here). Please read through it to enable us to run the Induction as informal, conversational and interactive a manner as possible!

After short introductions by the members of the EASTBIO Management Group, a student networking activity, and a brief overview of the online SysMIC course, you will join one of the four thematic groups you were assigned to according to the details of your research project (your priority area is marked on your name badge but please note that you may be re-assigned with a purpose of running equal-sized thematic groups). The session will include:

- Introduction by a member of the EASTBIO Management Group acting as a provisional thematic group chair
- Brief introduction of students’ research projects
- Thematic training details discussed and agreed: topics and dates for 4 face-to-face meetings of each thematic group to be finalised during discussion at the session (meetings to be held in December 2019, February, April & June 2020); each supervisory team will be encouraged to host at least one session.

Your group chair will provide you with information about key topics and skills in the priority area, past thematic training, as well as planning information. It is advised that all groups will reconvene in the Hawff Suite to share the respective schedules.

Supervisors will meet separately with the EASTBIO Management Group at 11:10 to prepare for and discuss the break-out session as well as other aspects of the programme (Q&A session, 15:00-16:00). At 15:00, students will meet with current student reps (second-years) and discuss with them and the EASTBIO administrator any questions or concerns they may have.

**Privacy notice:**

Delegates/Students group photo (non-mandatory; for publicity purposes): 9 October, approximately 10:00-12:00.

Please note that between 10:00 and 12:00 on 8 October, a professional photographer will be taking photos of delegates, to be used for our website (http://www.eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk/), the annually updated Student Handbook and other publicity materials, such as presentation slides, webpages, blogs, etc. by EASTBIO, EASTBIO partner institutions and UKRI BBSRC. All participants were asked to provide their consent for photos taken during Induction upon registration.

For delegates who wish to opt out: a designated photo-free zone at the venue will be advised upon registration. Please speak to the organisers at registration if you have further concerns in this respect before or during the Symposium.

**Accommodation**

Overnight accommodation -- single occupancy double rooms with breakfast -- is booked by EASTBIO for all attending students on the night of 8 October at the Best Western Invercarse Hotel (http://invercarsehotel.co.uk/), which is 5 minutes-walk from the West Park Conference Centre; check the map at [http://bit.ly/2boJQ8e](http://bit.ly/2boJQ8e).

Although students cannot realistically check-in before the close of the Induction, at 17:00, the hotel standard check-in at 14:00 and check-out at 11:00. There will be a safe room at the West Park Conference Centre for attendees’ luggage during the day. There is parking available at the Hotel car park.
All dietary and other requirements recorded on the online registration form were passed on to the venue. Please note that the hotel does not have a hearing loop.

**Training Day programme**

The first EASTBIO masterclass on Statistics and Experimental Design will be held on 9 October 2019, 9:00-13:00. The programme and timetable is attached and can be found on the Induction webpage, at: [http://www.eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk/eastbio-induction-day](http://www.eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk/eastbio-induction-day)

The masterclass is mandatory for all first-year students but, if you would like to discuss your attendance of the training, please email EASTBIO ASAP. Supervisors are not required to attend the Training Day.

**Dinner**

20:00-21:30: EASTBIO will provide a 3-course meal and coffee for all EASTBIO provided for students at the West Park Conference Centre. Menu as follows:

- **Starter:** Chef’s choice of soup served with a crusty bread roll
- **Main course:** Roast chicken with a bacon-wrapped chipolata, served in a lightly roasted jus
- **Vegetarian main course:** Roasted butternut squash & mushrooms with sage cream sauce on a bed of tagliatelli
- **Dessert:** Sticky toffee pudding with hot toffee sauce and ice cream
- **Wine:** (red, white), fruit juice and water to be provided with the meal.

All dietary requirements recorded on the online registration form were passed on to the venue and the Hotel.

**Feedback**

You are kindly asked to tell us what you thought of the Induction & Training Days and offer us your suggestions about improving them in future. Please complete the short questionnaire on [https://forms.gle/KgWRj5DQtdRh6bcm9](https://forms.gle/KgWRj5DQtdRh6bcm9) by 14 October 2019.

Please check our webpage regularly for any updates and amendments to the programme. If you have further questions about the Induction Day, please email enquiries@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in Dundee!

With kind regards,

Maria Filippakopoulou

EASTBIO DTP Administrator
E-mail: enquiries@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk / In case of an emergency on the day, call Maria’s contact number 07734 436 389.