



Education

- > MChem with Prof. Jeremy Robertson –
University of Oxford
- > DPhil with Prof. Timothy Donohoe –
University of Oxford (through the SBM CDT)

Current job

I help protect the intellectual property of a wide variety of clients, from pharmaceutical companies to universities. I draft patents for their inventions, and I try to persuade the patent examiner to grant the patent by arguing about how the invention is better or different from what is already in the public domain. I liaise with the client to understand their invention and commercial goals, as well as instructing foreign attorneys to obtain patent protection in countries further afield than the UK and Europe.

Questions

- > **I chose to study chemistry because** I wanted to develop the next big drug that could help millions of people. Originally I wanted to help people by becoming a (medical) doctor, but I realised I'd rather help the research behind the medicines the doctors prescribe. I guess I am still sort of helping the research...by protecting it! Without patents, researchers would struggle to recoup the costs of the research, or invest into more research for the next drug candidate.
- > **I chose this career path because** I wanted to leave the lab bench behind, but I still wanted to use my scientific knowledge!
- > **The most exciting thing about my work is** I see such a variety of inventions through my work - from fancy new catalysts, to amazing new materials, to the next cutting-edge drug candidates for wide range of diseases. And I don't always work on chemical inventions - sometimes I branch out into more mechanical inventions, like medical devices such as heart valves!
- > **The main piece of advice I would give someone looking to work in patents is** always be curious about the world around you. How do the things you use everyday work? Can you describe how? Do you notice any clever features that make it work? And practice makes perfect - don't give up when applying to firms as it can be quite competitive!
- > **I'm waiting for the day when someone will discover** time travel. Just to see what things were really like in the past...or how they're going to be in the future!
- > **Outside of work I am passionate about** doing a bit of yoga to relax! Such a good way to unwind after work...especially after sitting in front of a desk all day!