Since receiving our Bronze Athena SWAN award in May 2017 we have organised networking events in the Institute to support students and professional services staff.

**Professional Services Away Day**
Professional services staff met for their 2nd annual away day. The morning was spent working on action plans surrounding business continuity and talks and the afternoon spent on team building exercises in the form of a Spy School.

**PhD Student Retreat**
Two day retreat consisting of a range of translational skills workshops for networking, public engagement, team building and leadership. Also included student talks, poster sessions and a transition into industry talk alongside social activities.

**PhD Buddying System**
The buddying system encompasses orientation for 1st year students and helps to develop a sense of community amongst students. 1st year PGRs are mentored by volunteer 3rd year PGRs.

**Student Introductory Night**
Talks from PGR convenor and student representative to welcome new students followed by a social evening of pizza and a quiz.