

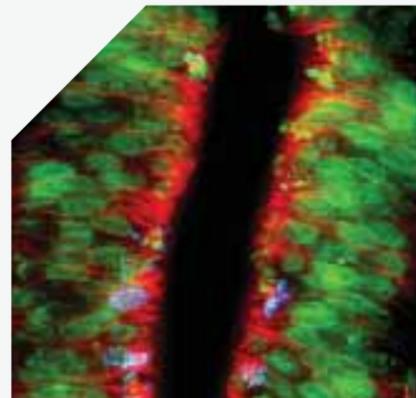


Professor Kate Storey

Professor of Neural Development and Head of the Division of Cell and Developmental Biology, College of Life Sciences



What has helped me in my career is knowing when to push myself harder and when to let go – pace it and you'll be alright.



I was always curious about how things worked and got excited about the idea of doing experiments. I started out studying Biochemistry but then moved to Neurobiology, which led me to my area of real interest, how cells signal to each other and differentiate into functioning, thinking tissue. I decided to do a PhD, which in those days was a sink or swim experience – you had to find a project for yourself, it was very much your journey.

I moved to California to work as a Postdoc before coming back to the UK to give birth to my first child, Alexander. There's never a good time to have children within a career, but I knew I wanted to have a family. I decided to write a grant that would allow me to work part-time in the laboratory of Dr Claudio Stern at the University of Oxford. This supported part-time salaries for both myself and a technician, an unconventional approach that allowed my research to keep moving and me to spend time

with my children. I applied for an MRC project grant towards the end of this position, which I was able to use to employ a postdoc when I became a Departmental Lecturer at the University of Oxford. So, I began my own research group whilst teaching human anatomy to medical students three days a week – which was quite challenging.

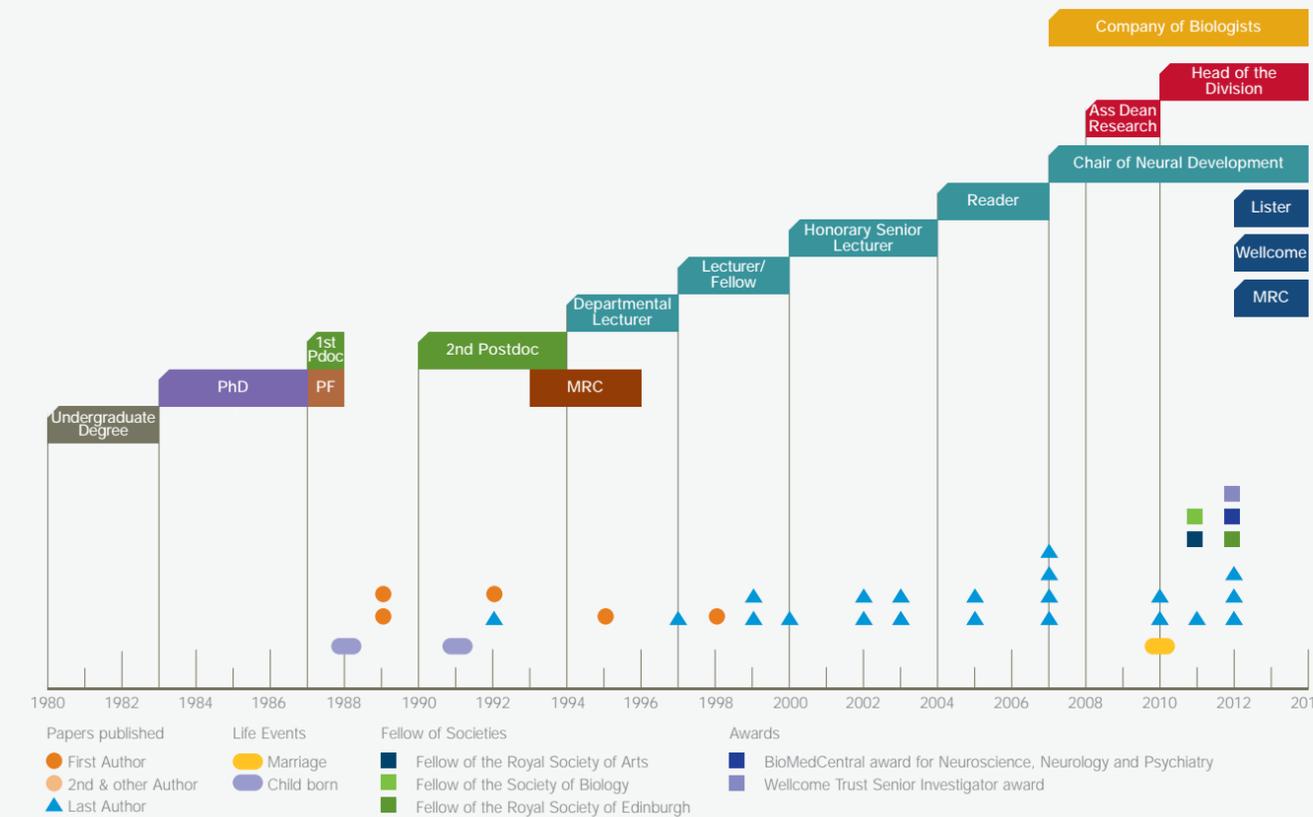
I moved my group up to the University of Dundee in 2000, supported by an MRC Senior Non-Clinical Fellowship. This allowed me to reduce my teaching commitments and gave me time to focus on research.

I have collaborated with my sister, Helen Storey, an artist and fashion designer, to produce two series of dresses representing both the first 1000 hours of human life and exploring the science behind the development and function of the lungs.

The exhibition has received critical acclaim and continues to tour, it can also be seen at <http://www.primitive-streak.org/>

A Day in my Life

My day starts with taking my dog for a walk and checking through email. When I arrive at work I usually meet briefly with the divisional secretary to confirm meetings and travel arrangements for the week. After greeting my lab I spend most of the day writing, editing and reviewing papers and grants as well as going to seminars, talking to speakers and attending administrative meetings. A lot of my time right now is spent reviewing grant applications as I am a member of several research funding panels. I teach depending on which semester we're in, so I also spend time preparing and delivering lectures. I meet one-to-one with each member of my lab at least fortnightly to discuss their research, this often includes working with them at the bench or microscope.



Undergraduate Degree
University of Sussex
BSc Neurobiology: 1st Class Hons

PhD
Department of Zoology, Kings College, University of Cambridge

Postdoctoral Positions
1 UC Berkeley, California, USA
2 Department of Human Anatomy, University of Oxford

PI: Departmental Lecturer
Department Human Anatomy, University of Oxford

PI: University Lecturer/ Fellow of Christ Church
Department of Human Anatomy and Genetics, University of Oxford

PI: Honorary Senior Lecturer
Division of Cell and Developmental Biology, University of Dundee

PI: Reader
Division of Cell and Developmental Biology, University of Dundee

PI: Chair of Neural Development
University of Dundee

Postdoctoral Fellowship
Harkness Fellowship

First Independent Funding
MRC project grant

Associate Dean of Research
Head of the Division of Cell and Developmental Biology

Director/Trustee of the Company of Biologists
Registered charity and not-for-profit publisher

Funding Panels
Lister Institute Fellowships
Wellcome Trust Panel of Experts
MRC, Neuroscience and Mental Health