

# Foreword



I am delighted to be asked to write this foreword to the fourth edition of Insider Imprint, although it is impossible to start without recognising the difficult year we have all had adapting our personal and working lives to the challenges of living in a period of a global pandemic. I hope you and your family are well and taking care of one another.

Insider Imprint continues to go from strength to strength and, as you will see from the articles contained within, it contains much to stimulate the little grey cells of anyone with an interest in the life sciences and how the biological world around us works. However, it contains much more too, including employability advice and career paths to consider, insights from our graduates who have been there and done it, and, importantly, how we can support one another in our wellbeing.

This journal gives our undergraduate and postgraduate students an invaluable opportunity to disseminate their research and develop their scientific communication and evaluation skills, whether as contributors, reviewers and/or editors. This year I am particularly pleased to see the launch of the new Ambassador Scheme which includes new opportunities to participate in outreach activities, bringing the research work of the University to an even greater audience and, hopefully, encouraging future generations of contributors.

I am sure that, like me, you will be hugely impressed with the high standard of the journal's production and content; my congratulations to all those involved. There is something here for everyone, from proton NMR Spectroscopy (I spent many a happy hour acquiring proton spectra of oligosaccharides during my PhD) to the very topical design of Covid vaccines. I particularly love the included artwork at the end, for what good is science without culture? Taken as a whole this journal reminds us how dedicated, talented and caring our student community is.

The Covid pandemic has highlighted just how important our universities are to tackling the big global issues of our time, doing research with impact and informing public understanding, debate and policy. This journal is a part of that commitment to educate and communicate. To those of you about to turn the page, enjoy.

**Professor Gavin Brown**

**Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education, University of Liverpool**

The world and how we live in it has changed a lot in the last year, but despite the challenges of the new reality students at Liverpool have continued to submit high quality articles to us for publication making this issue full from cover to cover with a wide range of engaging, insightful and captivating content. We would like to congratulate our issue 4 authors for possibly your first publication; an excellent achievement that you can be very proud of.

At Insider Imprint we have had a particularly exciting year, launching two new enterprises: our Student Ambassador Scheme (see page 8) and our Insider Insights Podcast (see page 9). With these new initiatives we aim to give you extra value content and further enriching opportunities with us.

We hope you enjoy reading issue 4, gaining new knowledge and inspiration.

Stay safe and well.

*Insider Imprint Team*

