

Pint of Science 20-22 May 2019



The story of Pint of Science

Dr Praveen Paul

Co-founder & Director
Pint of Science



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#pint19

20-22 May 2019

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What is Pint of Science?



An opportunity to hear about current discoveries and meet scientists who are carrying out the work



What is Pint of Science?



A platform for scientists to share their research



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What is Pint of Science?



A great community which works together to share their passion for science



What is Pint of Science?



Annual festival that happens over three evenings in May in multiple cities



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What is Pint of Science?



Researchers explain their latest findings to the public in the comfort of a pub/cafe or similar public venue



About Me

PhD Molecular Neurobiology, King's College London

Postdoc Imperial College London

Co-founder & Director Pint of Science



Start of Pint of Science

Dr Michael Motskin
Co-founder Pint of Science



Postdocs with an idea –
get research out to
more people



Beginning – let's do a three day festival

We had no idea what we were doing... and we were not that interested in sci-comm



Professor David Nutt

DM, FRCP, FRCPsych, FSB, FMedSci

Director of the Neuropsychopharmacology Unit
Division of Brain Sciences, Imperial College London



The first Pint of Science - May 2013

- Handful of friends – convincing them it's possible
 - Steep learning curve
 - Criticisms – it won't happen
 - What is sci-comm? – we're not in the loop
 - Where do we get funding – what is it for?
-
- Very stressful, immersive, time-consuming
 - Challenge to manage 50 people
 - Press releases, interviews, social media
 - Yet it was appealing and inspiring

3 cities, 15 pubs, 45 events,
2200 attendees



After the first one we had many requests to join



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How a movement forms – the story of Pint of Science



May 2018

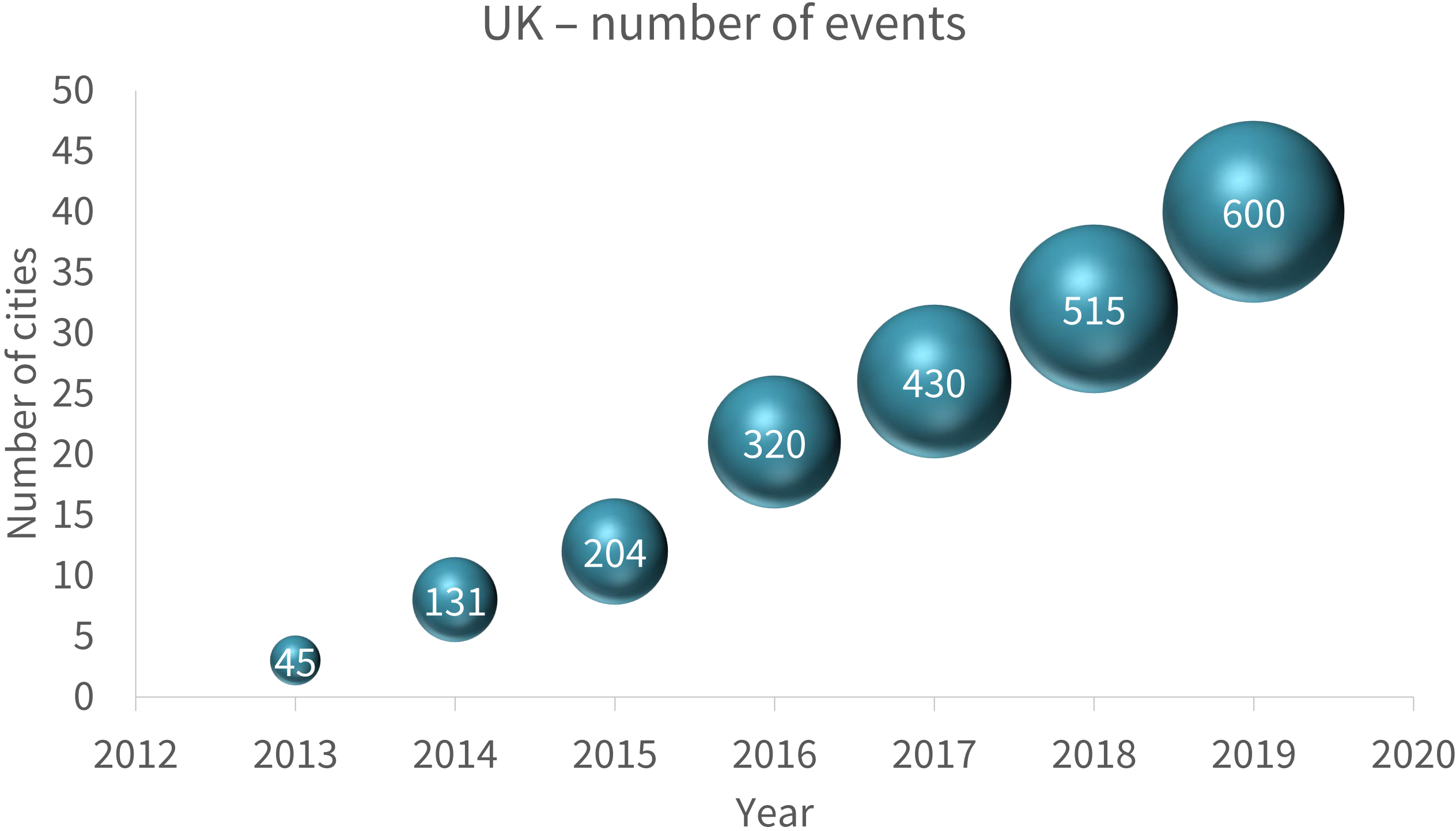


32		cities	Most major cities in the UK
40+		universities/ institutions	All major universities and institutions partnered with us
175		venues	35 in London and 3-6 in each other city
1000+		festival organisers	all volunteers, 95% academic
517		events	three nights in each pub
1250		speakers	we had a range of researchers across many disciplines
22500		attendees	We love them!

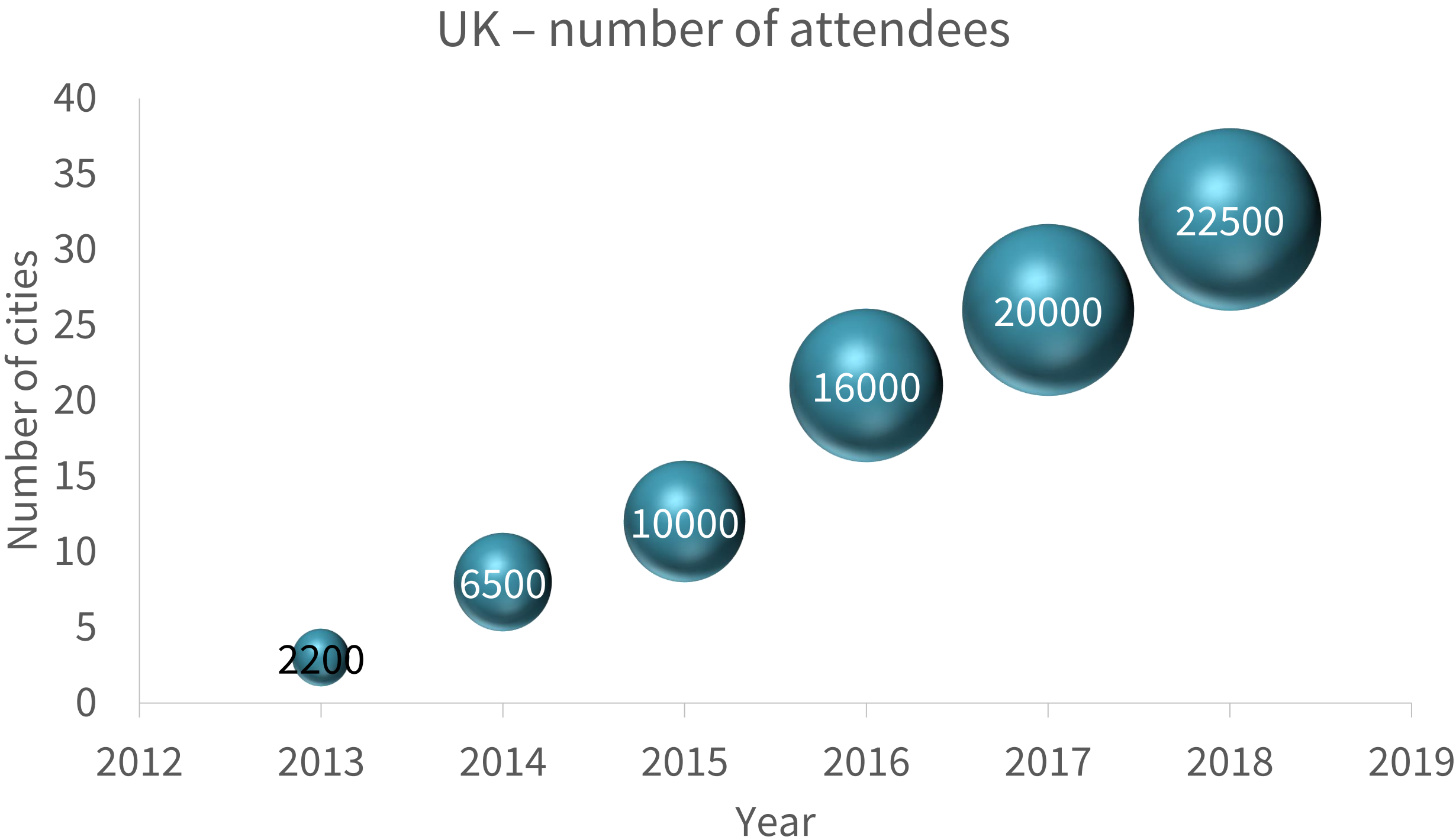
93% of all tickets sold, 84% events sold out



UK Growth - Events



UK Growth - Attendees



Notable coverage



Appearance on BBC's The One Show, April 2018,
alongside Professor Brian Cox

<https://youtu.be/7ZvPmb65sX4>



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Global @pintsworld



Australia.png



Belgium.png



Germany.png



Greece.png



New Zealand.png



Paraguay.png



Spain.png



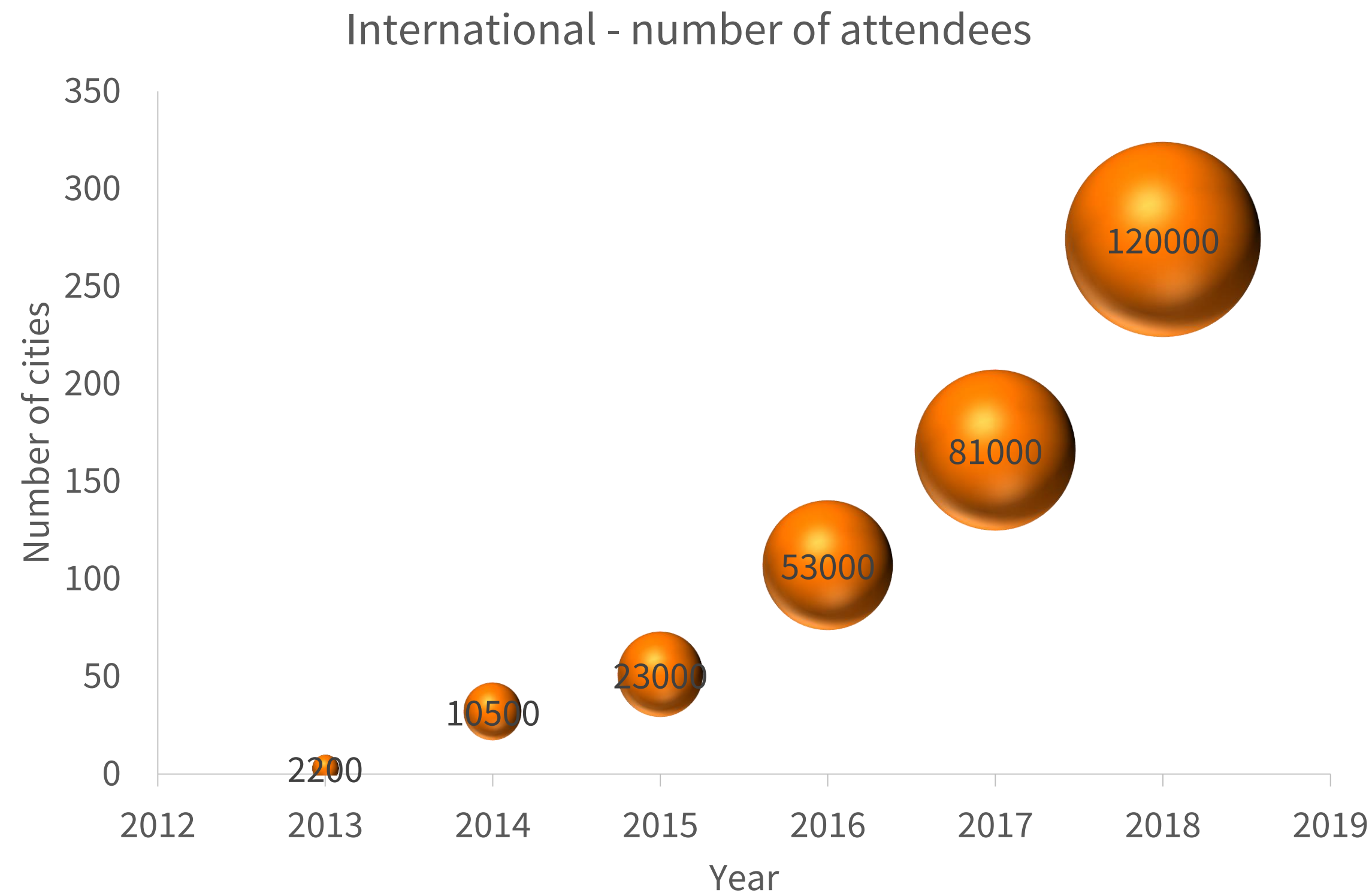
Sweden.png



Global Growth - Events



Global Growth - Attendees



Unexpected places



UCL ENGINEERING
Change the world

ABOUT NEWS EVENTS STUDY RESEARCH COLLABORATE

NEWS

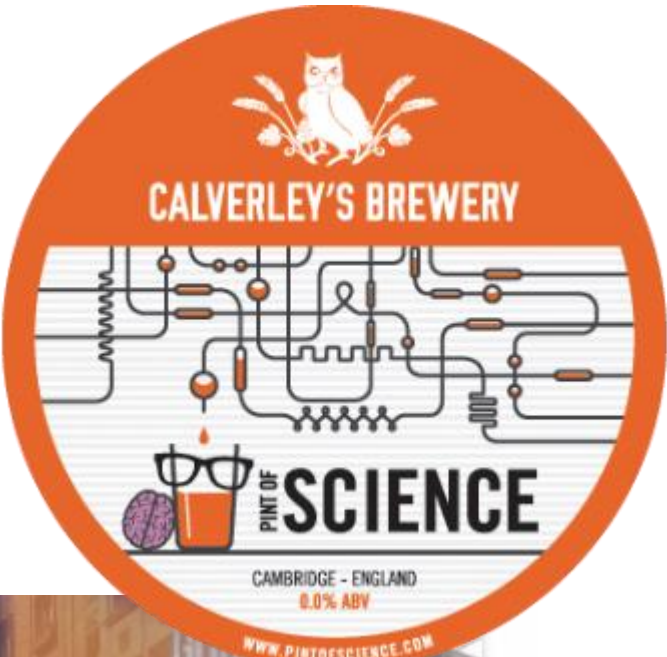
UCL MEDICAL PHYSICISTS AND A SCIENCE FAN SUPPORT WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE IN GAMBIA

8 MAY 2014

A UCL-led study on infant brain development, and a chance encounter at a science communication event in a London pub, have changed the lives of women in a rural community in Gambia, The Gambia.

Researchers from UCL Medical Physics & Biomedical Engineering and Babylab, Birkbeck College were visiting the Medical Research Council held station in the village of Kono in rural Gambia to investigate brain development in malnourished infants. Field workers from the centre – which provides free healthcare for the region, as well as a base for collecting research data – welcomed the project to local mothers and asked if they would be willing to have their infants participate in the study.

The all-remote team from UCL, led by Professor Clare Lloyd (UCL Medical Physics & Biomedical Engineering) were overwhelmed by the response, and the efforts made by Gambian families to help their study. Many mothers and infants travelled for over an hour on unmet roads as they could avoid the researchers, having seen the good done by the clinic.



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Unexpected places



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UK Prime Minister
@Number10gov

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@pintofscience founders are today's #PointofLight winners for their work bringing scientific debate into the pub



Pint of Science - Points of Light
A global festival taking science into pubs and bars
pointsoflight.gov.uk

CellPress

Special Issue:
Communicating Science

Scientific Life:
My Word

Engaging the Public
with Your Research

Praveen Paul^{1,*} and
Michael Motskin¹

Effectively communicating science and linking it to the 'real world' has important benefits for both scientists and society. Here we share our experience at *Pint of Science*, an initiative that encourages researchers to discuss their findings with the public and to engage in conversation in a relaxed setting. We discuss strategies towards organizing a scientific outreach event – big or small – and encourage you to get involved in a science festival near you.

Pint of Science began where the best lab ideas are born, by the centrifuge while waiting for cells to spin down. A few months later we had a handful of interested friends and colleagues and a simple website with the strap line 'The biggest science festival in the UK', which was removed after the point was made that

with others – either on a public platform or simply with curious family and friends. We have found that these interactions often reap rewards for everyone involved, often in unexpected ways.

History of Pint of Science

As postdoctoral researchers at the division of Brain Sciences at Imperial College London, one of us (Michael) was working on nanoparticles to deliver drugs to the brain for Parkinson's and the other (Praveen) was working on genes involved in motor neuron disease. Our focus was on understanding molecular mechanisms underlying these diseases, but we felt that there was a gap between the research efforts and what motivated them. In addition, when discussing our work with friends, especially some of the new techniques being used such as nanoparticle delivery of drugs to the brain, they thought it sounded like science fiction. We felt that it was important to show how we conducted our research, especially to the individuals affected by the conditions that we studied and their families. In September 2012, we organized 'Meet the Researchers', an event that brought people affected by Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, motor neuron disease, and multiple sclerosis into our labs so that they could see the research being carried out there. Our guests were fascinated by the approaches being used to try to understand the biological basis of these afflictions and by the latest developments in both basic research and translational efforts. This event was inspirational

Community – dedication and enthusiasm

Maddy Nichols @madssnichols · Nov 29
Last pint organisers meeting of the year and we have treats!! #pint17
#beerandbiscuits @pintofscience #bristol



Rachael Baker @BakeyRach · 18h
@pintofscience Merry Christmas! Some new merch for 2017?



What Next?



Thank you!



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